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THE
True Intellectual System
OF THE
UNIVERSE:
THE FIRST PART;
WHEREIN,
All the REASON and PHILOSOPHY
OF ATHEISM is Confuted;
AND
Its IMPOSSIBILITY Demonstrated.

Bibliotheca By R. CUDWORTH, D. D. *Secr.*

Origenes,
Γυμνάσιον τῆς ψυχῆς Ἡ ἈΝΘΡΩΠΙΝΗ ΣΟΦΙΑ,
Coll. Horn. Τέλος δὲ Ἡ ΘΕΙΑ. *Sec. Soph.*

L O N D O N,
Printed for Richard Royston, Bookseller to His most
Sacred MAJESTY, MDCLXXVIII.



14. 3. 2. 4



To the Right Honourable

H E N E A G E

LORD FINCH, BARON of Daventry,

Lord High CHANCELLOUR of England,

and one of His MAJESTIE's most

Honourable Privy Council.

MY LORD,

THE many Favours I have formerly Received from You, as they might justly challenge, whenever I had a fit opportunity, a Publick and Thankfull Acknowledgment; so have they encourag'd me at this time, to the Presumption of this Dedication to Your Lordship. Whom, as Your Perspicacious Wit, and Solid Judgment, together with Your Acquired Learning, render every way a most Accomplish'd and Desirable Patron; so did I perswade my self, that Your Hearty Affection to Religion, and Zeal for it, would make You not Unwilling, to take that into Your Protection, which is written wholly in the Defence thereof; so far forth, as its own Defects, or Miscarriages, should not render it incapable of

The Epistle Dedicatory.

the same. Nor can I think it probable, that in an Age of so much Debauchery, Scepticism, and Infidelity, an Undertaking of this kind, should be judged by You, Useless or Unseasonable. And now, having so fit an Opportunity, I could most willingly expatiate in the large Field of Your Lordship's Praises; both that I might doe an Act of *Justice* to Your self, and provoke others to Your Imitation. But I am sensible, that as no Eloquence, less then that of Your own, could be fit for such a Performance; so the Nobleness and Generosity of Your Spirit is such, that You take much more pleasure in Doing Praise-worthy things, then in Hearing the Repeated Echo's of them. Wherefore in stead of pursuing Encomiums, which would be the least pleasing to Your self, I shall Offer up my Prayers to Almighty God, for the Continuation of Your Lordship's Life and Health; That so His MAJESTY may long have such a Loyal Subject and Wise Counsellour; the Church of *England*, such a Worthy Patron the High Court of Chancery, such an Oracle of Impartial Justice; and the whole Nation, such a Pattern of Vertue and Piety. Which shall ever be the Hearty Desire of,

MY LORD,

YOUR LORDSHIP'S

Most Humble and

most Affectionate

Servant,

R. Cudworth.

THE
P R E F A C E .
T O
THE READER.

THOUGH, I confess, I have seldom taken any great pleasure, in reading other mens Apologies, yet must I at this time make some myself. First therefore, I acknowledge, that when I engag'd the Press, I intended onely a Discourse concerning Liberty and Necessity, or to speak out more plainly, Against the Fatall Necessity of all Actions and Events; which upon whatsoever Grounds or Principles maintain'd, will (as We Conceive) Serve The Design of Atheism, and Undermine Christianity, and all Religion; as taking away all Guilt and Blame, Punishments and Rewards, and plainly rendring a Day of Judgment, Ridiculous: And it is Evident that some have pursued it of late, in order to that End. But afterwards We consider'd, That this which is indeed a Controversy, concerning The True Intellectual System of the Universe, does, in the full Extent thereof, take in Other things; the Necessity of all Actions and Events being maintained by Several Persons, upon very Different Grounds, according to that Tripartite Fatalism, mentioned by us in the beginning of the First Chapter. For First, The Democritick Fate, is nothing but The Material Necessity of all things without a God: it supposing Senseless Matter, Necessarily Moved, to be the onely Original and Principle of all things: Which therefore is called by Epicurus, The Physiological; by us, the Atheistick Fate. Besides which, The Divine Fate is also Bipartite; Some Theists supposing God, both to Decree and Doe all things in us, (Evil as well as Good) or by his Immediate Influence to Determine all Actions, and so make them alike Necessary to us. From whence it follows, That his Will is no way Regulated or Determined, by any Essentiall and Immutable Goodness, and Justice; or that he hath nothing of Morality in his Nature, he being onely Arbitrary Will Omnipotent. As also That all Good and Evil Morall, to us Creatures are

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meer Theticall or Positive things; *ἡμῶν*, and not *πρὸς*, by Law or Command onely, and not by Nature. This therefore may be called, The Divine Fate Immorall, and Violent. Again, There being other Divine Fatalists, who acknowledge such a Deity, as both suffers other things, besides it self, to Act, and hath an Essentiall Goodness and Justice in its Nature; and consequently, That there are things, Just and Unjust to us Naturally, and not by Law and Arbitrary Constitution onely; and yet nevertheless take away from men, all such Liberty, as might make them capable of Praise and Dispraise, Rewards and Punishments, and Objects of Distributive Justice: they conceiving Necessity to be Intrinsecall to the Nature of every thing, in the Actings of it; and nothing of Contingency to be found any-where; from whence it will follow, That nothing could possibly have been Otherwise, in the whole World, then it Is. And this may be called The Divine Fate Morall, (as the other Immorall,) and Naturall, (as the other Violent;) it being a Concatenation, or Implexed Series of Causes, all in themselves Necessary, depending upon a Deity Morall, (if we may so speak) that is, such as is Essentially Good, and Naturally Just, as the Head thereof; the First Contriver and Orderer of all. Which kind of Divine Fate, hath not onely been formerly asserted by the Stoicks, but also of late, by divers Modern Writers. Wherefore of the Three Fatalisms, or False Hypotheses of the Universe, mentioned in the beginning of this Book; One is Absolute Atheism: Another Immorall Theism, or Religion without any Naturall Justice and Morality: (all Just and Unjust, according to this Hypothesis, being meer Theticall or Factitious things, Made by Arbitrary Will and Command onely:) The Third and Last, such a Theism, as acknowledges not onely a God, or Omnipotent Understanding Being, but also Natural Justice and Morality, Founded in him, and Derived from him; nevertheless no Liberty from Necessity any-where, and therefore no Distributive or Retributive Justice in the World. Whereas these Three Things are, (as we conceive) the Fundamentals or Essentials of True Religion. First, That all things in the World, do not Float without a Head and Governour; but that there is a God, an Omnipotent Understanding Being, Presiding over all. Secondly, That this God being Essentially Good and Just, there is *ἑὸν κατὰ καὶ ἀκατα*, Something in its own Nature, Immutably and Eternally Just, and Unjust; and not by Arbitrary Will, Law, and Command onely. And Lastly, That there is Something *ἐν ἡμῖν*, or, That we are so far forth Principles or Masters of our own Actions, as to be Accountable to Justice for them, or to make us Guilty and Blame-worthy for what we doe Amiss, and to Deserve Punishment accordingly. Which Three Fundamentals
of

to the Reader.

of Religion, are *Intimated by the Authour to the Hebrews, in these Words*; He that Cometh to God, must Believe that He Is, and That He is a Rewarder of those who seek him out. *For to Seek out God here, is nothing else, but to Seek a Participarion of his Image, or the Recovery of it; Nature and Life of his, which we have been Alienated from. And these Three Things, namely, That all things do not Float without a Head and Governour; but there is an Omnipotent Understanding Being Presiding over all: That this God, bath an Essentiall Goodness and Justice; and That the Differences of Good and Evil Morall, Honest and Dishonest; are not by meer Will and Law onely, but by Nature; and consequently, That the Deity cannot Abst, Influence, and Necessitate men, to such things as are in their Own Nature, Evil: and Lastly, That Necessity is not Intrinsicall to the Nature of every thing; But that men have such a Liberty, or Power over their own Actions, as may render them Accountable for the same, and Blame-worthy when they doe Amis; and consequently, That there is a Justice Distributive of Rewards and Punishments, running through the World; I say, These Three, (which are the most Important Things, that the Mind of man can employ it self upon) taken all together, make up the Wholeness and Entireness of that, which is here called by us, The True Intellectual System of the Universe; in such a Sense, as Atheism may be called, a False System thereof: The Word Intellectual, being added, to distinguish it from the other, Vulgarly so called, Systems of the World, (that is, the Visible and Corporeal World) the Ptolemaick, Tychonick, and Copernican; the Two Former of which, are now commonly accounted False, the Latter True. And thus our Prospect being now Enlarged, into a Threefold Fatalism, or Spurious and False Hypothesis of the Intellectual System, making all things Necessary upon several Grounds; We accordingly Designed the Confutation of them all, in Three Several Books. The First, Against Atheism, (which is the Democratick Fate) wherein all the Reason and Philosophy thereof is Refelled, and the Existence of a God Demonstrated; and so that *ὁμοῦ καὶ ἀντικατὰ*, or Material Necessity of all things, Overthrown. The Second, For such a God as is not meer Arbitrary Will Omnipotent, Decreeing, Doing, and Necessitating all Actions, Evil as well as Good; but Essentially Moral, Good and Just; and For a Natural Discremen *Honestorum & Turpium*; whereby another Ground of the Necessity of all Humane Actions will be Removed. And the Third and Last, Against Necessity Intrinsicall and Essentiall to all Action; and for such a Liberty, or *Sui-Potestas*, in Rational Creatures, as may render them Accountable, capable of Rewards and Punishments, and so Objects of Distributive or Retributive Justice:*

by

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by which the now onely remaining Ground, of the Fatal Necessity of all Actions and Events, will be Taken away. And all these Three under that One General Title, of The True Intellectual System of the Universe. Each Book having besides, its own Particular Title: as, Against Atheism; For Natural Justice and Morality, Founded in the Deity; For Liberty from Necessity, and a Distributive Justice of Rewards and Punishments in the World. And this we conceive may fully satisfy, concerning our General Title, all those, who are not extremely Criticall or Captious, at least as many of them as have ever heard of the Astronomical Systems of the World: so that they will not think us hereby Obliged, to Treat of the Hierarchy of Angels, and of all the Several Species of Animals, Vegetables, and Minerals, &c. that is, to write De Omni Ente, of whatsoever is Contained within The Complexion of the Universe. Though the Whole Scale of Entity is here also taken notice of; and the General Ranks of Substantiall Beings, below the Deity, (or Trinity of Divine Hypostases) Consider'd: which yet, according to our Philosophy, are but Two; Souls of several Degrees, (Angels themselves being included within that Number) and Body or Matter: as also the Immortality of those Souls Proved. Which notwithstanding is Suggested by us, onely to Satisfy some mens Curiosity. Nevertheless we confess that this General Title, might well have been here spared by us, and this Volume have been Presented to the Reader's View, not as a Part or Piece, but a Whole Compleat and Entire thing by it self, had it not been for Two Reasons; First, Our beginning with those Three Fatalisms, or False Hypotheses of the Intellectual System, and Promising a Confutation of them all, then when we thought to have brought them within the Compass of One Volume; and Secondly, Every other Page's, throughout this whole Volume, accordingly bearing the Inscription, of Book the First, upon the Head thereof. This is therefore that which in the First place, we here Apologize for, our Publishing One Part or Book alone by it self; We being surprized in the Length thereof; Whereas we had otherwise Intended Two more along with it. Notwithstanding which, there is no Reason, why this Volume should therefore be thought Imperfect and Incomplete, because it hath not All the Three Things at first Designed by us; it containing All that belongeth to its own Particular Title and Subject, and being in that respect no Piece, but a Whole. This indeed must needs beget an Expectation, of the Two following Treatises, (especially in such as shall have receiv'd any Satisfaction from this First;) concerning those Two other Fatalisms, or False Hypotheses mentioned; to make up our Whole Intellectual System Compleat: The One, to Prove, That God is not meer Arbitrary Will Omnipotent, (without any Essential Goodness and Justice) Decreeing

to the Reader.

ing and Doing all things in the World, as well Evil as Good; and thereby making them alike Necessary to us; from whence it would follow, that all Good and Evil Moral, are meer Thetical, Positive, and Arbitrary things, that is, not Nature, but Will; Which is the Defence of Natural, Eternal, and Immutable Justice, or Morality: The Other, That Necessity is not Intrinsecal to the Nature of Every thing, God and all Creatures, or Essentiall to all Action; but, That there is Something in us, or, That we have some Liberty, or Power over our own Actions: Which is the Defence of a Distributive or Retributive Justice, dispensing Rewards and Punishments throughout the whole World. Wherefore we think fit here to advertize the Reader concerning these, That though they were, and still are, really intended by us; yet the Compleat Finishing and Publication of them, will notwithstanding depend upon many Contingencies; not onely of our Life and Health, the Latter of which, as well as the Former, is to us very Uncertain; but also of our Leisure, or Vacancy from other Necessary Employments.

In the next place, We must Apologize also, for the Fourth Chapter; inasmuch as, though in regard of its Length, it might rather be called a Book, then a Chapter; yet it doth not Answer all the Contents Prefixed to it. Here therefore must we again, confess our selves Surprized; who when we wrote those Contents, did not suspect in the least, but that we should have Satisfied them all within a lesser Compass. And our Design then was, besides Answering the Objection, against the Naturality of the Idea of God, from the Pagan Polytheism, (we having then so fit an Occasion) to give such a further Account of the Idolatry and Religion of the Gentiles, as might prepare our way for a Defence of Christianity, to be subjoyned in the Close: it being not onely agreeable to the Sense of Ancient Doctors, but also expressly declared in the Scripture, That One Design of Christianity, was to abolish and extirpate the Pagan Polytheism and Idolatry. And our Reasons for this Intended Defence of Christianity, were. First; Because we had Observed, that some Professed Opposers of Atheism, had either incurred a Suspicion, or at least suffered under the Imputation, of being meer Theists, or Natural Religionists onely, and no hearty Believers of Christianity, or Friends to Revealed Religion. From which either Suspicion or Imputation therefore, we thought it Justice to free our selves, we having so Unshaken a Belief, and firm Assurance, of the Truth of the whole Christian Doctrine. But, Secondly and Principally; Because we had further Observed it, to have been the Method of our Modern Atheists, to make their First Assault against Christianity, as thinking that to be the most Vulnerable; and that it would be an easy Step for them from thence, to Demolish all Religion, and

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Theism. However, since the Satisfying the Former Part of those Contents, had already taken up so much Room, that the Pursuit of the Remainder, would have quite Excluded, our principally Intended Confutation of all the Atheistick Grounds; the forementioned Objection being now sufficiently Answered; there was a necessity, that we should there break off, and leave the further Account of the Pagan Idolatry and Religion, together with our Defence of Christianity, to some other more convenient Opportunity.

And now we shall Exhibit to the Reader's view, a Brief and General Synopsis, of the whole following Work, together with some Particular Reflexions upon several Parts thereof; either for his better Information concerning them, or for their Vindication: some of which therefore, will be of greater Use, after the Book has been read, than before. The First Chapter, is an Account of the Atomick Physioly, as made the Foundation of the Democritick Fate. Where the Reader is to understand, that this Democritick Fate, which is One of the Three False Hypotheses of the Intellectual System, there Mentioned, is the very Self-same thing with the Atomick Atheism; the onely Form of Atheism, that hath publicly appeared upon the Stage, as an Entire Philosophick System; or hath indeed been much taken notice of in the World, for these Two Thousand years past. For, Though it be true, That Epicurus, (who was also an Atomick Atheist, (as is afterwards declared) having, in all probability, therefore a Mind to Innovate Something, that he might not seem to have borrowed all from Democritus,) did by violence introduce Liberty of Will, into his Hypothesis; for the Salving whereof, he ridiculously devized, That his Third Motion of Atoms, called by Lucetius,

Exiguum Clinamen Principiorum:

Yet was this, as Cicero long since observed, a most Heterogeneous Patch, or Assumentum of his, and altogether as Contradictious to the Tenour of his own Principles, as it was to the Doctrine of Democritus himself. There can be nothing more Absurd, then for an Atheist to assert Liberty of Will: but it is most of all Absurd, for an Atomick One. And therefore our Modern Atheists do here plainly disclaim Epicurus, (though otherwise so much Admired by them;) and declare open War against this Liberty of Will: they Apprehending that it would unavoidably introduce Incorporeal Substance; as also well knowing, that Necessity, on the contrary, Effectually overthrows all Religion; it taking away Guilt and Blame, Punishments and Rewards; to which might be added also, Prayers and Devotions.

And as there was a necessity for us here, to give some Account of that
Ancient

Ancient Atomick Physiology, with which Atheism now became thus Blended and Complicated; so do we in this First Chapter, chiefly insist upon Two things concerning it. First, That it was no Invention of Democritus nor Leucippus, but of much greater Antiquity: not onely from that Tradition transmitted by Posidonius the Stoick, That it derived its Original from one Moschus a Phœnician, who lived before the Trojan Wars, (which plainly makes it to have been Mosaicall;) but also from Aristotle's Affirmation, That the greater part of the Ancient Philosophers entertained this Hypothesis; and further because it is certain, that divers of the Italicks, and particularly Empedocles, before Democritus, Physiologized Atomically: which is the Reason, he was so much applauded by Lucretius. Besides which, it is more then a Presumption, that Anaxagoras his Homœomery or Similar Atomology, was but a Degeneration from the True and Genuine Atomology of the Ancient Italicks, that was an Anomœomery, or Doctrine of Dissimilar and Unqualified Atoms. Wherefore all that is True concerning Democritus and Leucippus, is onely this, That these men were indeed, the First Atheizers of this Ancient Atomick Physiology, or the Inventors and Broachers of the Atomick Atheism. Which is Laërtius his True meaning, (though it be not commonly understood,) when he recordeth of them, that they were the First, who made Unqualified Atoms, the Principles of all things in the Universe without exception; that is, not onely of Inanimate Bodies, (as the other Ancient Religious Atomists, the Italicks, before had done) but also of Soul and Mind.

And whereas we conceive this Atomick Physiology, as to the Essentials thereof, to be Unquestionably True, viz. That the onely Principles of Bodies, are Magnitude, Figure, Site, Motion, and Rest; and that the Qualities and Forms of Inanimate Bodies, are Really nothing, but several Combinations of these, Causing several Phaenicies in us: (Which excellent Discovery therefore, so long agoe made, is a Notable Instance of the Wit and Sagacity of the Ancients:) So do we in the Next place, make it manifest, that this Atomick Physiology rightly understood, is so far from being either the Mother or Nurse of Atheism, or any ways Favourable thereto, (as is Vulgarly supposed;) that it is indeed, the most directly Opposite to it of any, and the greatest Defence against the same. For, First, we have Discovered, That the Principle, upon which this Atomology is Founded, and from whence it Sprung, was no other then this, Nothing out of Nothing, in the True Sense thereof; or, That Nothing can be Caused by Nothing: from whence it was concluded, that in Natural Generations, there was no new Real Entity produced, which was not before: the Genuine Consequence whereof was Two-fold;

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That the Qualities and Forms of Inanimate Bodies, are no Entities Really distinct from the Magnitude, Figure, Site and Motion of Parts; and, That Souls are Substances Incorporeal, not Generated out of Matter. Where we have shewed, That the Pythagorick Doctrine, of the Præ-Existence of Souls, was founded upon the very same Principle, with the Atomick Physiology. And it is from this very Principle rightly understood, that Ourselves afterwards, undertake to Demonstrate, The Absolute Impossibility of all Atheism. Moreover, we have made it undeniably Evident, That the Intrinseck Constitution of this Atomick Physiology also is such, as that whosoever admits it, and rightly understands it, must needs acknowledge Incorporeal Substance; which is the Absolute Overtthrow of Atheism. And from hence alone, is it certain to us, without any Testimonies from Antiquity, that Democritus and Leucippus, could not possibly be the First Inventors of this Philosophy, they either not rightly Understanding it, or else wilfully Depraving the same: and the Atomick Atheism, being Really nothing else, but a Rape committed upon the Atomick Physiology. For which Reason, we do by no means here Applaud Plato, nor Aristotle, in their Rejecting this most Ancient Atomick Physiology, and introducing again, that Unintelligible First Matter, and those Exploded Qualities and Forms, into Philosophy. For though this were probably done by Plato, out of a Disgust and Prejudice against the Atomick Atheists, which made him not so well Consider nor Understand that Physiology; yet was he much disappointed of his Expectation herein; That Atomology which he Exploded, (rightly understood,) being really the Greatest Bulwark against Atheism; and on the contrary, Those Forms and Qualities which he Espoused, the Natural Seed thereof; they, besides their Unintelligible Darkness, bringing Something out of Nothing, in the Impossible Sense; which we shew to be, the Inlet of all Atheism. And thus in this First Chapter, have we not onely quite Disarmed Atheism of Atomicism, or shewed that the Latter, (rightly understood,) affordeth no manner of Shelter or Protection to the Former; But also made it manifest, that it is the greatest Bulwark and Defence against the same. Which is a thing afterwards further insisted on.

As to the Second Chapter, we have no more to say, but onely this; That here we took the Liberty, to Reveal the Arcane Mysteries of Atheism, and to Discover all its Pretended Grounds of Reason, that we could find anywhere suggested in Writings; those onely excepted, that are peculiar to the Hylozoick Form, (which is directly contrary to the Atomick;) and that to their best advantage too: nevertheless to this end, that these being afterwards, all Baffled and Confuted, Theism might by this means, Obtain the Greater and Juster Triumph over Atheism.

In

to the Reader.

In the Third Chapter, we thought it necessary, in order to a fuller Confutation of Atheism, to consider all the other Forms thereof, besides the Atomick. And here do we first of all, make a Discovery of a certain Form of Atheism, never before taken notice of, by any Modern Writers, which we call the Hylozoick: which notwithstanding, though it were long since started by Srato, in way of Opposition to the Democritick and Epicurean Hypothesis; yet because it afterwards slept in perfect Silence and Oblivion, should have been here by us passed by Silently; had we not had certain Knowledge of its being of late Awakened and Revived, by some, who were so sagacious, as plainly to perceive, that the Atomick Form could never doe their business, nor prove Defensible: and therefore would attempt to carry on this Cause of Atheism, in quite a different way, by the Life and Perception of Matter: as also that this in all probability, would ere long publicly appear upon the Stage, though not Bare-faced, but under a Disguize. Which Atheistick Hypothesis, is partly Confuted by us, in the Cloze of this Third Chapter, and partly in the Fifth.

In the next place, it being certain, that there had been other Philosophick Atheists in the world before those Atomicks, Epicurus and Democritus; we declare, out of Plato and Aristotle, what that most Ancient Atheistick Hypothesis was; namely, the Education of all things, even Life and Understanding it Self, out of Matter, in the way of Qualities; or as the Passions and Affections thereof, Generable and Corruptible. Which Form of Atheism is styled by us, not only Hylopathian, but also Anaximandrian: however we grant some probability of that Opinion, That Anaximander held an Homœomery of Qualified Atoms, as Anaxagoras afterwards did; the difference between them being onely this, that the Latter asserted an Unmade Mind, whereas the Former Generated all Mind and Understanding, out of those Qualified Atoms, Hot and Cold, Moist and Dry, Compounded together: because we Judged this Difference not to be a sufficient Ground to multiply Forms of Atheism upon. And here do we give notice, of that strange kind of Religious Atheism, or Atheistick Theogonism, which asserted, not onely other Understanding Beings, Superiour to Men, called by them Gods; but also amongst those, one Supreme or Jupiter too; nevertheless Native, and Generated at First out of Night and Chaos, (that is, Senseless Matter) as also Mortal and Corruptible again into the same.

Besides which, there is yet a Fourth Atheistick Form taken notice of, out of the Writings of the Ancients, (though perhaps Junior to the rest, it seeming to be but the Corruption and Degeneration of Stoicism) which concluded the whole World, not to be an Animal, (as the Pagan

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Theists then generally Supposed) but only One Huge Plant or Vegetable, having an Artificial, Plantal, and Plastick Nature; as its Highest Principle, Orderly disposing the Whole, without any Mind or Understanding. And here have we set down, the Agreement of all the Atheistick Forms, (however differing so much from one another) in this One General Principle, viz. That all Animality, Conscious Life and Understanding, is Generated out of Senseless Matter, and Corruptible again into it.

Wherefore in the Close of this Third Chapter, we insist Largely, upon an Artificial, Regular and Plastick Nature, devoid of express Knowledge and Understanding, as subordinate to the Deity: Chiefly in way of Confutation, of those Cosmo-Plastick, and Hylozoick Atheisms. Though we had a further Design herein also, for the Defence of Theism: forasmuch as without such a Nature, either God must be supposed to Do all things in the world Immediately, and to Form every Gnat and Fly, as it were with his own hands; which seemeth not so Becoming of him, and would render his Providence, to Humane Apprehensions, Laborious and Distractious; or else the whole System of this Corporeal Universe, must result only from Fortuitous Mechanism, without the Direction of any Mind: which Hypothesis once admitted, would Unquestionably, by degrees, Supplant and Undermine all Theism. And now from what we have declared, it may plainly appear, that this Digression of ours, concerning an Artificial, Regular and Plastick Nature, (Subordinate to the Deity) is no Wen, or Excreescency, in the Body of this Book; but a Natural and Necessary Member thereof.

In the Fourth Chapter; After the Idea of God fully declared, (where we could not omit his Essential Goodness and Justice, or (if we may so call it) the Morality of the Deity; though that be a thing properly belonging to the Second Book, The Confutation of the Divine Fate Immortal) There is a large Account given of the Pagan Polytheism; to satisfy a very considerable Objection, that lay in our way from thence, Against the Naturality of the Idea of God, as Including Oneliness and Singularity in it. For had that, upon enquiry, been found True, which is so commonly taken for granted, That the generality of the Pagan Nations, had constantly, Scattered their Devotions, amongst a multitude of Self-Existent, and Independent Deities, they acknowledging no One Sovereign Numen; This would much have Stumbled the Naturality of the Divine Idea. But now it being on the Contrary, clearly Proved, That the Pagan Theologers all along, acknowledged One Sovereign and Omnipotent Deity, from which all their other Gods were Generated or Created; we have thereby not only Removed the forementioned Objection out of the way; but also Evinc'd, That the Generality of mankind, have

have constantly had a certain Prolepsis or Anticipation in their Minds, concerning the Actual Existence of a God, according to the True Idea of him. And this was the rather done Fully and Carefully by us; because we had not met with it sufficiently performed before: A. Steuchus Eugubinus, having laboured most in this Subject: from whose profitable Industry though we shall no way detract; yet whoever will compare, what he hath written, with ours, will find no Just Cause to think ours Superfluous and Unnecessary; much less, a Transcription out of his. In which, besides other things, there is no Account at all given, of the Many Pagan, Poetical and Political Gods, what they were; which is so great a part of our Performance, to prove them Really to have been, but the Polyonymy of one God. From whence it follows also, That the Pagan Religion, though sufficiently Faulty, yet was not altogether so Nonfensical, as the Atheists would represent it, out of design; that they might from thence infer, all Religion to be nothing but a meer Cheat and Imposture: they worshipping onely One Supreme God; in the several Manifestations of his Goodness, Power, and Providence throughout the World, together with his Inferiour Ministers. Nevertheless we cannot deny, that being once engaged in this Subject, we thought our Selves the more Concerned, to doe the business thoroughly and effectually, because of that Controversy lately Agitated, concerning Idolatry, (which cannot otherwise be Decided, then by giving a True Account of the Pagan Religion;) and the so Confident Affirmations of some, That none could possibly be Guilty of Idolatry, in the Scripture Sense, who Believed One God the Creator of the whole world: Whereas it is most certain on the contrary, that the Pagan Polytheism and Idolatry, consisted not in worshipping Many Creators, or Uncreateds, but in giving Religious Worship to Creatures, besides the Creator; they directing their Devotion, (as Athanasius plainly affirmeth of them,) *in ἀνθρώποις, καὶ πῶδός, ζῴων, To One Uncreated onely;* but besides him, to many Created Gods. But as for the Polemick Management of this Controversy, concerning Idolatry, we leave it to other Learned Hands, that are already engaged in it.

Moreover, We have in this Fourth Chapter, largely Insisted also upon the Trinity. The Reason whereof was, Because it came in our way; and our Contents engaged us thereunto, in order to the giving a full Account of the Pagan Theology: it being certain, that the Platonicks and Pythagoreans at least, if not other Pagans also, had their Trinity, as well as Christians. And we could not well avoid, the Comparing of these Two together: Upon which Occasion we take notice of a Double Platonick Trinity; the One Spurious and Adulterated, of some latter Platonists; the Other True and Genuine, of Plato himself, Parmenides, and the Ancients. The Former of which, though it be Opposed by us to the Christian Trinity, and Con-

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puted; yet betwixt the Latter and that, do we find a Wonderfull Correspondence: which is Largely Pursued, in the Platonick Christians Apology. Wherein notwithstanding, nothing must be lookt upon, as Dogmatically Asserted by us, but onely Offered, and Submitted to the Judgment of the Learned in these Matters; We confining our selves, in this Mysterious Point of the Holy Trinity, within the Compass of those its Three Essentials declared: First, That it is not a Trinity of meer Names and Words, or of Logical Notions onely: But of Persons or Hypostases. Secondly, That none of those Persons or Hypostases, are Creatures, but all Uncreated. And Lastly, That they are all Three, Truly and Really One God. Nevertheless we acknowledge, That we did therefore, the more Copiously insist upon this Argument, because of our then Designed, Defence of Christianity; we conceiving that this Parallelism, betwixt the Ancient or Genuine Platonick, and the Christian Trinity, might be of some use to satisfy those amongst us, who Boggle so much at the Trinity, and look upon it as the Choak-Pear of Christianity; when they shall find, that the Freest Wits amongst the Pagans, and the Best Philosophers, who had nothing of Superstition, to Determine them that way, were so far from being shy of such an Hypothesis, as that they were even Fond thereof. And that the Pagans had indeed such a Cabbala amongst them, (which some perhaps will yet hardly believe, notwithstanding all that we have said,) might be further convinced, from that memorable Relation in Plutarch, of Thelpeus Solensis, who after he had been lookt upon as Dead for Three days, Reviving; Affirmed amongst other things, which he thought he saw or heard in the mean time in his Ecstasy, This, Of Three Gods in the Form of a Triangle, pouring in Streams into one another; Orpheus his Soul, being said to have arrived so far; accordingly as from the Testimonies of other Pagan Writers, we have proved, that a Trinity of Divine Hypostases, was a part of the Orphick Cabbala. True indeed, our Belief of the Holy Trinity, is Founded upon no Pagan Cabbala's, but onely Scripture Revelation: it being that which Christians are, or should be, all Baptized into: Nevertheless these things are Reasonably noted by us to this end; That that should not be made a Prejudice Against Christianity, and Revealed Religion; nor lookt upon as such an Affrightfull Bugbear or Mormo in it; which even Pagan Philosophers themselves; and those of the most Accomplished Intellectuals, and Uncaptivated Minds, though having neither Councils, nor Creeds, nor Scriptures; had so great a Propensity and Readiness to entertain, and such a Veneration for.

In this Fourth Chapter, We were necessitated by the Matter it self, to run out into Philology and Antiquity; as also in the other Parts of the Book, we do often give an Account, of the Doctrine of the Ancients: which however some Over-severe Philosophers, may look upon Fastidiously, or Undervalue

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lue and Depreciate; yet, as we conceived it often Necessary, so possibly may the Variety thereof not be Ungratefull to others; and this Mixture of Philology, throughout the Whole, Sweeten and Allay the Severity of Philosophy to them: The main thing which the Book pretends to, in the mean time, being the Philosophy of Religion. But for our parts, we neither call Philology, nor yet Philosophy, our Mistress; but serve our selves of Either, as Occasion requireth.

As for the Last Chapter; Though it Promise onely a Confutation of all the Atheistick Grounds; yet do we therein also Demonstrate, the Absolute Impossibility of all Atheism, and the Actual Existence of a God. We say Demonstrate; not A Priori, which is Impossible and Contradictious; but by Necessary Inference, from Principles altogether Undeniable. For we can by no means grant to the Atheists; That there is no more, then a Probable Persuasion, or Opinion to be had, of the Existence of a God; without any Certain Knowledge or Science. Nevertheless it will not follow from hence, That whosoever shall Read these Demonstrations of ours, and Understand all the words of them, must therefore of Necessity, be presently Convinced, whether he will or no, and put out of all manner of Doubt or Hesitancy, concerning the Existence of a God. For we Believe That to be True, which some have Affirmed, That were there any Interest of Life, any Concernment of Appetite and Passion, against the Truth of Geometrical Theorems themselves; as of a Triangle's Having Three Angles Equall to Two Right; whereby mens Judgements might be Clouded and Bribed; Notwithstanding all the Demonstrations of them, many would remain, at least Sceptical about them. Wherefore meer Speculation, and Dry Mathematical Reason, in Minds Unpurified, and having a Contrary Interest of Carnality, and a heavy Load of Infidelity and Distrust sinking them down; cannot alone beget an Unshaken Confidence and Assurance of so High a Truth as this, The Existence of One Perfect Understanding Being, the Original of all things. As it is certain also on the contrary, That Minds Cleanfed and Purged from Vice, may without Syllogistick Reasonings, and Mathematical Demonstrations, have an Undoubted Assurance of the Existence of a God, according to that of the Philosopher; *ἡ καθαρότης τοῦ νοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν αἰσθητικῶν ἔστιν*, Purity Possesses men with an Assurance of the Best things: whether this Assurance be called a Vaticination or Divine Sagacity, (as it is by Plato and Aristotle) or Faith, as in the Scripture. For the Scripture-Faith, is not a meer Believing of Historicall Things, and upon Inartificiall Arguments, or Testimonies onely; but a Certain Higher and Diviner Power in the Soul, that peculiarly Correspondeth with the Deity. Notwithstanding which, Knowledge or Science, added to this Faith, (ac-

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ding to the Scripture Advice) will make it more Firm and Stedfast; and the better able to resist those Assaults of Sophisticall Reasonings, that shall be made against it.

In this Fifth Chapter, as sometimes elsewhere, we thought Our selves concerned, in Defence of the Divine Wisdome, Goodness, and Perfection, against Atheists, to maintain, (with all the Ancient Philosophick Theists,) the Perfection of the Creation also; or that the Whole System of things taken all together, could not have been Better Made and Ordered then it is. And indeed, This Divine Goodness and Perfection, as Displaying and Manifesting it self in the Works of Nature and Providence, is supposed in Scripture, to be the very Foundation of our Christian Faith; when that is Defined, to be the Substance and Evidence Rerum Sperandarum; that is, Of Whatsoever is (by a Good man) to be hoped for. Notwithstanding which, it was far from our Intention, therefore to Conclude, That Nothing neither in Nature nor Providence, could be Otherwise then it is; or, That there is Nothing left to the Free Will and Choice of the Deity. And though we do in the Third Section, insist largely, upon that Ancient Pythagorick Cabbala, That Souls are always United to some Body or other; as also, That all Rationall and Intellectuall Creatures, consist of Soul and Body; and suggest several things, from Reason and Christian Antiquity, in favour of them both: yet would we not be Understood, to Dogmatize in either of them, but to Submit all to better Judgments.

Again, we shall here Advertise the Reader, (though we have Caution'd concerning it, in the Book it self) That in our Defence of Incorporeal Substance against the Atheists, However we thought our selves concerned, to say the utmost that possibly we could, in way of Vindication of the Ancients, who generally maintained it to be Unextended, (which to some seems an Absolute Impossibility;) yet we would not be supposed Our selves, Dogmatically to Assert any more in this Point, then what all Incorporealists agree in, That there is a Substance Specifically distinct from Body; namely such, as Consisteth Not of Parts Separable from one another; and which can Penetrate Body; and Lastly, is Self-Active, and hath an Internal Energy, distinct from that of Locall Motion. (And thus much is undeniably Evinc'd, by the Arguments before propos'd.) But whether this Substance, be altogether Unextended, or Extended otherwise then Body; we shall leave every man to make his own Judgment concerning it.

Furthermore, We think fit here to Suggest, That whereas throughout this Chapter and Whole Book, we constantly Oppose the Generation of Souls, that is, the Production of Life, Cogitation and Understanding, out of Dead and Senseless Matter; and assert all Souls to be as Substantiall as Matter

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it self; This is not done by us, out of any fond Addictedness to Pythagorick Whimsies, nor indeed out of a meer Partiall Regard to that Cause of Theism neither, which we were engaged in, (though we had great reason to be tender of that too;) but because we were enforced thereunto, by Dry Mathematicall Reason; it being as certain to us, as any thing in all Geometry, That Cogitation and Understanding, can never possibly Result out of Magnitudes, Figures, Sites, and Locall Motions, (which is all that ourselves can allow to Body) however Compounded together. Nor indeed in that other way of Qualities, is it better Conceivable, how they should emerge out of Hot and Cold, Moist and Dry, Thick and Thin; according to the Anaximandrian Atheism. And they who can persuade themselves of the Contrary, may Believe, That any thing may be Caused by any thing; upon which Supposition; we confess, it Impossible to us, to prove the Existence of a God, from the Phenomena.

In the Close of this Fifth Chapter; Because the Atheists do in the Last place Pretend, Theism and Religion to be Inconsistent with Civil Sovereignty; we were necessitated, briefly to Unravel and Confute, all the Atheistick Ethicks and Politicks, (Though this more properly belong to our Second Book Intended:) Where we make it plainly to appear, That the Atheists Artificiall and Factitious Justice, is Nothing but Will and Words; and That they give to Civil Sovereigns, no Right nor Authority at all, but onely Belluine Liberty, and Brutish Force. But on the contrary, as we Assert Justice and Obligation, not Made by Law and Commands, but in Nature; and Prove This, together with Conscience and Religion, to be the onely Basis of Civil Authority; so do we also maintain, all the Rights of Civil Sovereigns; giving both to Cæsar, the things that are Cæsar's; and to God, the things that are God's.

And now, having made all our Apologies and Reflexions, we have no more to adde, but onely the Retraction or Retraction of one Passage, Page 761. Where mentioning that Opinion of a Modern Atheistick Writer, That Cogitation is nothing else but Local Motion, we could not think Epicurus and Democritus to have sunk to such a Degree, either of Sottishness or Impudence, as this; whereas we found Cause afterwards, upon further Consideration, to Change our Opinion herein, Page 846. Forasmuch as when Epicurus Derived Liberty of Will in men, meerly from that Motion of Senseless Atoms Declining Uncertainly from the Perpendicular; it is Evident, that according to him, Volition it self must be really Local Motion. As indeed in the Democritick Fate, and Material Necessity of all things, it is Implied, That Humane Cogitations are but Mechanism and Motion. Notwithstanding which, both Democritus and Epicurus supposed, That the World was made without Cogitation, though by Local Motion. So

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that the meaning of these Besotted Atheists, (if at least they had any meaning) seems to have been this, That all Cogitation is Really Nothing else but Local Motion; nevertheless all Motion, not Cogitation; but one-ly in such and such Circumstances, or in Bodies so Modified.

And now we are not Ignorant, That some will be ready to condemn this whole Labour of ours, and of others in this Kind, Against Atheism, as altogether Useless and Superfluous; upon this Pretence, that an Atheist is a meer Chimæra, and there is no such thing any-where to be found in the World. And indeed we could heartily wish, upon that condition, that all this Labour of ours, were Superfluous and Useless. But as to Atheists, These so confident Exploders of them, are both Unskilled in the Monuments of Antiquity, and Unacquainted with the Present Age, they live in; others having found too great an Assurance, from their own Personal Converse, of the Reality of Them. Nevertheless this Labour of ours, is not Intended one-ly for the Conversion of Downright and Professed Atheists, (of which there is but Little Hope, they being sunk into so great a degree of Sottishness;) but for the Confirmation of Weak, Staggering, and Scepticall Theists. And unless these Exploders of Atheists, will affirm also, that all men have constantly, an Unshaken Faith, and Belief of the Existence of a God, without the least mixture of Doubtfull Distrust, or Hesitancy, (which if it were so, the world could not possibly be so bad as now it is) they must needs Grant, such Endeavours as these, for the Confirming and Establishing of mens Minds in the Belief of a God, by Philosophick Reasons, in an Age so Philosophicall, not to be Superfluous and Useless.

Imprimatur

Hic Liber, cui Titulus, *The True Intellectual
System of the Universe, &c.*

Sam. Parker, Reverend^{us} in
Christo Patri ac Domino, Do-
mino Gilberto, Divina Provi-
dentiâ Archiep. Cantuar. à
Sacr. Dom.

Mail 29.
1671.

Place the Contents at the latter end of the Book.



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43. That Leucippus and Democritus; being Atheistically inclined; took the Atomical Physiology endeavouring to make it subservient to Atheism, and upon what occasion they did it, and how unsuccessfully.
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 45. That Aristotle followed Plato herein, with a Commendation of Aristotle's Philosophy.



HEY that hold the Necessity of all humane Actions and Events, do it upon one or other of these two Grounds; Either because they suppose that Necessity is inwardly essential to all Agents whatsoever, and that Contingent Liberty is *περὶ ἄνθρωπον*, a Thing Impossible or Contradictory, which can have no Existence any where in Nature; The sense of which was thus expressed by the Epicurean Poet,

— *Quod res queque Necessum
 Intestinum habeat cunctis in rebus agendis, &c.*

That every thing Naturally labours under an Intestine Necessity: Or else, because though they admit Contingent Liberty not only as a thing Possible, but also as that which is actually Existent in the Deity, yet they conceive all things to be so determin'd by the Will and Decrees of this Deity, as that they are thereby made Necessary to us. The former of these two Opinions, that Contingent Liberty is *περὶ ἄνθρωπον*, such a Thing as can have no Existence in Nature, may be maintained upon two different Grounds; Either from such an Hypothesis as this, That the Universe is nothing else but Body, and Local motion, and Nothing moving it self, the Action of every Agent is determined by some other Agent without it; and therefore that *ὡς ἀνάγκη*, Material and Mechanical Necessity must needs reign over all things: Or else, though Cogitative Beings be supposed to have a certain Principle of Activity within themselves, yet that there can be no Contingency in their Actions, because all Volitions are determined by a Necessary antecedent Understanding.

Plotinus makes another Distribution of Fatalists, which yet in the Conclusion will come to the same with the Former, *διῆλθες ἂν τις δέμῃ· τὸς δὲ ἂν τὸ ἀληθὲς ἀποκρίνηται, εἰ μὴ γὰρ ἂν ἐνός τινος τὰ πάντα ἀερίωνται;* *A man (saith he) will not do amiss that will divide all Fatalists first into these two General Heads, namely, That they derive all things from One Principle, or Not; The former of which may be called Divine Fatalists, the latter Atheistical. Which Divine Fatalists he again subdivides into such as First make God by Immediate Influence to do all things in us; as in Animals the Members are not determined by themselves, but by that which is the Hegemonick in every one: And Secondly, such as make Fate to be an Implexed Series or Concatenation of Causes, all in themselves Necessary, whereof God is the chief. The Former seems to be a Description of that*

very Fate that is maintained by some *Neoterick* Christians; the Latter is the Fate of the *Stoicks*.

Wherefore Fatalists that hold the Necessity of all Humane Actions and Events, may be reduced to these Three Heads; First, such as asserting the Deity, suppose it irrespectively to Decree and Determine all things, and thereby make all Actions necessary to us; Which kind of Fate, though Philosophers and other ancient Writers have not been altogether silent of it, yet it has been principally maintained by some *Neoterick* Christians, contrary to the Sense of the Ancient Church. Secondly, such as suppose a Deity, that acting Wisely, but Necessarily, did contrive the General Frame of things in the World; from whence by a Series of Causes doth unavoidably result whatsoever is now done in it. Which Fate is a Concatenation of Causes, all in themselves Necessary, and is that which was asserted by the Ancient *Stoicks* *Zeno* and *Chrysippus*, whom the Jewish *Essenes* seemed to follow. And Lastly, such as hold the Material Necessity of all things without a Deity; which Fate *Epicurus* calls τὴν τῆ φύσεως ἐνάγκην, *The Fate of the Naturalists*, that is, indeed, the *Atheists*, the Assertors whereof may be called also the Democritical Fatalists. Which three Opinions concerning Fate, are so many several *Hypotheses* of the Intellectual System of the Universe. All which we shall here propose, endeavouring to shew the Falseness of them, and then substitute the true Mundane System in the Room of them.

II. *The Mathematical or Astrological Fate* so much talked of, as it is a thing no way considerable for the Grounds of it, so whatsoever it be, it must needs fall under one or other of those two General Heads in the *Plotinical* Distribution last mentioned, so as either to derive all things from one Principle, or Not. It seems to have had its first Emergence amongst the *Chaldeans*, from a certain kind of blind *Polytheism* (which is but a better sort of disguised Atheism) but it was afterwards Adopted and fondly nursed by the *Stoicks* in a way of subordination to their Divine Fate. For *Manilius*, *Firmicus* and other Masters of that Sect were great Promoters of it. And there was too much attributed to Astrology also, by those that were no Fatalists, both Heathen and Christian Philosophers, such as were *Plotinus*, *Origen*, *Simplicius* and others: Who though they did not make the Stars to necessitate all Humane Actions here below, yet they supposed that Divine Providence (fore-knowing all things) had contrived such a strange Coincidence of the Motions and Configurations of the Heavenly Bodies with such Actions here upon Earth, as that the former might be Prognosticks of the latter. Thus *Origen* determines that the Stars do not Make but Signify; and that the Heavens are a kind of Divine Volume, in whose Characters they that are skilled, may read or spell out Humane Events. To the same purpose *Plotinus*, φέρειν μὴ τὰ αὐτὰ ἐπὶ σωτηρίᾳ τῆ ψυχῆ, παρέχει δὲ ἕ ἄλλω χρεῖν τὴν τὴν ὡς αὐτὰ ἔσται γεγνημένα βλέπειν τὸς τῶν αὐτῶν γεγνημένων αἰδώς ἀναγκάσειν τὰ μέλλοντα ἐκ τῆ χειρὸς αὐτῆς τὸ ἀνάλογον μετὰ δυνάμειν τι σημαίνοντων ἔσται ἢ τις λέγει ἰσχυρὸν ἢ ψυχρὸν ἢ θερμὸν ἢ ψυχρὸν πρὸς τὰς πράξεις *The Motion of the Stars was intended for the Physical Good of the*

the whole; but they afford also another Use collaterally in order to Prognostication, namely that they who are skilled in the Grammar of the Heavens may be able from the several Configurations of the Stars, as it were Letters to spell out future Events, by making such Analogical Interpretations as they use to do in Augury: As when a Bird flies high, to interpret this of some High and Noble Exploit. And *Simplicius* in like manner, *σύμφωνός ἐστιν ἡ ἐμμετρίων περιφορὰ τῇ περιβολῇ τῆς ψυχῆς τῇ κατ' αὐτὴν ἐπεχρησμένῃ εἰς τὴν γένεσιν, ἐκ ἀναγκῆς ποτα μὲν τὰς τῶνδε ἐρίωνται ἡ τῶνδε, σύμφωνος ἡ ἕστα ἢ ὁ εἶπον αὐτῇ.* The Fatal Conversion of the Heavens is made to correspond with the Production of Souls into Generation at such and such times, not Necessitating them to will this or that, but conspiring agreeably with such Appetites and Volitions of theirs. And these Philosophers were the rather inclinable to this Perswasion from a Superstitious Conceit which they had, that the Stars being animated, were Intellectual Beings of a far higher Rank than Men. And since God did not make them, nor any thing else in the World, singly for themselves alone, but also to contribute to the Publick Good of the Universe, their Physical Influence seeming inconsiderable, they knew not well what else could be worthy of them, unless it were to portend Humane Events. This indeed is the best Sence that can be made of Astrological Prognostication; But it is a business that stands upon a very weak and tottering, if not Impossible Foundation.

III. There is another Wild and Extravagant Conceit which some of the Pagans had, who though they Verbally acknowledged a Deity, yet supposed a certain Fate superiour to it, and not only to all their other Petty Gods, but also to *Jupiter* himself. To which purpose is that of the Greek Poet, Latin'd by *Cicero*, *Quod fore paratum est id summum exuperat Jovem*; and that of *Herodotus*, *τῇ περὶ τοῦ μέγιστου μοίρῃ ἀδυνατῶν εἶναι ἀποφυγῆναι καὶ τὸ θεῶν* It is impossible for God himself to avoid the destin'd Fate; and *ὁ θεὸς ἀνάγκης*, God himself is a Servant of Necessity. According to which Conceit, *Jupiter* in *Homer* laments his Condition, in that the Fates having determined that his beloved *Sarpedon* should be slain by the Son of *Meneceus*, he was not able to withstand it. Though all these passages may not perhaps imply much more than what the Stoical Hypothesis it self imported; for that did also in some sense make God himself a Servant to the Necessity of the Matter, and to his own Decrees, in that he could not have made the smallest thing in the World otherwise than now it is, much less was able to alter any thing. According to that of *Seneca*, *Eadem Necessitas & Deos alligat. Irrevocabilis Divina pariter atque Humana cursus vehit. Ille ipse omnium Conditor ac Receptor scriptis quidem Fata sed sequitur. Semper pariet semel jussit.* One and the same Chain of Necessity ties God and Men. The same irrevocable and unalterable Course carries on Divine and Humane things. The very Maker and Governour of all things that writ the Fates follows them. He did but once command but he always obeys. But if there were this further meaning in the Passages before cited, that a Necessity without God, that was invincible by him, did determine his Will to all things; this was nothing but a certain Confused and Contradictious Jumble of Atheism and Theism both together; or an odd kind of Intimation, that however

Lucian. i. c. 12.
Lucian. Jupiter
confutatus.

the Name of God be used in compliance with Vulgar Speech and Opinion, yet indeed it signifies nothing, but Material Necessity; and the blind Motion of Matter is really the Highest *Numen* in the World. And here that of *Balbus* the Stoick in *Cicero* is opportune: *Non est Natura Dei Præpotens & Excellens, siquidem ea subiecta est ei vel Necessitati vel Naturæ quæ Cælum, Mariæ, Terræque reguntur. Nihil autem est præstantius Deo. Nulli igitur est Natura obediens aut subiectus Deus.* God would not be the most Powerful and Excellent Being, if he were subiect to that either Necessity or Nature, by which the Heavens, Seas and Earth are governed. But the Notion of a God implies the most Excellent Being. Therefore God is not Obedient or Subiect to any Nature.

I V. And now we think fit here to suggest, that however we shall oppose those three Fatalisms before mentioned, as so many false Hypotheses of the Mundane System and Oeconomy, and endeavour to exclude that severe Tyranness (as *Epicurus* calls it) of Universal Necessity reigning over all, and to leave some Scope for Contingent Liberty to move up and down in, without which neither Rational Creatures can be blame worthy for any thing they do, nor God have any Object to display his Justice upon, nor indeed be justified in his Providence; Yet, as we vindicate to God the glory of all Good, so we do not quite banish the Notion of Fate neither, nor take away all Necessity; which is a thing the *Cleomenian* Philosopher of old was taxed for; Affirming *μὴδὲν τῶν γινώσκων γίνεσθαι κατ' ἐμομενόμενον, ἀλλὰ ὅταν καὶν τὸτο τίνομεν* That Nothing at all was done by Fate, but that it was altogether a vain Name. And the *Sadduceans* among the Jews have been noted for the same: *τὴν μὲν ἐμομενόμενον ἀνομιάν ὅδιν ὄναι ταύτην ἀφίστηναι, ὅτι κατ' αὐτῶν τὰ ἀνθρώπινα τέλῃ λαμβάνουσιν, ἀπαρτὰ δ' ἐφ' ἑαυτοῖς πόλινται.* They take away all Fate, and will not allow it to be any thing at all, nor to have any Power over Humane Things, but put all things entirely into the hands of *Adems* own Free-Will. And some of our own, seem to have approached too near to this Extreme, attributing, perhaps, more to the Power of Free-Will, than either Religion or Nature will admit. But the Hypothesis that we shall recommend, as most agreeable to Truth, of a *πρόνοια ἱλάσθη* Placable Providence, of a Deity Essentially Good, presiding over all, will avoid all Extremes, ascribing to God the Glory of Good, and freeing him from the Blame of Evil; and leaving a certain proportionate Contemperation and Commixture of Contingency and Necessity both together in the World: As Nature requires a mixture of Motion and Rest, without either of which there could be no Generation. Which Temper was observed by several of the Ancients; as the Pharisaick Sect amongst the Jews who determined *τιὰ ἑὴ πόλιν καὶ ἐμομενόμενος ὄναι ἔργον, τινὰ δ' ἐφ' ἑαυτοῖς ὑπολεῖναι*, That some things and not all were the Effects of Fate, but some things were left in *Adems* own Power and Liberty. And also by *Plato* amongst the Philosophers, *πλάτων ἔθεκε τινὲς μὲν ἐμομενόμενον ὅτι τῶν ἀνθρώπων ψυχὰν καὶ βίαν, ἀνομιὰς ἀγείνῃ καὶ τὴν κατ' ἑμᾶς αἰτίαν* *Plato* inserts something of Fate into Humane Lives and Actions, and he joyns with it Liberty of Will also. He doth indeed suppose Humane Souls to have within themselves the Causes of their own Changes to a Better or Worse State, & every where declares God

God to be blameless for their Evils, and yet he somewhere makes the three Fatal Sisters notwithstanding, *Clotho, Lachesis* and *Atropos*, to be busie about them also. For according to the sense of the Ancients, Fate is a Servant of Divine Providence in the World, and takes place differently upon the different Actings of Free-willed Beings. And how Free a thing soever the Will of Man may seem to be, to some, yet I conceive it to be out of Question, that it may contract upon it self such Necessities and Fatalities, as it cannot upon a suddain rid it self of at pleasure. But whatsoever is said in the Sequel of this Discourse by way of Opposition to that Fatalism of the Neoterick Christians, is intended only to vindicate what was the constant Doctrine of the Christian Church in its greatest purity, (as shall be made manifest) and not to introduce any New-fangled conceit of our own.

V. We must now proceed to give a more full and perfect account of these three several Fates, or *Hypotheses* of the Mundane System before mentioned, together with the Grounds of them, beginning first with that which we Principally intend the Confutation of, the *Atheistical or Democritical Fate*. Which as it is a thing of the most dangerous Consequence of all, so it seems to be most spreading and infectious in these latter times.

Now this *Atheistical System* of the World that makes all things to be Materially and Mechanically Necessary, without a God, is built upon a peculiar Physiological *Hypothesis*, different from what hath been generally received for many Ages; which is called by some *Atomical or Corpuscular*, by others *Mechanical*: of which we must therefore needs give a full and Perfect Account. And we shall do it first in General, briefly, not descending to those minute Particularities of it, which are disputed amongst these Atomists themselves, in this manner.

The Atomical Physiology supposes that Body is nothing else but *διατετατον ἄντιστοιχον*, that is, *Extended Bulk*; and resolves therefore that nothing is to be attributed to it, but what is included in the Nature and *Idea* of it, *viz.* more or less Magnitude with Divisibility into Parts, Figure, and Position, together with Motion or Rest, but so as that no part of Body can ever Move it Self; but is alwaies moved by something else. And consequently it supposes that there is no need of any thing else besides these simple Elements of Magnitude, Figure, Site and Motion (which are all clearly intelligible as different Modes of extended Substance) to solve the Corporeal *Phænomena* by; and therefore, not of any Substantial Forms distinct from the Matter; nor of any other Qualities really existing in the Bodies without, besides the Results, or Aggregates of those simple Elements, and the Disposition of the Insensible Parts of Bodies in respect of Figure, Site and Motion; nor of any Intentional *Species* or *Schems*, propagated from the Objects to our Senses; nor, lastly, of any other kind of Motion or Action really distinct from Local Motion (such as Generation and Alteration) they being neither Intelligible, as Modes of extended Substance, nor any ways necessary. Forasmuch as the Forms and Qualities

Qualities of Bodies may well be conceived, to be nothing but the Result of those simple Elements of Magnitude, Figure, Site and Motion, variously compounded together; in the same manner as Syllables and Words in great variety result from the different Combinations and Conjunctions of a few Letters, or the simple Elements of Speech; and the Corporeal Part of Sensation, and particularly that of Vision, may be falsed only by Local Motion of Bodies, that is, either by Corporeal *Effluvia* (called *Simulachra*, *Membrane* and *Exuvia*) streaming continually from the Surface of the Objects, or rather, as the later and more refined Atomists conceived, by Preclude made from the Object to the Eye, by means of Light in the *Medium*. So that *ὡς διὰ βαυήσεως τῷ τοῦ οὐραίου αἴθερος τὸ βλεπόμενον ἀναγνώσκειται* The Sense taking Cognizance of the Object by the Subtle Interposed *Medium* that is tense and stretched, (thrusting every way from it upon the Optick Nerves) doth by that as it were by a Staff touch it. Again, Generation and Corruption may be sufficiently explained by Concretion and Secretion, or Local Motion, without Substantial Forms and Qualities. And lastly, those sensible *Ideas* of Light and Colours, Heat and Cold, Sweet and Bitter, as they are distinct things from the Figure, Site and Motion of the insensible Parts of Bodies, seem plainly to be nothing else but our own *Phantasies*, *Passions* and *Sensations* however they be vulgarly mistaken for Qualities in the Bodies without us.

V I. Thus much may suffice for a General Account of the Atomical Physiology. We shall in the next Place consider the Antiquity thereof, as also what notice *Aristotle* hath taken of it, and what Account he gives of the same. For though *Epicurus* went altogether this way, yet it is well known that he was not the first Inventor of it. But it is most commonly fathered on *Democritus*, who was Senior both to *Aristotle* and *Plato*, being reported to have been born the year after *Socrates*; from whose Fountains *Cicero* saith that *Epicurus* watered his Orchards, and of whom *Sex. Empiricus* and *Laertius* testify that he did *ἐκβάλλειν τὰς ποιότητας*, cashier *Qualities*; and *Plutarch*, that he made the first Principles of the whole Universe *ἀπὸ τῶν ἄπειρων καὶ ἀπυκτῶν*, Atoms devoid of all *Qualities* and *Passions*. But *Laertius* will have *Leucippus*, who was somewhat Senior to *Democritus*, to be the first Inventor of this Philosophy, though he wrote not so many Books concerning it as *Democritus* did. *Aristotle* who often takes notice of this Philosophy, and ascribes it commonly to *Leucippus* and *Democritus* jointly, gives us this description of it in his *Metaphysics*, *ἀδύναμις ὅτι καὶ ὁ ἑταῖρος αὐτοῦ ἀνέμειξε τὰ στοιχεῖα μὴ τὰ πλήρη καὶ τὰ κενὰ ὥστε φανεῖ λόγους οὗτοι μὴ ἐν τῷ μὴ ὄντι, καὶ τὰς διαφορὰς αἰτίας τῶν ἄλλων φανταστάς, μίνοι τρεῖς, χυμὸς τε καὶ τὰ ξηρὰ καὶ θερμὰ, διαφέρειν γὰρ τὸν ἑσόμενον καὶ τὸν ἔσσαν·* *Leucippus and his Companion Democritus make the first Principles of all things to be Plenum and Vacuum (Body and Space) whereof one is Ens the other Non-ens, and the differences of Body, which are only Figure, Order and Position, to be the Causes of all other things.* Which Differences they call by these Names *Kysmus*, *Diatigie* and *Trope*. And in his Book *De Anima*, having declared that *Democritus* made Fire and the Soul to consist of Round Atoms, he describes those

those Atoms of his after this manner, οὐκ ἔστι τὰ ἀέρι τὰ καλόμενα ἱεμα-
τα αὐταὶ δὲ τῆς ἡλίου ἀκτῆς ἐν τῇ παντοκρατορίᾳ τοιαῦτα λέγει ἀμύμας δὲ ἢ
ἐκ τῶν φύσιν ὁμοίους ἢ καὶ λευκίππου. *They are (saith he) like those Ramenta or*
dusty Particles which appear in the Sun-Beams, an Omnifarious Semina-
ry whereof Democritus makes to be the first Elements of the whole U-
niverse, and so doth Leucippus likewise. Elsewhere the same Aristotle
tells us, that these two Philosophers explained Generation and Al-
teration without Forms and Qualities by Figures and Local Motion.
ἀμύμας δὲ καὶ λευκίππου ποιήσαντες τὰ χρώματα τῷ ἀμύματι καὶ τῷ γένει οὐ
τάτεν πρῶτα, διακρίσει μὲν καὶ συστρίψει γένειον καὶ φθόρον, ταῦτα ὃ καὶ εἶπον
ἀμύμων Democritus and Leucippus having made Figures, (or vari-
ously figured Atoms) the first Principles, make Generation and Altera-
tion out of these; namely Generation together with Corruption, from the
Concretion and Secretion of them, but Alteration from the change of
their Order and Position. Again he elsewhere takes notice of that
Opinion of the Atomists, that all Sense was a kind of Touch, and
that the Sensible Qualities of Bodies were to be resolved into Figures,
imputing it not only to Democritus, but also to the Generality of
the old Philosophers, but very much disliking the same: ἀμύμας δὲ
καὶ οἱ πλεῖστοι φασὶν οὐλοῦν ἀποπλάττειν πρῶτα, πᾶσα γὰρ τὰ αἰσθητὰ ἀπὸ
πρῶτον καὶ ἐκ χρώματος ἀνέγειν τὸς χρώμας Democritus and most of the Physi-
ologers here commit a very great Absurdity, in that they make all Sense
to be Touch, and resolve sensible Qualities into the Figures of insensible
Parts or Atoms. And this Opinion he endeavours to confute by these
Arguments. First, because there is Contrariety in Qualities, as in
Black and White, Hot and Cold, Bitter and Sweet, but there is no
Contrariety in Figures; for a Circular Figure is not Contrary to a
Square or Multangular; and therefore there must be Real Qualities
in Bodies distinct from the Figure, Site and Motion of Parts. Again,
the variety of Figures and Dispositions being Infinite, it would follow
from thence, that the Species of Colours, Odours, and Tastes should be
Infinite likewise, and Reducible to no certain Number. Which Ar-
guments I leave the Professed Atomists to answer. Furthermore Ari-
stotle somewhere also censures that other Fundamental Principle of
this Atomical Physiology, That the sensible Ideas of Colours and
Tastes, as Red, Green, Bitter and Sweet, formally considered, are on-
ly Passions and Phantries in us, and not real Qualities in the Object
without. For as in a Rainbow there is really nothing without our
sight, but a Rorid Cloud diversely refracting and reflecting the Sun-
Beams, in such an Angle; nor are there really such Qualities in the
Diaphanous Prism, when refracting the Light, it exhibits to us
the same Colours of the Rainbow: whence it was collected, that
those things are properly the Phantasms of the Sentient, occasioned
by different Motions on the Optick Nerves: So they conceived the
case to be the same in all other Colours, and that both the Colours
of the Prism and Rainbow were as real as other Colours, and all
other Colours as Phantastical as they: And then by parity of Rea-
son they extended the business further to the other Sensibles. But
this Opinion Aristotle condemns in these words, οἱ περὶ τοῦ φασὶν οὐλοῦν
τῶν καλῶν ἔλεγον ὅτι οὐδὲν οἰόμενοι ὅτι λαμβάνειν μέλας ἢ λευκός, ὅτι χρώμα
ἢ οὐρανός. *The former Physiologers were generally out in this, in that*
they

they thought there was no Black or White without the Sight, nor no Bitter or Sweet without the Taste. There are other Passages in Aristotle concerning this Philosophy, which I think superfluous to insert here; and I shall have occasion to cite some of them afterward for other Purposes.

VII. But in the next place it will not be amiss to shew that *Plato* also hath left a very full Record of this Mechanical or Atomical Physiology (that hath hardly been yet taken notice of) which notwithstanding he doth not impute either to *Democritus* (whose name *Laertius* thinks he purposely declined to mention throughout all his Writings) or to *Leucippus*, but to *Protagoras*. Wherefore in his *Theætetus*, having first declared in general that the *Protagorean* Philosophy made all things to consist of a Commixture of Parts (or Atoms) and Local Motion, he represents it, in Particular concerning Colours, after this manner; ὑπάρχει τῶν ὡς χεῖρ. τὰ ἐμμέσῃ πρῶτον, ὅ ἡ καλὸς χρεῖμα λευκὸν μὴ εἶναι αὐτὸ ὑπερὶ τι, τὸ ἔξω γὰρ αὐτῶν ἐμμέσῃ μὲν αὖ τοῖς ὁμασι ἀλλὰ μέλαν τι καὶ λευκὸν καὶ ὅτι ἄλλο χρεῖμα ὅς τ' προσβολῆς γὰρ ὁμιάται πρὸς τὴν προσέκασται φασὶν φαίνεται γινώσκουσιν, καὶ ὅ ἡ ἕκαστον εἶναι φαμεν χρεῖμα ὅτι τὸ προσβάλλον ὅτι τὸ προσβαλλόμενον ἀλλὰ μεταξὺ τι ἕκαστον ἰδίῳ γινόντι. *First as to that which belongs to the Sight, you must conceive that which is called a White or a Black Colour not to be any thing absolutely existing either without your Eyes or within your Eyes; but Black and White and every other Colour, is caused by different Motions made upon the Eye from Objects differently modified: so that it is nothing either in the Agent nor the Patient absolutely, but something which arises from between them both. Where it follows immediately, ἢ σὺ διαχυέσθαι ἂν ἄς οἷόν σοι φαίνεται ἕκαστον χρεῖμα τοῦτον καὶ κατὰ καὶ ὁτιοῦν ἄλλῳ. Can you or any man else be Confident, that as every Colour appears to him, so it appears just the same to every other Man and Animal, any more than Tastes and Touches, Heat and Cold do? From whence it is plain that *Protagoras* made Sensible Qualities, not to be all absolute things existing in the Bodies without, but to be Relative to us, and Passions in us; and so they are called presently after τῶν αὖ ἡμῶν φάσματῶν, certain Phantasies, Seemings, or Appearances in us. But there is another Passage in which a fuller Account is given of the whole *Protagorean* Doctrine, beginning thus; ἄρχη ἡ ἐξ ἧς ἅ καὶ διὰ ἡλόγομαι πάντα ἡγεῖσθαι εἶναι αὐτῶν, ἄς τὸ πάντ' κίνησις ἢ καὶ ἄλλο τι τῶν τούτων ὅσων, ὅ ἡ κινήσεως διὰ ὅδε πλῆθος μὲν ἀπειρεσι ἰσότητος, εἴναται ὅ τὸ μὲν πᾶσι ἔχον, τί ἡ πᾶσι, ὅς τ' ὅ τῶν ἐμμέσῃ καὶ τῶν ἐξ ἑαυτῶν γινόμενα ἕκαστον πλῆθος μὲν ἀπειρεσι δίδρυμα, τὸ μὲν αὐτῶν, τὸ ἡ αὐτῶν ἀπὸ συνκινήσεως καὶ γινώσκουσιν μετα τῶν αὐτῶν, &c. The Principle upon which all these things depend is this, That the whole Universe is Motion (of Atoms) and nothing else besides; which Motion is considered two ways, and accordingly called by two Names, Action and Passion; from the mutual Congress, and as it were Attrition together of both which, are begotten innumerable Off-springs, which though infinite in Number, yet may be reduced to two general Heads, Sensibles and Sensations, that are both generated at the same time; the Sensations are Seeing and Hearing and the like, and the Correspondent Sensibles, Colours, Sounds, &c. Wherefore when the Eye, or such a proportionate*

proportionate Object meet together, both the αἰσθητὸν and the αἰσθητός, the Sensible Idea of White and black and the Sense of Seeing are generated together, neither of which would have been produced if either of those two had not met with the other. Καὶ τὰ ἄλλα ὅσα ψυχρὸν καὶ θερμὸν καὶ πόσιον καὶ αὐτὸν τρέπον ὑποληπτόν αὐτὸ μὴ καὶ αὐτὸ μὴ εἶναι, αὐτὸ δὲ τῇ πρὸς ἄλλα ὁμολίᾳ πόσιον γίνεσθαι, πᾶσι δὲ ἀπὸ τῆς κοίτης. The like is to be conceived of all other Sensibles, as Hot and Cold, &c. that none of these are Absolute things in themselves, or Real Qualities in the Objects without, but they are begotten from the mutual Congress of Agent and Patient with one another, and that by Motion: So that neither the Agent has any such thing in it before its Congress with the Patient, nor the Patient before its Congress with the Agent. ἢ ἡ ἀμφοτέρω τῷ πινόντι καὶ τῷ πόσιον πρὸς τὰ ἄλλα συνησμέων καὶ τοῖς αἰσθητοῖς καὶ τὰ αἰσθητὰ ἀπαιτούμενα, τὰ μὲν πάντα ἅμα γίνεσθαι τὰ δὲ αἰσθανόμενα. But the Agent and Patient meeting together, and begetting Sensation and Sensibles, both the Object and the Sentient are forthwith made to be so and so qualified, as when Honey is tasted, the Sense of Tasting and the Quality of Sweetness are begotten both together, though the Sense be vulgarly attributed to the Taster and the Quality of Sweetness to the Honey. The Conclusion of all which is summed up thus ὅτι εἶναι αὐτὸ καὶ αὐτὸ ἄλλα πρὸ αἰσθητῶν, That none of those Sensible things is any thing absolutely in the Objects without, but they are all generated or made Relatively to the Sentient. There is more in that Dialogue to this purpose, which I here omit; but I have set down so much of it in the Authour's own Language, because it seems to me to be an excellent Monument of the Wisdom and Sagacity of the old Philosophers. That which is the main Curiosity in this whole business of the Mechanical or Atomical Philosophy, being here more fully and plainly expressed, than it is in Lucretius himself, viz. That Sensible things, according to those Ideas that we have of them, are not real Qualities absolutely Existing without us, but αἰσθητὰ φαντάσματα, Phantasies or Phantasms in us: So that both the Latin Interpreters Ficinus and Serranus, though probably neither of them at all acquainted with this Philosophy, as being not yet restored, could not but understand it after the same manner: the one expressing it thus, *Color ex Aspectu Motuque Medium quiddam resultans est. Talis circa Oculos Passio*; and the other *Ex varia Aspicientis diatresi, varisque sensilis specie colores varios & videri & fieri, ita tamen ut sint phantasæ nec nisi in animo subsistant*. However it appears by Plato's manner of telling the story, and the Tenour of the whole Dialogue, that himself was not a little prejudiced against this Philosophy. In all probability the rather, because Protagoras had made it a Foundation both for Scepticism and Atheism.

VIII. We have now learnt from Plato, that Democritus and Leucippus were not the sole Proprietaries in this Philosophy, but that Protagoras, though not vulgarly taken notice of for any such thing (being commonly represented as a Sophist only) was a sharer in it likewise; which Protagoras indeed Laertius and others affirm to have been an Auditor of Democritus; and so he might be, notwithstanding what Plutarch tells us, that Democritus wrote against his taking a way

way the Absolute Natures of things. However we are of Opinion that neither *Democritus*, nor *Protagoras*, nor *Leucippus* was the first Inventour of this Philosophy; and our reason is, because they were all three of them Atheists (though *Protagoras* alone was banished for that Crime by the *Athenians*) and we cannot think that any Atheists could be the Inventours of it, much less that it was the Genuine Spawn and Brood of Atheism it self, as some conceit, because however these Atheists adopted it to themselves, endeavouring to serve their turns of it, yet if rightly understood, it is the most effectual Engin against Atheism that can be. And we shall make it appear afterwards, that never any of those Atheists, whether Ancient or Modern (how great Pretenders soever to it) did thoroughly understand it, but perpetually contradicted themselves in it. And this is the Reason why we insist so much upon this Philosophy here, not only because without the perfect knowledge of it, we cannot deal with the Atheists at their own Weapon; but also because we doubt not but to make a Sovereign Antidote against Atheism, out of that very Philosophy, which so many have used as a *Vehiculum* to convey this Poyson of Atheism by.

IX. But besides Reason, we have also good Historical probability for this Opinion, that this Philosophy was a thing of much greater Antiquity than either *Democritus* or *Leucippus*; and first, because *Pofidonius*, an Ancient and Learned Philosopher, did (as both *Empiricus* and *Strabo* tell us) avouch it for an old Tradition, that the first Inventour of this Atomical Philosophy was one *Moschus* a *Phœnician*, who, as *Strabo* also notes, lived before the *Trojan Wars*.

X. Moreover it seems not altogether Improbable, but that this *Moschus* a *Phœnician* Philosopher, mentioned by *Pofidonius*, might be the same with that *Mochus* a *Phœnician* Physiologer in *Jamblichus*, with whose Successors, Priests and Prophets, he affirms that *Pythagoras*, sometimes sojourning at *Sidon* (which was his native City) had convertit: Which may be taken for an Intimation, as if he had been by them instructed in that Atomical Physiology which *Moschus* or *Mochus* the *Phœnician* is said to have been the Inventour of. *Mochus* or *Moschus* is plainly a *Phœnician* Name, and there is one *Mochus* a *Phœnician* Writer cited in *Athenæus*, whom the Latin Translator calls *Moschus*; and Mr. *Selden* approves of the Conjecture of *Arcerius*, the Publisher of *Jamblichus*, that this *Mochus* was no other than the Celebrated *Moses* of the *Jews*, with whose Successors the Jewish Philosophers, Priests and Prophets, *Pythagoras* conversed at *Sidon*. Some Phantastick Atomists perhaps would here catch at this, to make their Philosophy to stand by Divine Right, as owing its Original to Revelation; whereas Philosophy being not a Matter of Faith but Reason, Men ought not to affect (as I conceive) to derive its Pedigree from Revelation, and by that very pretence seek to impose it Tyrannically upon the minds of Men, which God hath here purposely left Free to the use of their own Faculties, that so finding out Truth by them, they might enjoy that Pleasure and Satisfaction

Satisfaction which arises from thence. But we aim here at nothing more, than a Confirmation of this Truth, That the Atomical Physiology was both older than *Democritus*, and had no such Atheistical Original neither. And there wants not other Good Authority for this, That *Pythagoras* did borrow many things from the *Jews*, and translate them into his Philosophy.

XI. But there are yet other Considerable Probabilities for this, that *Pythagoras* was not unacquainted with the Atomical Physiology. And first from *Democritus* himself, who as he was of the *Italick* Row, or *Pythagorick* Succession; so it is recorded of him in *Laertius*, that he was a great Emulator of the *Pythagoreans*, and seemed to have taken all his Philosophy from them: Infomuch that if Chronology had not contradicted it, it would have been concluded, that he had been an Auditor of *Pythagoras* himself, of whom he testified his great admiration in a Book entitled by his Name. Moreover some of his Opinions had a plain Correspondency with the *Pythagorick* Doctrines, forasmuch as *Democritus* did not only hold, *φερεσθαι ἀτέμεις αὐτὸ τοῦ ἐν αὐτῷ ἀναμάνω*, *That the Atoms were carried round in a Vortex*; but also together with *Leucippus*, *τὴν γὰρ ἔχειν αὐτὴν τὸ μέσον ἀναμάνω*, *That the Earth was carried about the Middle or Centre of this Vortex (which is the Sun) turning in the mean time round upon its own Axis*: And just so the *Pythagorick* Opinion is expressed by *Aristotle*, *τὴν γὰρ ἐν τῷ ἄστρῳ ὅπου κέντρον φερεμένην αὐτὴ τὸ μέσον νόσται καὶ τὴν ἡμέραν πῶτον* *That the Earth, as one of the Stars (that is a Planet) being carried round about the Middle or Centre (which is Fire or the Sun) did in the mean time by its Circumgyration upon its own Axis make day and night*. Wherefore it may be reasonably from hence concluded, that as *Democritus* his Philosophy was *Pythagorical*, so *Pythagoras* his Philosophy was likewise *Democritical* or *Atomical*.

XII. But that which is of more Moment yet; we have the Authority of *Ecpbantus* a famous *Pythagorean* for this, that *Pythagoras* his Monads, so much talked of, were nothing else but Corporeal Atoms. Thus we find it in *Stobæus*, *ταὶς πυθαγορικαῖς μονάδ' αὖς ἔτθ' ἐπεφάνητο* *ἐσωματικαῖς*, *Ecpbantus* (who himself asserted the Doctrine of Atoms) first declared that the *Pythagorick* Monads were Corporeal, i.e. Atoms. And this is further confirmed from what *Aristotle* himself writes of these *Pythagoreans* and their Monads, *ταῖς μονάδ' αὖς ὑπολαμβάνουσιν ἔχειν μέγεθος* *They suppose their Monads to have Magnitude*: And from that he elsewhere makes Monads and Atoms to signify the same thing, *ἐδὲν διαφέρει μονάδ' αὖς λέγειν ἢ σωματικὰ σμικροτά* *It is all one to say Monads or small Corpuscula*. And *Gassendus* hath observed out of the Greek Epigrammatist, that *Epichurus* his Atoms were sometimes called Monads too;

————— *μά τι τῷ ἑπικούρῳ ἐν λόγῳ
πῶς τὸ καὶνὸν ἔχουσιν καὶ οὐκ αἱ μονάδες.*

XIII. But to pass from *Pythagoras* himself ; That *Empedocles*, who was a *Pythagorean* also, did *Physiologize* Atomically, is a thing that could hardly be doubted of, though there were no more Proof for it than that one Passage of his in his *Philosophick* Poems ;

φύσις ὁμοῖός ἐστιν ἑκάστῃ
Ἄλλὰ μόνον μίξις τι διάλλαξις τι μὲνεται·

Nature is nothing but the Mixture and Separation of things mingled ; or thus, There is no production of anything anew, but only mixture and separation of things mingled. Which is not only to be understood of Animals, according to the *Pythagorick* Doctrine of the Transmigration of Souls, but also, as himself expounds it, Universally of all Bodies, that their Generation and Corruption is nothing but *Mixture and Separation* ; or as *Aristotle* expresses it, σύνθεσις καὶ διάκρισις, *Concretion and Secretion* of Parts, together with Change of Figure and Order. It may perhaps be objected, that *Empedocles* held four Elements, out of which he would have all other Bodies to be compounded ; and that as *Aristotle* affirms, he made those Elements not to be transmutable into one another neither. To which we reply, that he did indeed make four Elements, as the first general Concretions of Atoms, and therein he did no more than *Democritus* himself, who, as *Laertius* writes, did from Atoms moving round in a Vortex πάντα συνέχευματ' αἰνῶν πῦρ ὕδωρ ἀέρα γῆν, ἔπει γ' οὖν καὶ τὰύτα ἐξ ἀτόμων πᾶσι συνέχευματ', *Generate all Concretions, Fire, Water, Air and Earth, these being Systems made out of certain Atoms.* And *Plato* further confirms the same ; for in his Book *De Legibus* he describes (as I suppose) that very Atheistical Hypothesis of *Democritus*, though without mentioning his Name, representing it in this Manner ; That by the Fortuitous Motion of Senseless Matter were first made those four Elements, and then out of them afterward Sun, Moon, Stars and Earth. Now both *Plutarch* and *Stobæus* testify, that *Empedocles* compounded the four Elements themselves out of Atoms. Ἐμπεδοκλῆς ἢ ἐκ μικροτέρων ὄντων τὰ στοιχεῖα συνέχει ἢ ἐκ ἰσῶν ἰσάκων, καὶ ὁμοῖα στοιχεῖα στοιχείων· *Empedocles makes the Elements to be compounded of other small Corpuscula, which are the least, and as it were the Elements of the Elements.* And the same *Stobæus* again observes, Ἐμπεδοκλῆς πρὶ τῶν πτωχῶν στοιχείων θεῶν ματα ἰσάκων· *Empedocles makes the smallest Particles and Fragments of Body (that is, Atoms) to be before the four Elements.* But whereas *Aristotle* affirms that *Empedocles* denied the Transmutation of those Elements into one another, that must needs be either a slip in him, or else a fault in our Copies ; not only because *Lucretius*, who was better versed in that Philosophy, and gives a particular Account of *Empedocles* his Doctrine (besides many others of the Ancients) affirms the quite contrary ; but also because himself, in those Fragments of his still preserved, expressly acknowledges this Transmutation :

καὶ

καὶ φεῖν ἐς ἄλλα καὶ αὔξειται ἐν μέρει αὐτοῖς.

Besides all this, no less Author than *Plato* affirms, that according to *Empedocles*, Vision and other Sensations were made by ἀπὸρροαὶ σχημάτων, the *Defluxions of Figures*, or *Effluvia of Atoms*, (for so *Democritus* his Atoms are called in *Aristotle* σχήματα, because they were Bodies which had only *Figure* without *Qualities*) he supposing that some of these Figures or Particles corresponded with the Organs of one Sense, and some with the Organs of another. οὐκ ἔστιν ἀπὸρροὰς πᾶσι τῶν ὄντων καὶ ἐμπροσθεν, καὶ πᾶσι ἐς ὅς, καὶ δι' αὐτὰ ἀπὸρροαὶ ποιεῖσθαι, καὶ τῶν ἀπὸρροῶν τὰς μὲν ἀνέμοισιν ἴσους τῶν πῦρος, τὰς δὲ ἰσάμεναι ἡ μάλιστα ἔστιν. You say then according to the *Doctrine of Empedocles*, that there are certain Corporeal Effluvia from Bodies of different Magnitudes and Figures, as also several Pores and Meatuses in us diversely Corresponding with them: So that some of these Corporeal Effluvia agree with some pores, when they are either too big or too little for others. By which it is evident, that *Empedocles* did not suppose Sensations to be made by intentional Species or Qualities; but as to the Generality, in the Atomical way; in which notwithstanding there are some differences among these Atomists themselves. But *Empedocles* went the same way here with *Democritus*, for *Empedocles's* ἀπὸρροαὶ σχημάτων, *Defluxions of figured Bodies*, are clearly the same thing with *Democritus's* εἰδῶν εἰσχεῖς, *Insinuations of Simulachra*, or *Exuvions Images of Bodies*. And the same *Plato* adds further, that according to *Empedocles*, the Definition of Colour was this, ἀπὸρροὶ σχημάτων ἢ ἰσόμετρον καὶ αἰσθητὸς, *The Defluxion of Figures, or figured Corpuscyla (without Qualities) Commensurate to the Sight and Sensible*. Moreover, that *Empedocles* his Physiology was the very same with that of *Democritus*, is manifest also from this Passage of *Aristotle's* οἱ μὲν γὰρ ἐμπροσθεν καὶ ἀνέμοισιν λαμβάνουσι αὐτὰ ἑαυτὰς, ὅ γινεται ἐξ ἄλλων ποιῶν, ἀλλὰ φαινόμενον γίνονται ἀνέμοισιν ὅς ἑαυτὸν ἑκκαλεῖσθαι φασὶν ὥστε ἐξ ἀγένης τῆ γένεως ὅπως *Empedocles* and *Democritus* deceiving themselves, unawares destroy all Generation of Things out of one another, leaving a seeming Generation only: For they say that Generation is not the Production of any new Entity, but only the Secretion of what was before Intixtant; as when divers kinds of things confounded together in a Vessel, are separated from one another. Lastly, we shall confirm all this by the clear Testimony of *Plutarch*, or the Writer de *Placitis Philosophorum*: ἐμπροσθεν καὶ ἐπίπεδος καὶ πᾶσι ὅσι καὶ συνθεσμένων τῶν λεπτωτάτων σωματῶν κοσμοποιεῖν, συνθεσῶν μὲν καὶ διακρίσας ἐπύκειναι, γένεσις δὲ καὶ φθορὰς δὲ καὶ φθορὰς δὲ καὶ πᾶσι ἐξ ἀλλοιωσέων, καὶ ὅτι πᾶσι ἐκ συνθεσμένων ταύτων γένεσθαι *Empedocles and Epicurus*, and all those that compound the World of small Atoms, introduce Concretions and Secretions, but no Generations or Corruptions properly so called; neither would they have these to be made according to Quality by Alteration, but only according to Quantity by Aggregation. And the same Writer sets down the Order and Method, of the *Cosmogonia* according to *Empedocles*; ἐμπροσθεν τῆ μὲν αἰθέρος πρώτου διακρίσθαι, δέύτερον δὲ τὸ πῦρ.

ἐκ τῆς πύλης γὰρ ἐξ ἧς οὐκ ἔστιν ἀποφυγόντων τῇ φύσει τῇ ἀποφυγῇ, ἀναβλίσκει
 τὸ ὕδωρ, ἐξ ἧς συμαβλίσκει τὸ αἶρα, καὶ γινώσκει τὸ μὲν ἕρπονεν ἐκ τῆς αἰθέρος,
 τὸ δὲ ἥλιον ἐκ πυρός. Empedocles writes, that *Æther* was first of all
 secreted out of the Confused Chaos of Atoms, afterward the Fire,
 and then the Earth, which being Constringed, and as it were Squeezed
 by the Force of Agitation, sent forth Water bubbling out of it; from
 the Evaporation of which did proceed Air. And from the *Æther* was
 made the Heavens, from Fire the Sun. We see therefore that it was
 not without cause that *Lucretius* did so highly extol *Empedocles*, since
 his Physiology was really the same with that of *Epicurus* and *Democritus*;
 only that he differed from them in some Particularities, as
 in excluding *Vacuum*, and denying such Physical *Atinima* as were
 Indivisible.

XV. As for *Anaxagoras*, though he Philosophized by Atoms
 too, substituting Concretion and Secretion in the Room of Genera-
 tion and Corruption, insisting upon the same Fundamental Principle
 that *Empedocles*, *Democritus* and the other Atomists did; which was
 (as we shall declare more fully afterward) That Nothing could be
 made out of Nothing, nor reduced to Nothing; and therefore that
 there were neither any new Productions nor Destructions of any
 Substances or Real Entities: Yet, as his *Homœomeria* is represented
 by *Aristotle*, *Lucretius* and other Authours, that Bone was made of
 Bony Atoms, and Flesh of Flethy, Red things of Red Atoms, and
 Hot things of Hot Atoms; these Atoms being supposed to be en-
 dued originally with so many several Forms and Qualities Essen-
 tial to them, and Inseparable from them, there was indeed a wide
 difference betwixt his Philosophy and the Atomical. However,
 this seems to have had its Rise from nothing else but this Philoso-
 phers not being able to understand the Atomical Hypothesis, which
 made him decline it, and substitute this Spurious and Counterfeit
 Atomism of his own in the room of it.

XVI. Lastly, I might adde here, that it is recorded by Good
 Authours concerning divers other Ancient Philosophers, that were
 not additied to Democriticism or Atheism, that they followed
 this Atomical way of Physiologizing, and therefore in all probabi-
 lity did derive it from those Religious Atomists before *Democritus*.
 As for Example; *Echphantus* the *Syracusan* Pythagorist, who, as *Sto-
 bæus* writes, made τὰ ἀδιαίρετα σώματα καὶ τὸ κινῆν, Indivisible Bodies
 and *Vacuum* the Principles of Physiology, and as *Theodoret* also
 testifies, taught ἐκ τῆς ἀτόμου οὐσιολογίας τὸ κόσμον, That the Corporeal World
 was made up of Atoms; *Zenocrates* that made μεγέθη ἀδιαίρετα, Indi-
 visible Magnitudes the first Principles of Bodies; *Heraclides* that re-
 solved all Corporeal things into ἁγίσματα καὶ θραύσματα τῶν ἐλαχίστων,
 certain smallest Fragments of Bodies; *Aselepiades*, who supposed all
 the Corporeal World to be made ἐξ ἀνομοίων καὶ ἀνόμοιων ὄντων, not of
 Similar Parts (as *Anaxagoras*) but of Dissimilar and inconcinn Mole-
 cule, i. e. Atoms of different Magnitude and Figures; and *Diodorus*
 that

that solved the Material *Phænomena* by ἀμεινὰ τὰ ἰνδιβίβλητα, the smallest Indivisibles of Body. And Lastly, *Metrodorus* (not *Lamfacennus* the Epicurean, but) *Chinus*, who is reported also to have made Indivisible Particles and Atoms the first Principles of Bodies. But what need we any more proof for this, that the Atomical Physiology was anterior than *Democritus* and *Leucippus*, and not confined only to that Sect, since *Aristotle* himself in the Passages already cited doth expressly declare, that besides *Democritus*, the Generality of all the other Physiologists went that way; ἀμεινὰ δὲ καὶ οἱ πολλοὶ τῶν φυσιολόγων, &c. *Democritus* and the most of the Physiologists make all Sense to be Touch, and resolve sensible Qualities, as the Tastes of Bitter and Sweet, &c. into Figures. And again he imputes it generally to all the Physiologists that went before him, οἱ περὶ τὰς φυσικὰς, The former Physiologists (without any exception) said not well in this, that there was no Black and White without the Sight, nor Bitter and Sweet without the Taste. Wherefore, I think, it cannot be reasonably doubted, but that the Generality of the Old Physiologists before *Aristotle* and *Democritus*, did pursue the Atomical way, which is to resolve the Corporeal *Phænomena*, not into Forms, Qualities and Species, but into Figures, Motions and Phancies.

XVII. But then there will seem to be no small difficulty in reconciling *Aristotle* with himself, who doth in so many places plainly impute this Philosophy to *Democritus* and *Leucippus*, as the first Source and Original of it: As also in solving the Credit of *Laertius*, and many other ancient Writers, who do the like: *Democritus* having had for many Ages almost the general cry and vogue for Atoms. However, we doubt not but to give a very good account of this Business, and reconcile the seemingly different Testimonies of these Ancient Writers, so as to take away all Contradiction and Repugnancy between them. For although the Atomical Physiology was in use long before *Democritus* and *Leucippus*, so that they did not Make it but Find it; yet these two with their confederate Atheists (whercof *Protagoras* seems to have been one) were undoubtedly the first that ever made this Physiology to be a complete and entire Philosophy by it self, so as to derive the Original of all things in the whole Universe from senseless Atoms, that had nothing but Figure and Motion, together with *Vacuum*, and made up such a System of it, as from whence it would follow, that there could not be any God, not so much as a Corporeal one. These two things were both of them before singly and apart. For there is no doubt to be made, but that there hath been Atheism lurking in the minds of some or other in all Ages; and perhaps some of those Ancient Atheists did endeavour to Philosophize too, as well as they could, in some other way. And there was Atomical Physiology likewise before, without Atheism. But these two thus complicated together, were never before Atomical-Atheism or Atheistical Atomism. And therefore *Democritus* and his Comrade *Leucippus* need not be envied the glory of being reputed the first Inventors or Founders of the Atomical Philosophy, Atheized and Adulterated.

XVIII. Before *Leucippus* and *Democritus*, the Doctrine of Atoms was not made a whole entire Philosophy by it self, but look'd upon only as a Part or Member of the whole Philosophick System, and that the meanest and lowest part too, it being only used to explain that which was purely Corporeal in the World; besides which they acknowledged something else, which was not meer Bulk and Mechanism, but Life and Self Activity, that is, Immaterial or Incorporeal Substance; the Head and Summit whereof is a Deity distinct from the World. So that there has been two Sorts of Atomists in the World, the One Atheistical, the Other Religious. The first and most ancient Atomists holding Incorporeal Substance, used that Physiology in a way of Subordination to Theology and Metaphysics. The other allowing no other Substance but Body, made senseless Atoms and Figures, without any Mind and Understanding (i.e. without any God) to be the Original of all things; which latter is that that was vulgarly known by the Name of Atomical Philosophy, of which *Democritus* and *Leucippus* were the Source.

XIX. It hath been indeed of late confidently asserted by some, that never any of the ancient Philosophers dream'd of any such thing as *Incorporeal Substance*; and therefore they would bear men in hand, that it was nothing but an upstart and new fangled Invention of some Bigotical Religionists; the falsity whereof we shall here briefly make to appear. For though there have been doubts in all Ages such as have disbelieved the Existence of any thing but what was Sensible, whom *Plato* describes after this manner; *οἱ δαταίοντες ἂν πᾶν ὃ μὴ δυνάτοί ᾑ χερσὶ συμπιλεῖν εἶναι, ὡς ἄρα. τὸ τοῦτο δὲ τὸ ἀδύνατον ἐστὶ* That would contend, that whatsoever they could not feel or grasp with their hands, was altogether nothing; yet this Opinion was professedly opposed by the best of the Ancient Philosophers and condemned for a piece of Sottishness and Stupidity. Wherefore the same *Plato* tells us, that there had been always, as well as then there was, a perpetual War and Controversie in the World, and as he calls it, a kind of Gigantomachy betwixt these two Parties or Sects of men; The one that held there was no other Substance in the World besides Body; The Other that asserted Incorporeal Substance. The former of these Parties or Sects is thus described by the Philosopher; *οἱ μὲν εἰς γῆν ἐξ ἕρπονός τε καὶ ὁρέστες πάντα ἔλκουσιν ἥ χερσὶν ἀτιχέας πέτρας καὶ δρυὲς ἐξελαιμένους, ἥ ὃ τούτων ἐπαπλόμβροι πάντων, διακρίνοντες τὸ τοῦτο ὅτι αἰὶν ὁ περὶ χερσὶν προσβολῆν καὶ ἐπαπλόμπει, τούτων σῶμα καὶ αἰὶν ὁ ἐλκόμενος ἥ ὃ ἄλλως ἕστις φρεὶ μὴ σῶμα ἔχει εἶναι, καὶ ἀφρονέως τὸ περᾶν καὶ ἂν ἰδὼν ἰδιότης ἄλλο αἰνεῖν* These (saith he) pull all things down from Heaven and the Invisible Region, with their hands to the Earth, laying hold of Rocky and Oaks; and when they grasp all these hard and gross things, they confidently affirm, that that only is Substance which they can feel, and will resist their Touch, and they conclude that Body and Substance are one and the self same thing; and if any one chance to speak to them of something which is not Body, i.e. of Incorporeal Substance, they will altogether despise him, and not bear a word more from him. And many such the Philosopher there lays

says he had met withal. The other he represents in this manner. οἱ πρὸς αὐτὸς ἀμφοτέρωθεν μάλα διλαεῖς ἀνένειξ ἀρετὰ τὸν ἀμυνοῦντα πᾶσι ὅσῃα καὶ ἀσώματα ὄντι, βιαζέμενοι τὸν ἀλυστὸν ὥσπερ ἐπαι. αὐ μὲν οὖν ὡς ταῦτα ἀπλῶς ἀμφοτέρω μάλῃ τις αὐ ἐνίσταται. *The Adversaries of these Corporealists do cautiously and piously assault them from the Truthful Region, fetching all things from above by way of Descent, and by strength of Reason convincing, that certain Intelligible and Incorporeal Forms are the true or First Substance, and not Sensible things. But betwixt these two there hath always been (saith he) a great War and Contention. And yet in the Sequel of his Discourse he adds, that those Corporealists were then grown a little more modest and shame-faced than formerly their great Champions had been, such as Democritus and Protagoras; for however they still persisted in this, that the Soul was a Body, yet they had not (it seems) the Impudence to affirm, that Wisdom and Virtue were Corporeal Things, or Bodies, as others before and since too have done. We see here that Plato expressly asserts a Substance distinct from Body, which sometimes he calls ὁσιαν ἀσώματον, Incorporeal Substance, and sometimes ὁσιαν νοητὴν, Intelligible Substance, in opposition to the other which he calls αἰσθητὸν Sensible. And it is plain to any one, that hath had the least acquaintance with Plato's Philosophy, that the whole Scope and Drift of it, is to raise up mens Minds from Sense to a belief of Incorporeal Things as the most Excellent: τὰ γὰρ ἀσώματα νοητά καὶ μέγιστα λόγου μόνον, ἀλλὰ ὁ ὄντι, σφαιρὰς δ' ἐκινῶται, as he writes in another place. For Incorporeal Things, which are the greatest and most excellent things of all, are (saith he) discoverable by Reason only and nothing else. And his Subterraneous Cave, so famously known, and so elegantly described by him, where he supposes men tied with their backs towards the Light, placed at a great distance from them, so that they could not turn about their Heads to it neither, and therefore could see nothing but the shadows (of certain Substances behind them) projected from it, which Shadows they concluded to be the only Substances and Realities, and when they heard the Sounds made by those Bodies that were betwixt the Light and them, or their reverberated Echo's, they imputed them to those shadows which they saw. I say, all this is a Description of the State of those Men, who take Body to be the only Real and Substantial thing in the World, and to do all that is done in it; and therefore often impute Sense, Reason and Understanding, to nothing but Blood and Brains in us.*

XX. I might also shew in the next place, how Aristotle did not at all dissent from Plato herein, he plainly asserting ἄλλω ὁσίᾳ ὡς τὰ αἰσθητὰ, another Substance beside Sensibles, ὅταν χωρεῖται καὶ ἀχωρεῖται ὡς αἰσθητῶν, a Substance separable and also actually separated from Sensibles, ἀκίνητος ὁσίᾳ, an Immoveable Nature or Essence (subject to no Generation or Corruption) adding that the Deity was to be sought for here: Nay such a Substance ἡ μὲν οὖν ἀσώματος ἔστιν, ἀλλὰ ἀμεγέθους καὶ ἀδιαιρέτης ἔστι, as hath no Magnitude at all; but is Impartible and Indivisible. He also blaming Zeno (not the Stoick, who was Junior to Aristotle, but an ancienter Philosopher of that Name) for making God to be a Body, in these words; αὐτὸς γὰρ αἶμα λέγει θεῶν

ἢ οὐκ ἐπὶ τὸ πᾶν; ἔτι ὅτι δύναται αὐτὸς λέγων ἀσώματον ὅτι ὡς πῶς ἐν σφαίρῳ οὐδὲν ἐστὶν ἕως ὅτ' ἐν κενῷ, ὅτ' ἐν ἡγεμῶνι μὴ οὐκ ἐπὶ τὸ πᾶν ὅτι, τί ἐν αὐτῷ κινήσει καὶ ἄλλοι; Zeno implicitly affirms, God to be a Body, whether he mean him to be the whole Corporeal Universe, or some particular Body; for if God were Incorporeal, how could he be Spherical? nor could he then either Move or Rest, being not properly in any Place; but if God be a Body, then nothing hinders but that he may be moved. From which, and other Places of Aristotle, it is plain enough also, that he did suppose Incorporeal Substance to be Unextended, and as such, not to have Relation to any Place. But this is a thing to be disputed afterwards. Indeed some learned men conceive Aristotle to have reprehended Zeno without Cause, and that Zeno made God to be a Sphear, or Spherical, in no other sence, than Parmenides did in that known Verse of his;

πάντα δὲ δύναται σφαίρης ἐκλήσκων ἔσθαι.

Wherein he is understood to describe the Divine Eternity. However, it plainly appears from hence, that according to Aristotle's sence, God was ἀσώματον, an Incorporeal Substance distinct from the World.

XXI. Now this Doctrine, which Plato especially was famous for asserting, that there was οὐσία ἀσώματον, Incorporeal Substance, and that the Souls of Men were such, but principally the Deity; Epicurus taking notice of it, endeavoured with all his might to confute it, arguing sometimes after this manner; There can be no Incorporeal God (as Plato maintained) not only because no man can frame a Conception of an Incorporeal Substance, but also because whatsoever is Incorporeal must needs want Sense, and Prudence, and Pleasure, all which things are included in the Notion of God; and therefore an Incorporeal Deity is a Contradiction. And concerning the Soul of Man; οἱ λέγοντες ἀσώματον εἶναι τὴν ψυχὴν ματαιῶσιν, &c. They who say that the Soul is Incorporeal, in any other sence, than as that word may be used to signifie a Subtil Body, talk Vainly and Foolishly; for then it could neither be able to Do nor Suffer any thing. It could not Act upon any other thing, because it could Touch nothing; neither could it Suffer from any thing, because it could not be Touch'd by any thing; but it would be just like to Vacuum or Empty Space, which can neither Do nor Suffer any thing, but only yield Bodies a Passage through it: From whence it is further evident, that this Opinion was professedly maintained by some Philosophers before Epicurus his time.

XXII. But Plato and Aristotle were not the first Inventors of it: For it is certain, that all those Philosophers who held the Immortality of the Humane Soul, and a God distinct from this visible World, (and so properly the Creator of it and all its parts) did really assert Incorporeal Substance. For that a Corporeal Soul cannot be in its own Nature Immortal and Incorruptible, is plain to every one's Understanding, because of its parts being separable from one another; and whosoever denies God to be Incorporeal, if he make him any thing at all, he must needs make him to be either the whole Corporeal

poral World, or else a part of it: Wherefore if God be neither of these, he must then be an Incorporeal Substance. Now *Plato* was not the first who asserted these two things, but they were both maintained by many Philosophers before him. *Phercydes Syrus*, and *Thales*, were two of the most ancient Philosophers among the Greeks; and it is said of the former of them, that by his Lectures and Disputes concerning the Immortality of the Soul, he first drew off *Pythagoras* from another Course of life to the study of Philosophy. *Phercydes Syrus* (saith *Cicero*) *Primus dixit animos hominum esse sempiternos*. And *Thales* in an Epistle directed to him, congratulates his being the First that had designed to write to the Greeks concerning *Divine Things*, which *Thales* also (who was the Head of the Ionick Succession of Philosophers, as *Pythagoras* of the Italick) is joyned with *Pythagoras* and *Plato*, by the Writer *De Placitis Philosophorum*, after this manner. ἔτι πάντες οἱ περὶ ταχυβροτοὺς ἀνθρώπων τὴν ψυχὴν ἀποστήσας φασὶ ἀθανάτους αὐτῶν καὶ ἄσπετον νοεῖν. All these determined the Soul to be Incorporeal, making it to be Naturally Self-moving (or Self-active) and an Intelligible Substance, that is, not Sensible. Now he that determines the Soul to be Incorporeal, must needs hold the Deity to be Incorporeal much more. *Aquam dixit Thales esse instinum rerum* (saith *Cicero*) *Deum autem eam Mentem qua ex aqua cuncta fingeret*. *Thales* said that Water was the first Principle of all Corporeal things, but that God was that Mind which formed all things out of Water. For *Thales* was a Phœnician by Extraction, and accordingly seemed to have received his two Principles from thence, Water, and the Divine Spirit moving upon the Waters. The First whereof is thus expressed by *Sanchuniathon* in his Description of the Phœnician Theology, καὶ ὁ θάλασσαν, ἐρεβέθην, a Turbid and Dark Chaos, and the Second is intimated in these words, ἡγεσθαι τὸ πνεῦμα καὶ ἰδίῳ ἀγαθῷ, the spirit was affected with love towards its own Principles, perhaps expressing the Force of the Hebrew word *Merachepeth*, and both of them impling an Understanding Prolifical Goodness, Forming and Hatching the Corporeal World into this perfection; or else a Plastick Power, subordinate to it. *Zeno* (who was also originally a Phœnician) tells us, that *Hesiod's* *Chnos* was Water; and, that the Material Heaven, as well as Earth was made out of Water, (according to the Judgment of the best Interpreters) is the genuine sense of Scripture, 2 Pet. 3. 5. by which water some perhaps would understand, a Chaos of Atoms confusedly moved. But whether *Thales* were acquainted with the Atomical Physiology or no; it is plain that he asserted, besides the Soul's Immortality, a Deity distinct from the Corporeal World.

We pass to *Pythagoras* whom we have proved already to have been an Atomist; and it is well known also that he was a professed Incorporealist. That he asserted the Immortality of the Soul, and consequently its Immateriality, is evident from his Doctrine of Pre-existence and Transmigration: And that he likewise held an Incorporeal Deity distinct from the World, is a thing not questioned by any. But if there were any need of proving it, (because there are no Monuments of his Extant) perhaps it might be done from hence,

because



because he was the chief Propagator of that Doctrine amongst the Greeks, concerning Three Hypostases in the Deity.

For, that Plato and his Followers held τρεῖς ἀρχαὶς ὑποστάσεις, *Three Hypostases in the Deity, that were the first Principles of all things*, is a thing very well known to all. Though we do not affirm that these Platonick Hypostases are exactly the same with those in the Christian Trinity. Now, Plato himself sufficiently intimates this not to have been his own Invention; and Plotinus tells us, that it was παλαιὰ δόξα, an Ancient Opinion before Plato's time, which had been delivered down by some of the Pythagoricks. Wherefore, I conceive, this must needs be one of those Pythagorick Monoprosittes, which Xenophon covertly taxes Plato for entertaining, and mingling with the Socratical Philosophy, as if he had thereby corrupted the Purity and Simplicity of it. Though a Corporealist may pretend to be a Theist; yet I never heard, that any of them did ever assert a Trinity, respectively to the Deity, unless it were such an one, as I think not fit here to mention.

XXIII. That Parmenides, who was likewise a Pythagorean, acknowledged a Deity distinct from the Corporal World, is evident from Plato. And Plotinus tells us also, that he was one of them that asserted the Triad of Divine Hypostases. Moreover, whereas there was a great Controversie amongst the Ancient Philosophers before Plato's time, between such as held all things to Flow, (as namely Heraclitus and Cratylus;) and others who asserted that some things did Stand, and that there was ἀκίνητος ἔσθαι, a certain Immutable Nature, to wit, an Eternal Mind, together with Eternal and Immutable Truths, (amongst which were Parmenides and Melissus) the former of these were all Corporealists, (this being the very Reason why they made all things to Flow, because they supposed all to be Body) though these were not therefore all of them Atheists. But the latter were all both Incorporealists and Theists; for whosoever holds Incorporeal Substance must needs (according to Reason) also assert a Deity.

And although we did not before particularly mention Parmenides amongst the Atomical Philosophers, yet we conceive it to be manifest from hence, that he was one of that Tribe, because he was an eminent Asserter of that Principle, οὐδὲν ἐστὶ γινώσκον ἢ ἀλλοιούμενον, *That no Real Entity is either Made or Destroyed, Generated or Corrupted*. Which we shall afterwards plainly shew, to be the grand Fundamental Principle of the Atomical Philosophy.

XXIV. But whereas we did evidently prove before, that Empedocles was an Atomical Physiologer, it may notwithstanding with some Colour of Probability be doubted, whether he were not an Atheist, or at least a Corporealist, because Aristotle accuses him of these following things. First, of making Knowledge to be Sense, which is indeed a plain sign of a Corporealist; and therefore in the next place also, of compounding the Soul out of the four Elements, making

making it to understand every corporeal thing, by something of the same within it self, as Fire by Fire, and Earth by Earth; and Lastly, of attributing much to Fortune, and affirming that divers of the Parts of Animals were made such by chance, and that there were at first certain Mongrel Animals fortuitously produced, that were *βεζών καὶ ἀνδρώπων*, such as had something of the shape of an Oxe, together with the Face of a Man, (though they could not long continue) which seems to give just Cause of Suspicion, that Empedocles Atheized in the same manner that Democritus did.

To the first of these we reply, that some others who had also read Empedocles's Poems, were of a different Judgment from Aristotle as to that, conceiving Empedocles not to make Sense, but Reason the Criterion of Truth. Thus Empiricus informs us: Others say that according to Empedocles, the Criterion of Truth is not Sense but Right Reason; and also that Right Reason is of two sorts, the one *θεῖα*, or Divine, the other *ἀνθρώπινα*, or Humane: Of which the Divine is inexpressible, but the Humane declarable. And there might be several Passages cited out of those Fragments of Empedocles his Poems yet left, to confirm this, but we shall produce only this one.

τίθεν πῶς ἔρεκε νόῳ δ' ἢ δ' ὅλον ἔκαστον.

To this Sence; Suspend by Assent to the Corporeal Senses, and consider every thing clearly with thy Mind or Reason.

And as to the Second Crimination, Aristotle has much weakened his own Testimony here, by accusing Plato also of the very same thing, *πλατὼν τῷ ψυχῷ ὅτι τῇ σιγῇ καὶ πῶς, γινώσκεται ὅτι ὁμοίω ἕμῳ, τὰ ἐπεγμένα ὅτι τῇ ἀρχῇ ἔχει.* Plato compounds the Soul out of the four Elements, because Like is known by Like, and things are from their Principles. Wherefore it is probable that Empedocles might be no more guilty of this fault (of making the Soul Corporeal, and to consist of Earth, Water, Air, and Fire) than Plato was, who in all mens Judgments was as free from it, as Aristotle himself, if not more. For Empedocles did in the same manner, as Pythagoras before him, and Plato after him, hold the Transmigration of Souls, and consequently, both their Future Immortality and Preexistence; and therefore must needs assert their Incorporeity; Plutarch rightly declaring this to have been his Opinion; *ἔχει καὶ τὸς μὲν ἐπιγινώσκοντας καὶ τὸς ὡς πάλιν γινώσκοντας.* That as well those who are yet Unborn, as those that are Dead, have a Being. He also asserted Humane Souls to be here in a Lapsed State, *μεταπίπτας, ἢ ἔντας, καὶ φυγάδας, Wanderers, Strangers, and Fugitives from God;* declaring, as Plutarch tells us, that it was a Divine Law, *ἀμαρτάνουσι, τῇ ψυχῇ πῶς ὅσα ἐστὶν, That Souls sinning should fall down into these Earthly Bodies.* But the fullest Record of the Empedoclean Philosophy concerning the Soul is contained in this of Hierocles; *κατὰ καὶ ἀπειρήν τ' ἀδ' αἰμαίνου, χεῖρας ἢ ἀνθρώπων, ὡς ἐμπεδωλὺς φησὶ ἐπὶ ἀρχαῖς,* — *φυγὰς δὲ θέναι καὶ ἀλόντας νέειν μακρομέτρῳ πῶς.* — *Λύσις δὲ καὶ τῷ ἀρχαῖον ἔχει ἀπαλαμεινῇ,*

ἔι φάβει τὰ φθί γῶ καὶ τ' ἀτηρία γῶρον,
 ἔνθα φθί π καὶ π καὶ ἄλλων ἔθνη κηρῶν.

Εἰς ὃν οἱ ἀπεσπῶτες — Ἄτης

— ἀνὰ λαμῶνα π καὶ σπῶτα ἰλάσκων.

Ἡ δὲ ἔφαις τῷ φάγοντι τ' Ἄτης λαμῶνα πρὸς τ' ἄλγηδας ἐπέχεται λαμῶνα, ὃν ἀπλῶτα τῇ ἐμῇ τ' ἡγερέσινος ὡς γίνου ἔχεται σῶμα, ὅλεις — αἰῶτα ἀμλῶες. *Man falleth from his Happy State, as Empedocles the Pythagorean saith, — By being a Fugitive, Apostate, and Wanderer from God, assed with a certain Mad and Irrational Strife or Contention. — But he ascends again and recovers his former State, — if he decline and avoid these Earthly things, and despise this unpleasant and wretched Place, where Murder and Wrath, and a Troop of all other Mischiefs reign. Into which Place, they who fall, wander up and down through the Field of Ate and Darknes. But the desire of him that flees from this Field of Ate, carries him on towards the Field of Truth; which the Soul at first relinquishing, and losing its Wings, fell down into this Earthly Body, deprived of its Happy Life. From whence it appears that Plato's ἡγερέσινος was derived from Empedocles and the Pythagoreans.*

Now from what hath been already cited it is sufficiently manifest, that Empedocles was so far from being either an Atheist or Corporalists, that he was indeed a Rank Pythagorist, as he is here called. And we might adde hereunto, what Clemens Alexandrinus observes, that according to Empedocles, ἡ ἐσθὺς καὶ δικαίως διαβίωσιν, μοναχοὶ μὲν ἐνταῦθα, μακαριώτεροι δὲ μετὰ τῷ ἐσθίει ἀπαμύχων ἔχοντες πῶ τῷ διακρίματι ἔχοντες, ἀλλὰ ἐν αἰῶνι ἀναπαύεσθαι δυνατόν, Ἀθανάτους ἄλλοις ὁμοῖοι, ἐν δὲ τελευτῶν, &c. *If we live holily and justly, we shall be happy here, and more happy after our departure hence; having our Happiness not necessarily confined to time, but being able to rest and fix in it to all Eternity; Feasting with the other Immortal Beings, &c.* We might also take notice, how, besides the Immortal Souls of men, he acknowledged Demons or Angels; declaring that some of these fell from Heaven, and were since prosecuted by a Divine Nemesis. or these in Plutarch are called, οἱ δαίμονες καὶ θεογονοὶ ἐκ τῶν ἐμπεδοκλέους δαίμονες. *Those Empedoclean Demons lapsed from Heaven, and pursued with Divine Vengeance; Whose restless Torment is there described in several Verses of his.* And we might observe likewise how he acknowledged a Natural and Immutable Justice, which was not Topical and confined to Places and Countries, and Relative to particular Laws, but Catholick and Universal, and every where the same, through Infinite Light and Space; as he expresses it with Poetick Pomp and Bravery.

Ἄλλα τὸ μὲν πῶτα νόμοις διὰ τ' ἀρεμῶν
 αἰῶν, ἡλικίως πῶτα διὰ τ' ἀκλῆτος αἰῶν.

And the asserting of Natural Morality, is no small Argument of a Theist.

But

But what then shall we say to those other things which *Empedocles* is charged with by *Aristotle*, that seem to have so rank a smell of Atheism? Certainly those Mongril and Biforme Animals, that are said to have sprung up out of the Earth by chance, look as if they were more a-kin to *Democritus* than *Empedocles*, and probably it is the Fault of the Copies that it is read otherwise, there being no other Philosopher that I know of, that could ever find any such thing in *Empedocles* his Poems. But for the rest, if *Aristotle* do not misrepresent *Empedocles*, as he often doth *Plato*, then it must be granted, that he being a Mechanical Physiologer, as well as Theologer, did something too much indulge to Fortuitous Mechanism: which seems to be an Extravagancy that Mechanical Philosophers, and Atomists, have been always more or less subject to. But *Aristotle* doth not charge *Empedocles* with resolving all things into Fortuitous Mechanism, as some Philosophers have done of late, who yet pretend to be Theists and Incorporealists, but only that he would explain some things in that way. Nay he clearly puts a difference betwixt *Empedocles* and the *Democritick* Atheists in those words subjoyned, εἰς δὲ τὰς, &c. which is as if he should have said, *Empedocles* resolved some things in the *Fabrick* and *structure of Animals* into Fortuitous Mechanism; but there are certain other Philosophers, namely *Leucippus* and *Democritus*, who would have all things whatsoever in the whole World, Heaven and Earth and Animals, to be made by Chance and the Fortuitous Motion of Atoms, without a Deity. It seems very plain that *Empedocles* his *Philia* and *Nicbor*, his *Friendship* and *Discord*, which he makes to be the ἀρχὴ δυνάμεως, the *Active Cause*, and Principle of Motion in the Universe, was a certain Plastick Power, superiour to Fortuitous Mechanism: and *Aristotle* himself acknowledges somewhere as much. And *Plutarch* tells us, that according to *Empedocles*, The Order and System of the World is not the Result of Material Causes and Fortuitous Mechanism, but of a Divine Wisdom, assigning to every thing οὐκ ἢν ἡ φύσις δίδωσι χεῖρον, ἀλλ' ἢν ἡ πρὸς τὸ κοινὸν ἔργον πλεονεκτησίς, Not such a Place as Nature would give it, but such as is most convenient for the Good of the whole. *Simplicius*, who had read *Empedocles*, acquaints us, that he made two Worlds, the one *Intellectual*, the other *Sensible*; and the former of these to be the Exemplar and Archetype of the latter. And so the Writer *De Placitis Philosophorum* observes, that *Empedocles* made δύο ἡλίους, ὃ μὲν ἀρχέτυπον ὃ δὲ φαινόμενον, Two Suns, the one Archetypal and Intelligible, the other Apparent or Sensible.

But I need take no more pains, to purge *Empedocles* from those two Imputations of Corporealism and Atheism, since he hath so fully confuted them himself, in those Fragments of his still extant. First, by expressing such a hearty Resentment of the Excellency of Piety, and the Wretchedness and Sottishness of Atheism in these Verses.

Ὀλβιότ' ἔς θάνατον κρατῖδ' οὐκ ἔστι πλεονέκτην,
δαδὲς δ' ὃ σκετῆσα θανάτου πλεονέκτην μέμνηται.

To this Sence : He is happy who hath his mind richly fraught and stored with the Treasures of Divine Knowledge; but he miserable, whose mind is Darkened, as to the Belief of a God. And, Secondly, by denying God to have any Humane Form, or Members,

‘Ου μὲν γὰρ ἐροῦναι καφαλὴν ἢ γῆα κένεσται, &c.

Or otherwise to be Corporeal,

‘Ουκ ἔστιν πελάσσειν ἢ δ’ ὀφθαλμοῖσι ἰσχυρὸν
ἡμῶν, ἢ χερσὶ λαβεῖν.

And then positively affirming what he is,

‘Αλλὰ φεῶν ἱερὴ καὶ ἀίθερα ἔπλετο μῆνις,
θεοῦ τινος νόμον ἅπαντα κατέλειπον θεῶν.

Only a Holy and Ineffable Mind, that by Swift Thoughts agitates the whole World.

XXV. And now we shall speak something also of *Anaxagoras*, having shewed before that he was a Spurious Atomist. For he likewise agreed with the other Atomists in this, that he asserted Incorporeal Substance in general as the Active Cause and Principle of Motion in the Universe, and Particularly, an Incorporeal Deity distinct from the World. Affirming, that there was besides Atoms, *κῆς ἡ διακοσμῶν τι καὶ πᾶν αἴτιον*, (as it is express’d in *Plato*) *An Ordering and Disposing Mind that was the Cause of all things*. Which Mind (as *Aristotle* tells us) he made to be *μῆνις ἢ ἕως ἀπλὴν καὶ ἀμύην καὶ κατὰ φύσιν* *The only Simple, Unmixed, and Pure thing in the World*. And he supposed this to be that which brought the Confused *Chaos* of Omnifarious Atoms into that Orderly *Compages* of the World that now is.

XXVI. And by this time we have made it evident that those Atomical Physiologers, that were before *Democritus* and *Leucippus*, were all of them Incorporealists; joining Theology and Pneumatology, the Doctrine of Incorporeal Substance and a Deity, together with their Atomical Physiology. This is a thing expressly noted concerning *Euphrantus* the Pythagorean in *Stobæus*. *ἐκφανὴς ὅτι μὲν ἢ ἀτίμων συνίσταται ἡ κόσμος, διακίεσθαι δὲ ἀπὸ προνοίας* *Euphrantus held the Corporeal World to consist of Atoms, but yet to be Ordered and Governed by a Divine Providence*, that is, he joyned Atomology and Theology both together. And the same is also observed of *Arcefilas*, or perhaps *Archelaus*, by *Sidonius Apollinaris*;

*Poss hos Arcefilas Divinâ Atomis paratam
Conjicit hanc Molem, confestim Partibus illis
Quas Atomos vocat ipse leves.*

Now, I say, as *Euphrantus*, and *Archelaus*, asserted the Corporeal World

World to be made of Atoms, but yet notwithstanding held an Incorporeal Deity distinct from the same, as the First Principle of Activity in it; so in like manner did all the other ancient Atomists generally before *Democritus*, joyn Theology and Incorporealism with their Atomical Physiology. They did Atomize as well as he; but they did not Atheize; but that Atheistical Atomology was a thing first set on foot afterward by *Leucippus* and *Democritus*.

X X V I I. But because many seem to be so strongly possessed with this Prejudice, as if *Atheism* were a Natural and Necessary Appendix to *Atomism*, and therefore will conclude that the same persons could not possibly be Atomists, and Incorporealists or Theists, we shall further make it Evident, that there is not only, no Inconsistency betwixt the Atomical Physiology and Theology, but also that there is on the Contrary, a most Natural Cognation between them.

And this we shall do two manner of ways; First, by inquiring into the Origin of this Philosophy, and considering what Grounds or Principles of Reason they were, which first led the Antients into this Atomical or Mechanical way of Physiologizing. And Secondly, by making it appear that the Intrinsic Constitution of this Physiology is such, that whosoever entertains it, if he do but thoroughly understand it, must of necessity acknowledge that there is something else in the World besides Body.

First therefore, this Atomical Physiology seems to have had its Rise and Origin from the Strength of Reason exerting its own Inward Active Power and Vigour, and thereby bearing it self up against the Prejudices of Sense, and at length prevailing over them, after this manner. The Ancients considering and revolving the *Idea's* of their own Minds, found that they had a clear and distinct Conception of Two things, as the General Heads and Principles of whatsoever was in the Universe; the one whereof was *Passive Matter*, and the other *Active Power, Vigour and Virtue*. To the Latter of which belongs both Cogitation, and the Power of Moving Matter, whether by express Consciousness or no. Both which together, maybe called by one General Name, of Life; so that they made these two General Heads of Being or Entity, *Passive Matter* or Bulk, and *Self Activity* or Life. The Former of these was commonly called by the Ancients, the *τὸ παχὺ*, that which suffers and receives, and the Latter the *τὸ πῦρ*, the *Active* active Power-Principle, that from whence Motion Springs. *Principle*, and the *τὸ ἐν ἡμῖν*, the Principle within us. *In rerum Natura* (saith *Cicero*) according to the General Sense of the Ancients) *Duo quaerenda sunt; Unum, quæ Materia sit, ex qua quequeres efficiatur; Alterum, quæ res sit quæ queque Efficiat*: There are two things to be enquired after in Nature; One, what is the Matter out of which every thing is made; Another, what is the Active Cause or Efficient. To the same purpose *Seneca*; *Esse debet aliquid Unde fiat, deinde à Quo fiat; hoc est Causa, illud Materia*: There

must be something Out of which a thing is made, and then something By which it is made; the Latter is properly the Cause, and the Former the Matter. Which is to be understood of Corporeal things and their Differences, that there must be both Matter, and an Active Power, for the production of them. And so also that of Aristotle, ἓως αἰτίας μὴς πρὶν ὅν τῷ ἀρχῷ εἶναι καὶ αὐτῷ ὡς καὶ οὐκ, μὴς δὲ ὁ ὕλης That from whence the Principle of Motion is, is one Cause, and the Matter is another. Where Aristotle gives that name of Cause to the Matter also, though others did appropriate it to the Active Power. And the Writer de Placitis Philosophorum expresses this as the General Sense of the Ancients. ἀδύνατον ἀρχῷ μὴς ὕλης ἔχειν ἢ ὅς τῃ μὴς ὑποστάναι, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸ πρὶν αἴτιον καὶ ὑπερβαίνει, ὅν τῃ ἀρχῇ πρὶς τὸ ἔκταμα γινώσκειν ἂν μὴ καὶ τὸ πρὶν ἢ, τῶν δὲ ἀρχῶν καὶ οὐκ, ὁμοίως καὶ ὅτι τὸ γινώσκειν, καὶ τὸ εἶναι, καὶ ὁ ὕλης ὕλης. It is impossible that Matter alone should be the sole Principle of all things, but there must of necessity be supposed also an Agent or Efficient Cause. As Silver alone is not sufficient to make a Cup, unless there be an Artificer to work upon it. And the same is to be said concerning Brass, Wood, and other Natural Bodies.

Now as they apprehended a Necessity of these two Principles, so they conceived them to be such, as could not be confounded together into one and the same Thing or Substance; they having such distinct Ideas and Essential Characters from one another: The Stoicks being the only Persons, who offering Violence to their own apprehensions, rudely and unskilfully attempted to make these two distinct things to be one and the same Substance. Wherefore as the First of these, viz. Matter, or Passive Extended Bulk, is taken by all for Substance, and commonly called by the name of Body; so the other, which is far the more Noble of the Two, being that which acts upon the matter and hath a Commanding Power over it, must needs be Substance too, of a different kind from Matter or Body; and therefore Immaterial or Incorporeal Substance. Neither did they find any other Entity to be conceivable, besides these two, Passive Bulk or Extension, which is Corporeal Substance; and Internal Self-Activity or Life, which is the Essential Character of Substance Incorporeal; to which Latter belongs not only Cogitation, but also the Power of Moving Body.

Moreover, when they further considered the First of these, the Material or Corporeal Principle, they being not able clearly to conceive any thing else in it, besides Magnitude, Figure, Site, and Motion or Rest, which are all several Modes of Extended Bulk, concluded therefore according to Reason, that there was Really nothing else existing in Bodies without, besides the various Complexions and Conjugations of those Simple Elements, that is, nothing but Mechanism. Whence it necessarily followed, that whatsoever else was supposed to be in Bodies, was, indeed, nothing but our Modes of Sensation, or the Phancies and Passions in us begotten from them, mistaken for things really existing without us. And this is a thing so obvious, that some of those Philosophers who had taken little notice of the Atomical Physiology, had notwithstanding

ing a suspicion of it as for Example *Plotinus*, who writing of the *Criterion* of Truth, and the power of Reason, hath these words, καὶ τὰ ἔασι δ' αἰσθητικὰς ἢ δὲ δευτὴν πρὶν ἔχει ἀαργασίῳ, ἀπιστεῖται μήποτε ἢ αὐτοῖς ὑποκαταμύχοις, ἀλλ' αὐτοῖς τὰς πάλαι ἐχόντων δευτέραν ὑπάρσιν, καὶ τὸ δ' ἢ διανοίας τῷ κεραιῶν. *Though the things of Sense seem to have so clear a Certainty, yet notwithstanding it is doubted concerning them, whether (the Qualities of them) have any Real Existence at all in the things without us, and not rather a Seeming Existence only, in our own Passions; and there is need of Mind or Understanding to judge in this Case, and to determine the Controversie, which Sense alone cannot decide.* But the ancient Physiologists concluded without any hesitancy, ὅτι αὐτὸ τὸ ἔστι τὸ μέλι τῷ γλυκαίνειν με, καὶ τὸ αἰσθάνειν τῷ πικρῶν με, *That the Nature of Honey in itself, is not the same thing with my being sweetened, nor of Wormwood with that Sense of bitterness which I have from it;* διαφέρει δὲ τὸ πάλαι τῷ αἰσθάνειν ὑποκαταμύχοις, καὶ τὰς αἰσθητικὰς, τὰ μὲν ἐκτὸς ὑποκαταμύχοις ἢ κατ'ακαταμύχοις, μὲν δὲ ἐν αἰσθάνειν τῷ πάλαι. *But that the Passion of Sense differ'd from the Absolute Nature of the thing it self without; the Senses not comprehending the Objects themselves, but only their own Passions from them.*

I say therefore, that the Ancients concluded the Absolute Nature of Corporeal things in themselves, to be nothing but a certain Disposition of Parts, in respect of Magnitude, Figure, Site, and Motion, which in Tasts cause us to be differently affected with those Senses of Sweetness and Bitterness, and in Sight with those Phancies of Colours, and accordingly in the other Senses with other Phancies; and that the Corporeal World was to be explained by these Two things, whereof one is Absolute in the Bodies without us, the various Mechanism of them, the other Relative only to us, the different Phancies in us, caused by the respective Differences of them, in themselves. Which Phancies or Phantastick *Idea's* are no Modes of the Bodies without us, but of that only in our selves which is *Cogitative* or *Self-Active*, that is, *Incorporeal*. For the Sensible *Idea's* of Hot and Cold, Red and green, &c. cannot be clearly conceived by us as Modes of the Bodies without us, but they may be easily apprehended as Modes of *Cogitation*, that is, of Sensation, or *Sympathetical Perception* in us.

The Result of all which was; That whatsoever is either in Our Selves, or the Whole World, was to be reduced to one or other of these two Principles; *Passive Matter*, and *Extended Bulk*, or *Self-Active Power* and *Vertue*; *Corporeal* or *Incorporeal Substance*; *Mechanism* or *Life*; or else to a Complication of them both together.

XXVIII. From this General Account, which we have now given of the Origin of the Atomical Physiology, it appears that the Doctrine of Incorporeal Substance sprung up together with it. But this will be further manifest, from that which follows. For we shall in the next place shew, how this Philosophy did, in especial manner, owe its Original, to the Improvement of one Particular

Principle of Reason, over and besides all the rest ; namely, that famous *Axiom*, so much talked of amongst the Ancients,

De Nihilo Nihil, in Nihilum Nil posse reverti ;

That *Nothing* can come from *Nothing*, nor go to *Nothing*. For though *Democritus*, *Epicurus* and *Lucretius* abused this Theorem, endeavouring to carry it further than the Intention of the first Atomists, to the disproving of a Divine Creation of any thing out of *Nothing* by it ; *Nullam rem à Nihilo gigni Divinitus unquam* ; and consequently of a Deity : Yet as the meaning of it was at first confined and restrained, That *Nothing* of it self could come from *Nothing* nor go to *Nothing*, or that according to the Ordinary Course of Nature (without an Extraordinary Divine Power) *Nothing* could be rais'd from *Nothing*, nor reduc'd to *Nothing* ; it is not only an undoubted Rule of Reason in it self, but it was also the Principal Original of that Atomical Physiology, which, discarding Forms and Qualities, acknowledged really nothing else in Body besides Mechanism.

Wherefore it was not in vain, or to no purpose that *Laertius* in the Life of *Democritus* takes notice of this as one of his *Dogmata*, *μὲν δ' ἐκ τῆ μὴ οὐσίας γίνεσθαι μὲν δ' εἰς τὸ μὴ εἶναι φθασέσθαι* That *Nothing* was made or Generated out of *Nothing*, nor Corrupted into *Nothing*. This being a Fundamental Principle, not only of his Atheism, but also of that very Atomical Physiology it self, which he pursued. And *Epicurus* in his Epistle to *Herodotus* plainly fetches the beginning of all his Philosophy from hence. *πρῶτον μὲν ὅτι ἄδὴν γίνεσθαι ἐκ τῆ μὴ οὐσίας, καὶ ἄδὴν φθασέσθαι εἰς τὸ μὴ εἶναι*. *Εἰ μὲν γὰρ ἐγένετο τί ἐκ ἀφανισμένου ἐκ τῆ μὴ οὐσίας, πᾶν ἐκ παντός ἐγένετο* ἂν, σπειρομεντα γὰρ ἄδὴν προσετίμενον καὶ εἰ ἐφθάρετο εἰς τὸ ἀφανισμένον εἰς τὸ μὴ εἶναι, πάντα ἂν ἀποδόδαται τὰ πνεύματα ἐκ οὐκ ὄντος ὅτι εἰς τὸ ἀδύνατον. We fetch the beginning of our Philosophy (saith he) from hence, that *Nothing* is made out of *Nothing* or destroy'd to *Nothing* ; for if things were made out of *Nothing*, then every thing might be made out of every thing, neither would there be any need of Seeds. And if whatsoever is Corrupted were destroyed to *Nothing*, then all things would at length be brought to *Nothing*. *Lucretius* in like manner beginning here, insists more largely upon those Grounds of Reason hinted by *Epicurus* : And first, That *Nothing* can be made out of *Nothing* he proves thus ;

*Nam si de nihilo fierent, ex omnibus rebus
Omne Genus nasci posset : Nil Semine egeret :
E mare s. vñm Homines & terra posset oriri
Squamigerum Genus, &c.
Nec Fructus iidem Arboribus constare solerent,
Sed mutarentur : Ferre omnes omnia possent.
Præterea cur Vere Rosam, Frumenta Calore,
Vites Autumno, fundi, suadente videmus ? &c.
Quid si de Nihilo fierent, subito exorerentur
Incerto spatio atq; alienis Partibus anni.*

Inlike manner he argues, to prove that Nothing is Corrupted into Nothing.

*Huc accedis ut quicque in sua Corpora rursus
Dissolvat Natura ; neque ad Nihilum integritat res :
Nam si quid Mortale à cunctis Partibus esset,
Ex oculis res quæque repens erepta periret.
Præterea quæcunque Vetustate amovet ætas,
Si penitus perimit, consumens Materiam omnem,
Unde Animale Genus generatim in Lumina Vita
Redducis Veneris ? aut reddendum Dædala Tellus
Unde alit atque anget ? generatim pabula præbens, &c.
Haud igitur penitus pereunt quæcunque videntur,
Quando aliud ex alio reficit Natura ; nec ullam
Rem gigni patitur nisi morte adjunctam alienâ.*

In which Passages, though it be plain that *Lucretius* doth not immediately drive at *Atheism*, and nothing else ; but primarily at the establishing of a peculiar kind of Atomical Physiology, upon which indeed these *Democriticks* afterward endeavoured to graft *Atheism* ; yet to take away that suspicion, we shall in the next place shew, that generally the other Ancient Physiologers also, who were Theists, did likewise build the structure of their Philosophy upon the same Foundation, that Nothing can come from Nothing, nor go to Nothing : As for Example, *Parmenides*, *Melissus*, *Zeno*, *Xenophanes*, *Anaxagoras* and *Empedocles* ; of *Parmenides* and *Melissus*, *Aristotle* thus writes, ὅτι οὐδὲ γινώσκειται οὐδὲ φθείρεται ὅτι οὐκ ἔστι οὐδέν. They say that no Real Entity is either Generated or Corrupted, that is, made anew out of Nothing or destroy'd to Nothing. And *Simplicius* tells us, that *Parmenides* gave a notable Reason for the Confirmation of this Assertion, that Nothing in Nature could be Made out of Nothing, αἰτίας τῷ δ' οὐκ ὅτι οὐκ ἔστι οὐδέν τὸ γινώσκον, διαμαρτυρῶν ὁ παρμενίδης περὶ οὐκ ἔστι οὐδέν, ὅπως γὰρ φησι, εἰ καὶ τὸ μὲν οὐκ ἔστι, τίς ἂν παλιέμενος τῷ τότε γινώσκειται ὅτι ἔστιν, ἀλλὰ μὴ πρότερον ἢ ὕστερον. Because if any thing be made out of Nothing, then there could be no cause why it should be then made, and neither sooner nor later. Again *Aristotle* testifies of *Xenophanes* and *Zeno*, that they made this a main Principle of their Philosophy μὴ ὁδοιχέσθαι γινώσκειται μὴδὲν καὶ μὴδὲν. That it cannot be that any thing should be made out of Nothing : And of this *Xenophanes*, *Sextus* the Philosopher tells us, that he held ἐπὶ ἑὶς καὶ ἀσώματος θεός. That there was but one God, and that he was Incorporeal, speaking thus of him ;

εἰς θεὸς ὅς τε θεῶν καὶ ἀνθρώπων μέγας,
"οὐτὶ δέματος σποτέοντο ἰμάδιον, ὅτι νοῦμα.

Aristotle also writes in like manner concerning *Empedocles*, ἀποκρίνεται ταῦτα καὶ οὐκ ὁμολογᾷ ὅτι καὶ τὸ μὴ οὐκ ἔστι ἀμύχανόν ὅτι γινώσκειται, τὸ τε δὲ ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ ἀνίστησι καὶ ἀγνώσκειται. *Empedocles* acknowledges the very same with other Philosophers, that it is impossible any thing should be Made
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out of Nothing or Perish into Nothing. And as for *Anaxagoras*, it is sufficiently known to all, that his *Homœomeria* or Doctrine of Similar Atoms, (which was a certain Spurious kind of Atomism) was nothing but a Superstructure made upon this Foundation. Besides all which, *Aristotle* pronounces universally concerning the Ancient Physiologists without any exception, that they agreed in this one thing, *ὅτι τὰς τῶν ἐμπνευστῶν ὁ δόξας οἱ ὅτι φύσις, ἐν τῷ γενέσθαι τοῖς μὴ ὄντιν ὑμῶν ἀδύνατον* *The Physiologists generally agree in this* (laying it down for a grand Foundation) *that it is Impossible that any thing should be made out of Nothing.* And again he calls this *κοινὴ δόξα ἢ κοινὴ* *the common Opinion of Naturalists*; intimating also, that they concluded it the greatest absurdity, that any Physiologist could be guilty of, to lay down such Principles, as from whence it would follow, that any Real Entity in Nature did come from Nothing and go to Nothing.

Now it may well be supposed, that all these Ancient Physiologists (the most of which were also Theists) did not keep such a stir about this business for nothing; and therefore we are in the next place to show, what it was that they drove at in it. And we do affirm that one thing, which they all aimed at, who insisted upon the forementioned Principle, was the establishing some Atomical Physiology or other, but most of them at such as takes away all Forms and Qualities of Bodies (as Entities really distinct from the Matter and Substance) and resolves all into *Mechanism* and *Phancy*. For it is plain, that if the Forms and Qualities of Bodies be Entities really distinct from the Substance, and its various Modifications, of Figure, Site, and Motion, that then in all the Changes and Transmutations of Nature, all the Generations and Alterations of Body, (those Forms and Qualities being supposed to have no Real Existence any where before) something must of necessity be Created or produced miraculously out of Nothing; as likewise reduced into Nothing in the Corruptions of them, they having no Being any where afterword. As for Example; when ever a Candle is but lighted or kindled into a flame, there must needs be a new Form of fire, and new Qualities of Light and Heat, really distinct from the Matter and Substance, produced out of Nothing, that is, Created, and the same again Reduced into Nothing, or Annihilated, when the flame is extinguished. Thus, when Water is but Congealed at any time into Snow, Hail, or Ice, and when it is again Dissolved; when Wax is by Liquefaction made Soft and Transparent, and changed to most of our Senses; when the same kind of Nourishment taken in by Animals, is turned into Blood, Milk, Flesh, Bones, Nerves, and all the other Similar Parts; when that which was in the Form of bright Flame, appears in the Form of dark Smoak; and that which was in the Form of Vapour, in the Form of Rain or Water, or the like: I say, that in all these Mutations of Bodies there must needs be *something made out of Nothing*. But that in all the Protean Transformations of Nature, which happen continually, there should be Real Entities thus perpetually produced out of Nothing and reduced to Nothing, seemed to be so great a Paradox

Paradox to the Ancients, that they could by no means admit of it. Because as we have already declared, First they concluded it clearly impossible by Reason, that any Real Entity should of it self rise out of Nothing; and Secondly, they thought it very absurd to bring God upon the Stage, with his Miraculous extraordinary Power, perpetually at every turn; As also, that every thing might be made out of every thing, and there would be no Cause in Nature, for the Production of one thing rather than another, and at this time rather than that, if they were Miraculously made out of Nothing. Wherefore they sagaciously apprehended, that there must needs be some other Mystery or Intrigue of Nature, in this business, than was commonly dream'd of, or suspected; which they concluded to be this, That in all these Transformations, there were no such Real Entities of *Forms* and *Qualities* distinct from the Matter, and the various Disposition of its Parts, in respect of Figure, Site and Motion (as is vulgarly supposed) Produced and Destroyed; but that all these Feats were done, either by the Concretion and Secretion of actually Inexistent Parts, or else by the different Modifications of the same Preexistent Matter, or the Insensible parts thereof. This only being added hereunto, that from those different Modifications of the small Particles of Bodies, (they being not so distinctly perceived by our Senses) there are begotten in us, certain confused *Phasmata* or *Phantasmata*, *Apparitions*, *Phancies*, and *Passions*, as of Light and Colours, Heat and Cold, and the like, which are those things, that are vulgarly mistaken for real Qualities existing in the Bodies without us; whereas indeed there is Nothing Absolutely in the Bodies themselves like to those *Phantastick Ideas* that we have of them; and yet they are wisely contriv'd by the Author of Nature, for the Adorning and Embellishing of the Corporeal World to us.

So that they conceived, Bodies were to be considered two manner of ways, either as they are Absolutely in themselves, or else as they are Relatively to us: And as they are absolutely in themselves, that so there never was any Entity really distinct from the Substance, produced in them out of Nothing, nor Corrupted or Destroyed to Nothing, but only the *Accidents* and *Modifications* altered. Which *Accidents* and *Modifications* are no Entities really distinct from their Substance; for as much as the same Body may be put into several Shapes and Figures, and the same Man may successively Stand, Sit, Kneel and Walk, without the production of any new Entities really distinct from the substance of his Body. So that the Generations, Corruptions and Alterations of Inanimate Bodies are not terminated in the Production or Destruction of any Substantial Forms, or real Entities distinct from the Substance, but only in different Modifications of it. But secondly, as Bodies are considered Relatively to us, that so besides their different Modifications and Mechanical Alterations, there are also different *Phancies*, *Seemings* and *Apparitions* begotten in us from them; which unwary and unskillful Philosophers mistake for Absolute Forms and Qualities in Bodies themselves. And thus they concluded, that all the *Phenomena* of Inanimate Bodies, and their various Transformations, might be

be clearly resolved into these two things, Partly something that is Real and Absolute in Bodies themselves, which is nothing but their different Mechanism, or Disposition of Parts in respect of Figure, Site and Motion; and Partly something that is Phantastical in the Sentient.

That the Atomical Physiology did emerge after this manner, from that Principle of Reason, that *Nothing comes from Nothing, nor goes to Nothing*, might be further convinced from the testimony of Aristotle, writing thus concerning it: Ἐκ τῶν γινεσθαι ἐξ ἀλλήλων τ' ἀναπύλας ἰν' ἑαυτοῖς ἔχειν. αἱ δὲ πᾶν τὸ γινόμενον ἀνάσκειν γινεσθαι ἢ ἐξ ὅσων ἢ ἐξ μὴ ὅσων. τότε δὲ τὸ μὲν, ὅτι μὴ ὅσων γινεσθαι ἀδύνατον, ὅτι δὲ ταύτης ὁμογενομένης ἢ δόξης ἀπαιτεῖται οἱ ὅτι φησὶν τὸ λεγόν ἴδιον συμβαίνειν ἐξ ἀνάγκης ἰσόμεσθαι ἐξ ὅσων μὲν καὶ ἰν' ἑαυτοῖς γινεσθαι, διὰ δὲ σμικροτέτακται τῇ ὁμογενείᾳ ἀναμειγνύονται ἑαυτῶν. *The ancient Physiologists concluded, that because Contraries were made out of one another, that therefore they were before (one way or other) Inexistent, Arguing in this manner. That if whatsoever be made, must needs be made out of Something or out of Nothing, and this latter (that any thing should be made out of Nothing) is Impossible, according to the general Consent of all the ancient Physiologists; then it follows of Necessity, that all Corporeal things are Made or Generated, out of things that were really before and Inexistent; though by reason of the smallness of their Bulks they were Insensible to us. Where Aristotle plainly intimates that all the ancient Philosophers, whosoever insisted upon this Principle, that Nothing comes from Nothing, nor goes to Nothing, were one way or other Atomical, and did resolve all Corporeal things into ὅσων τινὰς διὰ τῶν σμικροτέτακται ἀναμειγνύονται ἑαυτῶν, Certain Molecule or Corpuscula which by Reason of their smallness were insensible to us, that is, into Atoms. But yet there was a difference between these Atomists, forasmuch as Anaxagoras was such an Atomist, as did notwithstanding hold Forms and Qualities, really distinct from the Mechanical Modifications of Bodies. For he not being able (as it seems) well to understand that other Atomical Physiology of the Ancients, that, exploding Qualities, saved all Corporeal Phenomena by Atechanism and Phancy; and yet acknowledging, that that Principle of theirs which they went upon, must needs be true, That Nothing could of itself come from Nothing nor go to Nothing; framed a new kind of Atomology of his own, in supposing the whole Corporeal World or Mass of Matter, to consist of Similar Atoms, that is, such as were originally endued with all those different Forms and Qualities that are vulgarly conceived to be in Bodies, some Bony, some Flethy, some Firie, some Watery, some White, some Black, some Bitter, some Sweet, and the like, so that all Bodies whatsoever had some of all sorts of these Atoms (which are in a manner Infinite) specifically differing from one another in them. πᾶν ὡς παντὶ μεμύχθαι, διότι πᾶν ὡς παντὶ γίνεται, φαίνεται δὲ διαφερίσθαι, καὶ προσαναγορεύεται ἑνὶ καὶ ἀλλήλων ὡς τῶν μολυσμάτων ὑπερχοῦσθαι διὰ τὸ πλεονάζειν ὡς τῶν μέτε τῶν ἀσθενῶν, &c. *That all things were in every thing mingled together, because they saw that every thing was made of every thing; but that things seemed to differ from one another and were denominated to be this or that, from those Atoms which are most predominant in the Mixture, by reason of their**

their Multiplicity: Whence he concluded that all the Generations, Corruptions and Alterations of Bodies were made by nothing but the *Concretions* and *Secretions* of Inexistent and Proexistent Atoms of different Forms and Qualities, without the Production of any new Form and Quality out of Nothing, or the Reduction of any into Nothing. This very account *Aristotle* gives of the *Anaxagorean Hypothesis*. ὥστε Ἀναξαγόρης ἐπὶ ἀπαιετὰ αἰσθῆναι τὰ σιχηῖα, διὰ τὸ ὑπαραβάνην, τῷ κοινῷ εἶέναι τῶν ὁμοίων ἔχει ἀλλὰ δὲ, ὥς ἔστι μορφοῦς ἑαυτοῦ ὡς τὸ μὴ ὄν· *Anaxagoras seemeth therefore to make Infinite Atoms endued with several Forms and Qualities to be the Elements of Bodies, because he supposed that Common opinion of Physiologists to be true, that Nothing is Made of Nothing.* But all the other ancient Physiologists that were before *Anaxagoras*, and likewise those after him, who insisting upon the same Principle of *Nothing coming from Nothing* did not *Anaxagorize*, as *Empedocles*, *Democritus* and *Protagoras*, must needs make ὅμοια ἀτομοῖς, dissimilar Molecula, and ἄτμους ἀπύους, Atoms unformed and unqualified, otherwise than by Magnitude, Figure and Motion, to be the Principles of Bodies, and cashiering Forms and Qualities (as real Entities distinct from the Matter) resolve all Corporeal Phenomena into *Mechanism* and *Phancie*. Because, if no Real Entity can come from Nothing, nor go to Nothing, then one of these two things is absolutely Necessary, that either these Corporeal Forms and Qualities, being real Entities distinct from the Matter, should exist before Generations and after Corruptions, in certain insensible Atoms originally such, according to the *Anaxagorean Doctrine*; Or else, that they should not be Real Entities distinct from the Matter, but only the different Modifications and Mechanisms of it, together with different Phancies. And thus we have made it evident that the genuine Atomical Physiology did spring originally from this Principle of Reason, that no Real Entity does of itself come from Nothing nor go to Nothing.

XXIX. Now we shall in the next place show how this very same Principle of Reason which induced the Ancients to reject Substantial Forms and Qualities of Bodies, and to Physiologize Atomically, led them also unavoidably to assert Incorporeal Substances, and that the Souls of Men and Animals were such, neither Generated nor Corrupted. They had argued against Substantial Forms and Qualities as we have shewed, in this manner, that since the Forms and Qualities of Bodies are supposed by all to be Generated and Corrupted, made anew out of Nothing and destroyed to Nothing, that therefore they could not be Real Entities distinct from the Substance of Matter, but only different Modifications of it in respect of Figure, Site and Motion, causing different Sensations in us; and were all to be resolved into *Mechanism* and *Fancie*. For as for that Conceit of *Anaxagoras*, of Pre and Post-existent Atoms, endued with all those several Forms and Qualities of Bodies Ingenerably and Incorruptibly; it was nothing but an Adulteration of the genuine Atomical Philosophy, and a mere Dream of his, in which very few follow'd him. And now they argue contrariwise for the Souls of Men and Animals, in this manner; Because they are plain-ly

ly Real Entities distinct from the Substance of Matter and its Modification, and Men and Brutes are not mere Machins, neither can Life and Cogitation, Sense and Conscience, Reason and Understanding, Appetite and Will, ever result from Magnitudes, Figures, Sites and Motions, that therefore they are not Corporeally Generated and Corrupted, as the Forms and Qualities of Bodies are. *Ἄδύνατον γὰρ εἶναι τὸ ἐκ μὴδενὸς γενέσθαι καὶ φθίειν.* *It is impossible for a real Entity to be made or Generated from Nothing preexisting.* Now there is Nothing of Soul and Mind, Reason and Understanding, nor indeed of Cogitation and Life, contained in the Modifications and Mechanism of Bodies; and therefore to make Soul and Mind to rise out of Body whensoever a man is generated, would be plainly to make a real Entity to come out of Nothing, which is impossible. I say, because the Forms and Qualities of Bodies are Generated and Corrupted, Made and Unmade, in the ordinary course of Nature, therefore they concluded, that they were not real Entities distinct from the Substance of Body and its various Modifications: but because Soul and Mind is plainly a real Entity distinct from the Substance of Body, its Modification and Mechanism; that therefore it was not a thing Generated and Corrupted, Made and Unmade, but such as had a Being of its own, a Substantial Thing by it self. Real Entities and Substances are not Generated and Corrupted, but only Modifications.

Wherefore these Ancients apprehended that there was a great difference betwixt the Souls of Men and Animals, and the Forms and Qualities of other inanimate Bodies, and consequently betwixt their several Productions. Forasmuch as in the Generation of Inanimate Bodies there is no new real Entity acquired distinct from the Substance of the thing it self, but only a peculiar Modification of it. The Form of Stone, or of Timber, of Blood, Flesh and Bone, and such other Natural Bodies Generated, is no more a distinct Substance or Entity from the Matter, than the Form of an House, Stool or Table is: There is no more new Entity acquired in the Generation of Natural Bodies, than there is in the Production of Artificial ones. When Water is turn'd into Vapour, Candle into Flame, Flame into Smoke, Grass into Milk Blood and Bones, there is no more miraculous Production of Something out of Nothing, than when Wool is made into cloth, or Flax into Linnen, when a rude and Unpolish'd Stone is hewen into a beautiful Statue, when Brick, Timber and Mortar, that lay together before disorderly, is brought into the Form of a stately Palace; there being Nothing neither in one nor other of these but only a different Disposition and Modification of preexistent Matter. Which Matter of the Universe is alwaies Substantially the same, and neither more nor less, but only *Proteanly* transformed into different Shapes. Thus we see that the Generation of all Inanimate Bodies is nothing but the change of Accidents and Modifications, the Substance being really the same both before and after. But in the Generations of Men and Animals, besides the new disposition of the Parts of Matter and its Organization, there is also the Acquisition and Conjunction of another Real Entity or Substance distinct from the Matter,

ter, which could not be Generated out of it, but must needs come into it some other way. Though there be no Substantial difference between a Stately House or Palace standing, and all the Materials of the same ruined and demolished, but only a difference of Accidents and Modifications; yet between a living Man and a dead Carcase, there is besides the Accidental Modification of the Body, another Substantial difference, there being a Substantial Soul and Incorporeal Inhabitant, dwelling in the one and acting of it, which the other is now deserted of. And it is very observable that *Anaxagoras* himself, who made Bony and Flethy Atoms, Hot and Cold, Red and Green, and the like, which he supposed to exist before Generations and after Corruptions, alwaies immutably the same, (that so Nothing might come from Nothing and go to Nothing) yet he did not make any Animalish Atoms Sensitive and Rational. The Reason whereof could not be because he did not think Sense and Understanding to be as Real Entities as Hot and Cold, Red and Green; but because they could not be supposed to be Corporeal Forms and Qualities, but must needs belong to another Substance that was Incorporeal. And therefore *Anaxagoras* could not but acknowledge, that all Souls and Lives did *Præ* and *Post-exist* by themselves, as well as those Corporeal Forms and Qualities, in his *Similar Atoms*.

XXX. And now it is already manifest, that from the same Principle of Reason before mentioned, That *Nothing of it self can come from Nothing nor go to Nothing*, the Ancient Philosophers were induced likewise to assert the Soul's Immortality, together with its Incorporeity or Distinctness from the Body. No substantial Entity ever vanisheth of it self into Nothing; for if it did, then in length of time all might come to be Nothing. But the Soul is a Substantial Entity, Really distinct from the body, and not the mere Modification of it; and therefore when a Man dies, his Soul must still remain and continue to have a Being somewhere else in the Universe. All the Changes that are in Nature, are either *Accidental Transformations* and different *Modifications* of the same Substance, or else they are *Conjunctions* and *Separations*, or *Anagrammatical Transpositions* of things in the Universe; the Substance of the whole remaining alwaies entirely the same. The Generation and Corruption of Inanimate Bodies, is but like the making of a House, Stool or Table, and the Unmaking or Marring of them again, either different Modifications of one and the same Substance, or else divers Mixtures and Separations, Concretions and Secretions. And the Generation and Corruption of Animals is likewise nothing but

————— μίξις τε διάλλαξις τε μεγέτων,

The Conjunction of Souls together with such Particular Bodies, and the Separation of them again from one another, and so as it were the Anagrammatical Transposition of them in the Universe. That Soul and Life that is now fled and gone, from a lifeless Carcase, is only

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a loss

a loss to that particular Body or Compages of Matter, which by means thereof is now disanimated; but it is no loss to the whole, it being but Transposed in the Universe, and lodged somewhere else.

XXXI. It is also further evident that this same Principle which thus led the Ancients to hold the Souls Immortality, or its Future Permanency after Death, must needs determine them likewise to maintain its *Προϋπάρχειν*, or *Preexistence*, and consequently its *μετεμωρῶσις*, or *Transmigration*. For that which did preexist before the Generation of any Animal, and was then somewhere else, must needs Transmigrate into the Body of that Animal where now it is. But as for that other Transmigration of Human Souls into the Bodies of Brutes, though it cannot be denied but that many of these Ancients admitted it also, yet *Timæus Locrus*, and divers others of the *Pythagoreans*, rejected it, any otherwise than as it might be taken for an Allegorical Description of that Beastly Transformation, that is made of Mens Souls by Vice. *Aristotle* tells us again, agreeably to what was declared before, ὅτι μάλιστα φασκεύοντες ἀπὸ τίθενται οἱ πολλοὶ τὸ ἔκ μὲν οὐθέν τι καὶ μετέμμεναι. That the Ancient Philosophers were afraid of Nothing more, than this one thing, that any thing should be made out of Nothing Preexistent: And therefore they must needs conclude, that the Souls of all Animals Preexisted before their Generations. And indeed it is a thing very well known that according to the Sence of Philosophers, these two things were always included together, in that one opinion of the Soul's Immortality, namely its *Preexistence* as well as its *Postexistence*. Neither was there ever any of the Ancients before Christianity, that held the Souls future Permanency after Death, who did not likewise assert its Preexistence; they clearly perceiving, that if it were once granted, that the Soul was Generated, it could never be proved but that it might be also Corrupted. And therefore the Assertors of the Souls Immortality, commonly begun here; first, to prove its Preexistence, proceeding thence afterward to establish its Permanency after Death. This is the Method used in *Plato*, ὃ πρὸ μὲν ἡ ψυχὴ πρὸ ὧ τὰδε τῷ σώματι πρὸς γένεσιν ἔσται καὶ ταύτῃ ἀθάνατον πῶς καὶ ἡ ψυχὴ ἔσται. Our Soul was somewhere, before it came to exist in this present Humane Form, and from thence it appears to be Immortal, and such as will subsist after Death. And the chief demonstration of the Soul's Preexistence to the Ancients before *Plato* was this, because it is an Entity Really distinct from Body or Matter and the Modifications of it; and no real Substantial Entity can either spring of itself out of Nothing, or be made out of any other Substance distinct from it, because Nothing can be made ἐκ μηδὲν οὐκ οὐθέν τι καὶ μετέμμεναι, from nothing either inexisting or preexisting; all Natural Generations being but the various Dispositions and Modifications of what was before existent in the Universe. But there was Nothing of Soul and Mind, Inexisting and Preexisting in Body before, there being Nothing of Life and Cogitation in Magnitude, Figure, Site, and Motion. Wherefore this must needs be, not a thing Made or Generated, as Corporeal Forms and Qualities are, but such

as hath a *Being* in Nature *Ingenerably* and *Incorruptibly*. The Mechanism of Humane Body was a thing *Made* and *Generated*, it being only a different Modification of what was before existent, and having no new Entity in it distinct from the Substance: And the *Totum* or *Compositum* of a Man or Animal may be said to be *Generated* and *Corrupted*, in regard of the Union and Disunion, Conjunction and Separation of those two parts, the Soul and Body. But the Soul it self, according to these Principles, is neither a thing Generable nor Corruptible, but was as well before the Generation, and will be after the Deaths and Corruptions of men, as the Substance of their Body, which is supposed by all to have been from the first Creation, and no Part of it to be annihilated or lost after Death, but only scatter'd and dispersed in the Universe. Thus the Ancient Atomists concluded, That Souls and Lives being Substantial Entities by themselves, were all of them as old as any other Substance in the Universe, and as the whole Mass of Matter, and every smallest Atom of it is. That is, they who maintained the Eternity of the World, did consequently assert also *Aeternitatem Animorum* (as Cicero calls it) the Eternity of Souls and Minds. But they who conceived the World to have had a Temporary Beginning or Creation, held the Coevity of all Souls with it, and would by no means be induced to think that every Atom of Senseless Matter and Particle of Dust, had such a Privilege and Preeminency over the Souls of Men and Animals, as to be Seniour to them. *Synesius* though a Christian, yet having been educated in this Philosophy, could not be induced by the hopes of a Bishoprick, to stifle or dissemble this Sentiment of his Mind, *ἐπεὶ τὸ ψυχῶν ἐν αἰῶνι πρὶν τοῦ σώματος ὕστερον μὴ εἶναι* I shall never be persuaded to think my Soul to be younger than my Body. But such, it seems, was the temper of those times, that he was not only dispensed withal as to this, but also as to another Heterodoxy of his, concerning the Resurrection.

XXXII. It is already plain also, that this Doctrine of the Ancient Atomists concerning the Immateriality and Immortality, the Præ and Post-existence of Souls, was not confined by them to Humane Souls only, but extended universally to all Souls and Lives whatsoever. It being a thing that was hardly ever called into doubt or question by any, before *Cartesius*, whether the Souls of Brutes had any Sense, Cogitation or Consciousness in them or no. Now all Life, Sense and Cogitation was undoubtedly concluded by them, to be an Entity Really distinct from the Substance of Body, and not the mere Modification, Motion or Mechanism of it; *Life* and *Mechanism* being two distinct Ideas of the Mind, which cannot be confounded together. Wherefore they resolved that all Lives and Souls whatsoever, which now are in the World, ever were from the first Beginning of it, and ever will be; that there will be no new ones produced which are not already, and have not alwaies been, nor any of those which now are, destroyed, any more than the Substance of any Matter will be Created or Annihilated. So that the whole System of the Created Universe, Consisting of Body, and particular Incorporeal Substances or Souls, in the succeſſive

five Generations and Corruptions or Deaths, of Men and other Animals, was according to them, Really nothing else, but one and the same Thing perpetually *Anagrammatized*, or but like many different Syllables and Words variously and successively composed out of the same preexistent Elements or Letters.

XXXIII. We have now declared how the same Principle of Reason which made the Ancient Physiologers to become Atomists, must needs induce them also to be Incorporalists; how the same thing which persuaded them that Corporeal Forms were no Real Entities distinct from the Substance of the Body, but only the different Modifications and Mechanisms of it, convinced them likewise, that all Cogitative Beings, all Souls and Lives whatsoever, were Ingenerable and Incorruptible, and as well Preexistent before the Generations of Particular Animals, as Postexistent after their Deaths and Corruptions. Nothing now remains but only to show more particularly, that it was *de facto* thus, that the same persons did from this Principle (that Nothing can come from Nothing and go to Nothing) both Atomize in their Physiology, taking away all Substantial Forms and Qualities, and also Theologize or Incorporalize, asserting Souls to be a Substance really distinct from Matter and Immortal, as also to preexist; and this we shall do from *Empedocles*, and first from that Passage of his cited before in part.

Ἄλλο δὲ σὺν ἰσῶς φῶς ἐθνήσιν ἔστιν ἰσότης
 οὐκ ἔστι, ὡς τὴν ἀπορροήν ἀποκρίνω γὰρ ἔστιν, (*al. ἔστιν ἰσότης*)
 Ἄλλα μόνον μίξις τε διαλύσις τε μέγαντα
 ἔσθι, φῶς δ' ὅτι τοῖς ἐνομήσεται ἀνθρώποισι.

Which I find Latin'd thus,

*Ast aliud dico; nihil est Mortalibus Ortus,
 Est nihil Interitui, qui rebus morte paratur;
 Atq; sed solum est, & Conciliatio verum
 Mysterium; hac dici solita est Mortalibus Ortus.*

The full Sence whereof is plainly this, That there is no *φῶς* or Production of any thing which was not before; no new Substance Made, which did not really Preexist; and therefore that in the Generations and Corruptions of Inanimate Bodies, there is no Form or Quality really distinct from the Substance produced and destroyed, but only a various Composition and Modification of Matter: But in the Generations and Corruptions of Men and Animals, where the Souls are Substances really distinct from the Matter, that there, there is Nothing but the Conjunction and Separation of Souls and particular Bodies, existing both before and after, not the Production of any new Soul into Being which was not before, nor the absolute Death and Destruction of any into Nothing. Which is further expressed in these following Verses.

Νύπται, ὃ γὰρ σφιν δολιχόφρονες εἰσι μελεμναι;
οἱ δὲ γίνεσθαι πάλιν· ὥς ἰὼν ἐλπίζουσιν,
ἥτις καὶ αἰσθησὶν τι καὶ ἐξέμυσθαι ἀπάντη.

To this Sence; *That they are Infants in Understanding, and short-sighted, who think any thing to be Made, which was Nothing before, or any thing to Die, so as to be Destroyed to Nothing.* Upon which *Plutarch* glosses after this manner: *ὥς ἀναστῆ γένεσι, ἀλλὰ τὼ ἐν μὴ οὐδέν· ἐπὶ φθορῇ, ἀλλὰ τὼ πάντη· τὰτα τὼ ἐς τὸ μὴ ἐν ἀπολείπειν.* *Empedocles does not here destroy Generation, but only such as is out of Nothing; nor Corruption, but such as is into Nothing.* Which, as we have already intimated, is to be understood differently in respect to Inanimate and Animate things; for in things Inanimate there is Nothing Produced or Destroyed, because the Forms and Qualities of them are no Entities really distinct from the Substance, but only diverse Mixtures and Modifications. But in Animate things, where the Souls are real Entities really distinct from the Substance of the Body, there is Nothing Produced nor Destroyed neither, because those Souls do both exist before their Generations, and after their Corruptions; which business, as to Men and Souls, is again more fully expressed thus;

οὐκ ἂν ἀνὴρ τιμῶντα σφδὸς φρεσὶ μασιδασαῖο;
ὥς ἔφρα μὲν τι βίωσι, τὸ δὲ βίωτον καλέουσιν,
τίφρα μὲν ὅν ἐστιν, καὶ σφρα πάλιν δ' ἐπὶ καὶ ἐσθλὰ,
πρὶν δὲ πύγνῃ βρεσθὶ καὶ λυθῆναι ὅθι ἂν εἴδ.

*That Good and Ill did First us Here attend,
And not from Time Before, the Soul Descend;
That here alone we live, and when
Hence we depart, we forthwith then,
Turn to our old Non-entity again;
Certe's ought not to be believ'd by Wife and Learned Men.*

Wherefore, according to *Empedocles*, this is to be accounted one of the Vulgar Errors, That Men then only have a being and are capable of Good and Evil, when they live here that which is called Life; But that both before they are Born, and after they are Dead, they are perfectly Nothing.

And besides *Empedocles*, the same is represented by the Greek Tragedian also, as the Sence of the ancient Philosophers.

ὁπίσκει δ' ὅθιν ὅτ' ἀπομύσει;
διακεσόμενον δ' ἄλλο πρὸς ἄλλο
μόρφῳ ἵπτεται ἀπὸ δ' εἶν.

That Nothing Dies or utterly periseth; but things being variously Concreted and Secreted, Transposed and Modified, change their Form and shape only, and are put into a New Dress.

Agreeably whereunto, *Plato* also tells us, that it was *πάλαιος λόγος*, an ancient Tradition or Doctrine before his Time, *τὸς ζῶντας ἐκ τῶ πνέοντων γίνεσθαι*, ἢ ἐκ τῶν ἡθῶν ἢ τὸς πνέοντες ἐκ τῶ ζώντων That as well the Living were made out of the Dead, as the Dead out of the Living, and that this was the constant Circle of Nature. Moreover the same Philosopher acquaints us, that some of those Ancients were not without suspicion, that what is now called Death, was to Men more properly a Nativity or Birth into Life, and what is called Generation into Life, was comparatively rather to be accounted a sinking into Death; the Former being the Soul's Ascent out of these Gross Terrestrial Bodies, to a Body more Thin and Subtil, and the Latter its Descent from a purer Body to that which is more Crass and Terrestrial. *τίς οἶδεν εἰ τὸ ζῶν μὲν ἔστι καὶ θανόν, τὸ καὶ θανὼν ἢ ζῶν* Who knows whether that which is called Living be not indeed rather Dying, and that which is called Dying, Living?

Moreover, that this was the Doctrine of *Pythagoras* himself, that no Real Entity perishes in Corruptions, nor is produced in Generations, but only new Modifications and Transpositions made; is fully expressed by the Latin Poet, both as to Inanimate, and to Animate Things. Of the first thus:

*Nec perit in tanto quicquam (mibi credite) mundo,
Sed variat, faciemque novat: Nascique vocatur
Incipere esse aliud, quàm quod fuit antè; Morique
Desinere illud idem. Cum sint Huc forsitan Illa,
Hæc Translata Illuc: Summâ tamen omnia constant.*

Of the Second, that the Souls of Animals are Immortal, did preexist and do transmigrate, from the same Ground, after this manner;

*Omnia mutantur; Nihil interit: Errat & illinc,
Huc venit, hinc illuc, & quoslibet occupat artus,
Spiritus, æque Feris Humana in Corpora transit,
Inque Feras Noster, nec tempore deperit ullo.
Utque novis facilis signatur Cera figuris,
Nec manet ut fuerat, nec formas servat easdem,
Sed tamen ipsa eadem est: Animam sic semper eandem
Esse, sed in varias doceo migrare Figuras.*

Wherefore though it be a thing which hath not been commonly taken Notice of; of late, yet we conceive it to be unquestionably true, that all those ancient Philosophers, who insisted so much upon this Principle, *ἢ οὐκ ἔστι γενεαὶ ἢ οὐκ φθίσκειν τῶ ὄντος* That no Real Entity is either Generated or Corrupted, did therein at once drive at these two things: First, the establishing of the Immortality of all Souls, their *Præ* and *Post-existence*, forasmuch as being Entities Really distinct from the Body, they could neither be Generated nor Corrupted; and Secondly, the making of Corporeal Forms and Qualities to be no Real Entities distinct from the Body and the Mechanism

chanism thereof, because they are things *Generated* and *Corrupted*, and have no *Præ* and *Post-existence*. *Anaxagoras* in this latter, being the only Dissenter; who supposing those Forms and Qualities to be real Entities likewise, distinct from the Substance of Body; therefore attributed Perpetuity of Being to them also, *Præ* and *Post-existence*, in *Similar Atoms*, as well as to the Souls of Animals.

And now we have made it sufficiently evident that the Doctrine of the *Incorporeity* and *Immortality* of Souls, we might add also, of their *Preexistence* and *Transmigration*, had the same Original and stood upon the same *Basis* with the Atomical Pythology; and therefore it ought not at all to be wondered at (what we affirmed before) that the same Philosophers and Pythagoreans asserted both those Doctrines, and that the Ancient Atomists were both Theists and Incorporealists.

XXXIV. But now to declare our Sense freely concerning this Philosophy of the Ancients, which seems to be so prodigiously paradoxical, in respect of that *Pre-existence* and *Transmigration* of Souls: We conceive indeed that this Ratiocination of theirs from that Principle, That *Nothing Naturally, or of its self, comes from Nothing, nor goes to Nothing*, was not only firmly conclusive against Substantial Forms and Qualities of Bodies, really distinct from their Substance, but also for Substantial Incorporeal Souls, and their Ingenerability out of the Matter; and particularly for the *future Immortality* or *Post-existence* of all Humane Souls. For since it is plain, that they are not a *mere Modification of Body* or Matter, but an Entity and Substance really distinct from it, we have no more reason to think, that they can ever of themselves vanish into Nothing, than that the Substance of the Corporeal World or any part thereof, can do so. For that in the Consumption of Bodies by Fire, or Age, or the like, there is the destruction of any real Substance into Nothing, is now generally exploded as an Idiotical conceit, and certainly it cannot be a jot less Idiotical to suppose that the Rational Soul in Death is utterly extinguished.

Moreover we add also, that this Ratiocination of the Ancients would be altogether as firm and irrefragable likewise, for the *Pre-existence* and *Transmigration* of Souls, as it is for their *Post-existence* and *future Immortality*; did we not (as indeed we do) suppose Souls to be Created by God immediately, and infused in Generations. For they being unquestionably, a distinct Substance from the Body, and no Substance according to the ordinary Course of Nature, *coming out of Nothing*, they must of Necessity either Preexist in the Universe before Generations, and Transmigrate into their respective Bodies, or else come from God immediately, who is the Fountain of all, and who at first created all that Substance that now is in the World besides himself. Now the latter of these was a thing which those Ancient Philosophers would by no means admit of; they judging it altogether incongruous, to bring God upon the Stage perpetually, and make him immediately interpose every where, in the
Genera-

Generations of Men and all other Animals, by the Miraculous production of Souls out of Nothing. Notwithstanding which, if we well consider it, we shall find that there may be very good reason on the other side, for the successive Divine Creation of Souls; namely, that God did not do all at first, that ever he could or would do, and put forth all his Creative Vigour at once in a moment, ever afterwards remaining a Spectator only of the consequent Results, and permitting Nature to do all alone, without the least Interposition of his at any time, just as if there were no God at all in the World. For this may be, and indeed often hath been, the effect of such an *Hypothesis* as this, to make men think, that there is no other God in the World but Blind and Dumb Nature. God might also for other good and wise Ends, unknown to us, reserve to himself the continual exercise of this his Creative power, in the successive Production of new Souls. And yet these Souls nevertheless, after they are once brought forth into being, will notwithstanding their *Juniority*, continue as firmly in the same, without vanishing of themselves into Nothing, as the Substance of Senseless Matter that was Created many thousand years before, will do.

And thus our *Vulgar Hypothesis*, of the new Creation of Souls, as it is Rational in it self, so it doth sufficiently salve their Incorporeity, their future Immortality or Post-eternity, without introducing those offensive Absurdities of their Preexistence and Transmigration.

XXXV. But if there be any such, who rather than they would allow a future Immortality or Post-existence to all Souls, and therefore to those of Brutes, which consequently must have their Successive Transmigrations, would conclude the Souls of all Brutes, as likewise the Sensitive Soul in Man, to be Corporeal, and only allow the Rational Soul to be distinct from Matter: To these we have only thus much to say; That they who will attribute Life, Sense, Cogitation, Consciousness and Self-enjoyment, not without some footsteps of Reason many times, to Blood and Brains, or mere Organized Bodies in Brutes, will never be able clearly to defend the Incorporeity and Immortality of Humane Souls, as most probably they do not intend any such thing. For either all Conscious and Cogitative Beings are Incorporeal, or else nothing can be proved to be Incorporeal. From whence it would follow also, that there is no Deity distinct from the Corporeal World. But though there seem to be no very great reason, why it should be thought absurd, to grant Perpetuity of Duration to the Souls of Brutes, any more than to every Atom of Matter, or Particle of Dust that is in the whole World; yet we shall endeavour to suggest something towards the easing the minds of those, who are so much burthened with this difficulty; viz. That they may, if they please, suppose the Souls of Brutes, being but so many particular Emissions or Effluxes from that Source of Life above, whensoever and wheresoever there is any fitly prepared Matter capable to receive them, and to be Actuated by them; to have a sense and fruition of themselves

themselves in it, so long as it continues such, but as soon as ever those Organized Bodies of theirs, by reason of their Indisposition, become incapable of being further acted upon by them, then to be resumed again and retracted back to their Original Head and Fountain. Since it cannot be doubted, but what Creates any thing out of Nothing, or sends it forth from it self, by free and voluntary Emanation, may be able either to Retract the same back again to its original Source, or else to Annihilate it at pleasure.

And I find that there have not wanted some among the Gentile Philosophers themselves, who have entertained this Opinion, whereof *Porphyry* is one: *ἅπαντα ἰσχυρὸν διὰ τοῦ αἰῶνος εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα* (αὐτὸ τὸ πᾶν ἐκ τῆς αἰῶνος εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα) Every irrational Power is resolved into the Life of the Whole.

XXXVI. Neither will this at all weaken the future Immortality or Post-eternity of Humane Souls. For if we be indeed Theists, and do in very good Earnest believe a Deity, according to the true Notion of it, we must then needs acknowledge, that all created Being whatsoever, owes the Continuation and Perpetuity of its Existence, not to any Necessity of Nature without God, and Independently upon him, but to the Divine Will only. And therefore though we had never so much Rational and Philosophical assurance, that our Souls are Immaterial Substances, distinct from the Body, yet we could not for all that, have any absolute certainty of their Post-eternity, any otherwise than as it may be derived to us, from the Immutability and Perfection of the Divine Nature and Will, which does always that which is Best. For the Essential Goodness and Wisdom of the Deity is the only Stability of all things. And for ought we Mortals know, there may be good Reason, why that Grace or Favour of future Immortality and Post-eternity, that is indulged to Humane Souls, endued with Reason, Morality, and Liberty of Will, (by means whereof they are capable of Commendation and Blame, Reward and Punishment) that so they may be Objects for Divine Justice to display it self upon after this Life, in different Retributions; may notwithstanding be denied to those lower Lives and more contemptible Souls of Brutes, alike devoid both of Morality and Liberty.

XXXVII. But if any for all this will still obstinately contend for that ancient Pythagorick and Empedoclean Hypothesis, That all Lives and Souls whatsoever are as old as the first Creation, and will continue to Eternity, or as long as the World doth as a thing more Reasonable and Probable than our Continual Creation of new Souls, by means whereof they become Juniors both to the matter of the World and of their own Bodies, and whereby also (as they pretend) the Divine creative Power is made too Cheap and prostituted a thing, as being Famulative always to Brutish and many times to unlawful Lusts and undue Conjunctions; but especially than the Continual Decreation and Annihilation of the Souls of Brutes; we shall not be very unwilling to acknowledge thus much to them,

That

That indeed of the two, this Opinion is more Reasonable and Tolerable than that other Extravagancy of those, who will either make all Souls to be Generated and consequently to be Corporeal, or at least the Sensitive Soul both in Men and Brutes. For besides the Monstrosity of this latter opinion, in making two distinct Souls and Perceptive Substances in every Man, which is a thing sufficiently confuted by Internal Sense, it leaves us also in an absolute Impossibility, of proving the Immortality of the Rational Soul, the Incorporeity of any Substance, and by consequence the Existence of any Deity distinct from the Corporeal World.

And as for that Pretence of theirs, that Senseless Matter may as well become Sensitive, and as it were kindled into Life and Cogitation, as a Body that was devoid of Light and Heat, may be kindled into Fire and Flame; this seems to argue too much Ignorance of the Doctrine of Bodies, in men otherwise Learned and Ingenious. The best Naturalists having already concluded, That Fire and Flame is nothing but such a *Motion* of the Insensible Parts of a Body, as whereby they are violently agitated, and many times dissipated and scattered from each other, begetting in the mean time those *Phænomena* of *Light* and *Heat* in Animals. Now there is no difficulty at all in conceiving that the Insensible Particles of a Body, which were before quiescent, may be put into Motion; this being nothing but a New Modification of them, and no Entity really distinct from the Substance of Body; as *Life*, *Sense* and *Cogitation* are. There is nothing in Fire and Flame, or a Kindled Body, different from other Bodies, but only the *Motion* or *Mechanism*, and *Phænomena* of it. And therefore it is but a crude conceit, which the Atheists and Corporealists of former times have been always so fond of, That Souls are nothing but Fire or Flammable Bodies. For though Heat in the Bodies of Animals be a Necessary Instrument for Soul and Life to act by in them, yet it is a thing really distinct from Life; and a Red hot Iron hath not therefore any nearer approximation to Life than it had before, nor the Flame of a Candle than the extinguish'd Snuff or Tallow of it; the difference between them being only in the Agitation of the Insensible Parts. We might also add, that according to this *Hypothesis*, the Souls of Animals could not be Numerically the same throughout the whole space of their Lives: Since that Fire that needs a *Fabulum* to prey upon, doth not continue alwaies one and the same Numerical Substance. The Soul of a new born Animal could be no more the same, with the Soul of that Animal several years after, than the Flame of a new lighted Candle is the same with that Flame that twinkles last in the Socket. Which indeed are no more the same than a River or Stream is the same, at several distances of time. Which Reason may be also extended further to prove the Soul to be no Body at all, since the Bodies of all Animals are in a perpetual Flux.

XXXVIII. We have now sufficiently performed our first Task which was to show from the Origin of the Atomical Phyliology,
That

that the Doctrine of Incorporeal Substance must needs spring up together with it. We shall in the next place make it manifest, that the Inward Constitution of this Philosophy is also such, that whosoever really entertains it, and rightly understands it, must of necessity admit Incorporeal Substance likewise. First therefore, the Atomical Hypothesis, allowing nothing to Body, but what is either included in the *Idea* of a thing *Impenetrably extended*, or can clearly be conceived to be a Mode of it, as more or less Magnitude with Divisibility, Figure, Size, Motion and Rest, together with the Results of their several Combinations; cannot possibly make Life and Cogitation to be Qualities of Body, since they are neither contained in those things before mentioned, nor can result from any *συνυπάρχοντα* or *Conjunctions* of them. Wherefore it must needs be granted, that Life and Cogitation are the Attributes of another Substance distinct from Body, or Incorporeal.

Again, since according to the Tenour of this Physiology, Body hath no other Action belonging to it but that of Local Motion, which Local Motion as such, is Essentially *Heterokinese*, that which never springs originally from the thing it self moving, but always from the Action of some other Agent upon it: That is, since no Body could ever move it self; it follows undeniably, that there must be something else in the World besides Body, or else there could never have been any Motion in it. Of which we shall speak more afterwards.

Moreover, according to this Philosophy, the Corporeal *Phænomena* themselves cannot be saved by *Mechanism* alone without *Phancie*. Now Phancie is no Mode of Body, and therefore must needs be a Mode of some other kind of Being in our selves, that is Cogitative and Incorporeal.

Furthermore it is evident, from the Principles of this Philosophy, that Sense it self is not a mere Corporeal Passion from Bodies without, in that it supposeth that there is nothing really in Bodies like to those Phantastick *Idea's* that we have of Sensible things, as of Hot and Cold, Red and Green, Bitter and Sweet, and the like, which therefore must needs owe their Being to some Activity of the Soul it self, and this is all one as to make it Incorporeal.

Lastly, from this Philosophy, it is also manifest, that Sense is not the *κρίσις* of Truth concerning Bodies themselves, it confidently pronouncing that those supposed Qualities of Bodies, represented such by Sense, are merely Phantastical things; from whence it plainly follows, that there is something in us superiour to Sense, which judges of it, detects its Phantastry, and condemns its Imposture, and determines what really is and is not, in Bodies without us, which must needs be a higher Self-active Vigour of the Mind, that will plainly speak it to be Incorporeal.

XXXIX. And now this Atomical Physiology of the Ancients seems to have two Advantages or Preeminences belonging to it, the first whereof is this ; That it renders the Corporeal World Intelligible to us ; since Mechanism is a thing that we can clearly understand, and we cannot clearly and distinctly conceive any thing in Bodies else. To say that this or that is done by a Form or Quality, is nothing else but to say that it is done we know not how, or, which is yet more absurd, to make our very Ignorance of the Cause, disguised under those Terms of Forms and Qualities, to be it self the Cause of the Effect.

Moreover, Hot and Cold, Red and Green, Bitter and Sweet, &c. formally considered, may be clearly conceived by us as different Phancies and Vital Passions in us, occasioned by different Motions made from the objects without, upon our Nerves ; but they can never be clearly understood as absolute Qualities in the Bodies themselves, really distinct from their Mechanical Dispositions ; nor is there indeed any more reason why they should be thought such, than that, when a Man is pricked with a Pin, or wounded with a Sword, the Pain which he feels should be thought to be an Absolute Quality in the Pin or Sword. So long as our Sensible *Idea's* are taken either for Substantial Forms or Qualities in Bodies without us, really distinct from the Substance of the Matter, so long are they perfectly unintelligible by us. For which Cause *Timeum Locum* Philosophizing (as it seemeth) after this manner, did contemporaneously thereunto determine, That Corporeal things could not be apprehended by us, otherwise than *αἰσθητικῶς καὶ νόθῳ λόγῳ* *by sense and a kind of Spurious or Bastardly Reason* ; that is, that we could have no clear Conceptions of them in our Understanding. And for the same reason *Plato* himself distinguisheth betwixt such things as are *νόθῳ καὶ λόγῳ ἀνεύθυντα* *Comprehensible by the Understanding with Reason*, and those which are only *δόξαν καὶ ἰσθμῶς ἀλόγῳ*, which can only be apprehended by Opinion, together with a certain Irrational Sense, meaning plainly, by the latter, Corporeal and Sensible things. And accordingly the *Platonists* frequently take occasion from hence, to enlarge themselves much in the disparagement of Corporeal things, as being, by Reason of that smallness of Entity that is in them, below the Understanding and not having so much *ἔσσαν* as *γένεσι*, *Essence* as *Generation*, which indeed is *Fine Phancie*. Wherefore we must either, with these Philosophers, make Sensible things to be *ἀκατάληκτα* or *ἀπερίληκτα*, altogether *Incomprehensible* and *Inconceivable* by our Humane Understandings, (though they be able in the mean time clearly to conceive many things of a higher Nature) or else we must entertain some kind of favourable Opinion concerning that which is the ancientest of all Physiologies, the Atomical or Mechanical, which alone renders Sensible things Intelligible.

XL. The Second Advantage, which this Atomical Physiology seems to have, is this, That it prepares an easie and clear way for the Demonstration of Incorporeal Substances, by setting a Distinct Noti-

on of Body. He that will undertake to prove that there is something else in the World besides Body, must first determine what Body is, for otherwise he will go about to prove that there is something besides *He-knows-not-what*. But now if all Body be made to consist of two Substantial Principles, whereof one is *Matter* devoid of all *Form*, (and therefore of Quantity as well as Qualities) from whence these Philosophers *themselves conclude that it is *Incorporeal*; the other, *Form*, which being devoid of all *Matter*, must needs be *Incorporeal* likewise. And thus *Stobæus* sets down the joint Doctrine both of *Plato* and *Aristotle*; *ἐν τε γὰρ τῷ ἑνὶ τῶν ἰδίων ἀφαιρέσειν ἀντιστοιχεί, ὅπως καὶ τῷ ἑνὶ τῶν ἑσῶν χωρὶς οὐκ ἔστι μαζ' αὐτοῦ, δ' ἐν γὰρ ἀμφότερ' ἂν συνίσταται, πρὸς τὴν τῷ σώματι ὑπόστασιν*. That in the same manner, as *Form* alone separated from *Matter* is *Incorporeal*, so neither is *Matter* alone, the *Form* being separated from it, *Body*. But there is need of the joint concurrence of both these, *Matter* and *Form* together, to make up the Substance of *Body*; Moreover, if to *Forms* Qualities be likewise superadded, of which it is consentaneously also resolved by the *Platonists*, *ὅτι αἱ ποικίλαι αἰσθημάτων, τὰς Qualities are Incorporeal*, as if they were so many Spirits possessing Bodies; I say, in this way of Philosophizing, the Notions of *Body* and *Spirit*, *Corporeal* and *Incorporeal*, are so confounded, that it is Impossible to prove any thing at all concerning them. *Body* it self being made *Incorporeal* (and therefore every thing *Incorporeal*) for whatsoever is wholly compounded and made up of *Incorporeals*, must needs be it self also *Incorporeal*.

Furthermore, according to this Doctrine of *Matter*, *Forms* and *Qualities* in *Body*; *Life* and *Understanding* may be supposed to be certain *Forms* or *Qualities* of *Body*. And then the Souls of men may be nothing else but *Blood* or *Brains*, endued with the *Qualities* of *Sense*, and *Understanding*; or else some other more *Subtle*, *Sensitive* and *Rational Matter*, in us. And the like may be said of *God* himself also; That he is nothing but a certain *Rational*, or *Intellectual*, *Subtle* and *Fine Body*, pervading the whole Universe; or else that he is the *Form* of the whole *Corporeal* World, together with the *Matter* making up but one Substance. Which Conceits have been formerly entertained by the best of those Ancients, who were captivated under that dark Infirmary of mind, to think that there could be no other Substance besides *Body*.

But the ancient Atomical Philosophy, settling a distinct Notion of *Body*, that it is *διατεταμένον ὡς ἵπνον*, a *Thing Impenetrably extended*, which hath nothing belonging to it, but *Magnitude*, *Figure*, *Site*, *Rest*, and *Motion*, without any *Self-moving Power*; takes away all Confusion; shews clearly how far *Body* can go, where *Incorporeal Substance* begins; as also that there must of necessity be such a *Thing* in the World.

Again, this discovering not only that the Doctrine of Qualities had its Original from mens mistaking their own Phancies, for Absolute Realities in Bodies themselves; but also that the Doctrine of Mat-

ter and Form Sprung from another Fallacy or Deception of the Mind, in taking Logical Notions, and our *Modes of Conceiving*, for *Modes of Being*, and Real Entities in things without us ; It shewing likewise, that because there is nothing else clearly intelligible in Body, besides Magnitude, Figure, Site, and Motion, and their various Conjugations, there can be no such Entities of Forms and Qualities really distinct from the Substance of Body ; makes it evident, that *Life*, *Cogitation* and *Understanding* can be no Corporeal things, but must needs be the Attributes of another kind of Substance distinct from Body.

XLI. We have now clearly proved these two things ; First, that the Physiology of the Ancients, before, not only *Aristotle* and *Plato*, but also *Democritus* and *Leucippus*, was Atomical or Mechanical. Secondly, that as there is no Inconsistency between the Atomical Physiology and Theology, but indeed a Natural Cognation ; so the Ancient Atomists before *Democritus*, were neither Atheists nor Corporealists, but held the Incorporeity and Immortality of Souls, together with a Deity distinct from the Corporeal World. Wherefore the First and most Ancient Atomists did not make ἀτόμους ἀρχὰς τῶν ὄντων, they never endeavoured to make up an Entire Philosophy out of Atomology ; but the Doctrine of Atoms was to them only one Part or Member of the whole Philosophick System, they joining thereunto the Doctrine of Incorporeal Substance, and Theology, to make it up complete : Accordingly as *Aristotle* hath declared in his *Metaphysics*, that the Ancient Philosophy consisted of these two Parts, φυσολογία, and Θεολογία or ἡ πρῶτη φιλοσοφία, *Physiology*, and *Theology* or *Metaphysics*. Our Ancient Atomists never went about, as the blundering *Democritus* afterwards did, to build up a World out of mere *Passive Bulk*, and *Sluggish Matter*, without any ἀρχὴ ἀεγείου, any *Active Principles*, or *Incorporeal Powers* ; understanding well, that thus, they could not have so much as Motion, Mechanism, or Generation in it ; the Original of all that Motion that is in Bodies springing from something that is not Body, that is, from Incorporeal Substance. And yet if Local Motion could have been supposed to have risen up, or sprung in upon this Dead Lump and Mass of Matter, no body knows how, and without dependance upon any Incorporeal Being, to have Actuated it Fortuitously ; these Ancient Atomists would still have thought it Impossible for the Corporeal World it self, to be made up, such as now it is, by Fortuitous Mechanism, without the Guidance of any higher Principle. But they would have concluded it, the greatest Impudence or Madness, for men to assert that Animals also consisted of mere Mechanism ; or, that Life and Sense, Reason and Understanding, were really nothing else but Local Motion, and consequently that themselves were but *Machins* and *Automata*. Wherefore they joyned both *Active* and *Passive* Principles together, the *Corporeal* and *Incorporeal* Nature, *Mechanism* and *Life*, *Atomology* and *Pneumatology*, and from both these united, they made up one entire System of Philosophy, correspondent

correspondent with, and agreeable to, the true and real World without them. And this System of Philosophy, thus consisting of the Doctrine of *Incorporeal Substance* (whereof God is the Head) together with the *Atomical* and *Mechanical Physiology*, seems to have been the only Genuine, Perfect, and Complete.

XLII. But it did not long continue thus; for, after a while; this entire Body of Philosophy came to be *Mangled and Dismembered*, some taking one Part of it alone, and some another; some snatching away the *Atomical Physiology*, without the *Pneumatology* and *Theology*; and others, on the contrary, taking the *Theology* and Doctrine of *Incorporeals*, without the *Atomical* or *Mechanical Physiology*. The former of these were *Democritus*, *Leucippus*, and *Protagoras*, who took only the dead Carcase or Skeleton of the old *Moschical Philosophy*, namely the *Atomical Physiology*; the latter *Plato* and *Aristotle*, who took indeed the better Part, the *Soul*, *Spirit*, and *Quintessence* of it, the *Theology* and Doctrine of *Incorporeals*, but *Unbodied*, and *Devoid* of its most Proper and convenient Vehicle, the *Atomical Physiology*, whereby it became exposed to sundry Inconveniences.

XLIII. We begin with *Leucippus* and *Democritus*; Who being Atheistically inclined, quickly perceived, that they could not in the ordinary way of Physiologizing, sufficiently secure themselves against a Deity, nor effectually urge Atheism upon others; forasmuch as *Heraclitus* and other Philosophers, who held that all Substance was Body, as well as themselves, did notwithstanding assert a Corporeal Deity, maintaining that the Form of the whole Corporeal World was God, or else that he was ὅλη πᾶς ἔχουσα, a certain kind of Body or Matter, as (for Example) a *Methodical and Rational Fire*, pervading (as a Soul) the whole Universe; the particular Souls of men and Animals being but, as it were, so many pieces, cut and sliced out of the great Mundane Soul; so that according to them, the whole Corporeal Universe, or Mass of Body, was one way or other a God, a most Wise and Understanding Animal, that did frame all Particularities within it self in the best manner possible, and providently govern the same. Wherefore those Atheists now apprehending, upon what ticklish and uncertain Terms their Atheistical Philosophy then stood, and how that those very *Forms* and *Qualities*, and the *Self-moving* power of Body, which were commonly made a Sanctuary for Atheism, might notwithstanding chance to prove, contrariwise, the *Latibulum* and *Asylum* of a Deity, and that a Corporeal God (do what they could) might lie lurking under them, assailing mens minds with doubtful Fears and Jealousies; Understanding moreover, that there was another kind of Physiology set on foot, which banishing those *Forms* and *Qualities* of Body, attributed nothing to it but *Magnitude*, *Figure*, *Site*, and *Motion*, without any *Self-moving Power*; they seemed presently to apprehend some great Advantage to themselves and Cause from it; and therefore greedily entertained this *Atomical* or *Mechanical Physiology*, and violently cutting it off from that other part, the *Doctrine of Incorporeals*,

porcals, which it was Naturally and Vitally united to, endeavoured to serve their turns of it. And now joining these two things together, the Atomical Physiology, which supposes that there is nothing in body, but Magnitude, Figure, Site and Motion, and that Prejudice or Prepossession of their own Minds, that there was no other Substance in the World besides Body; between them both, they begat a certain Mongrel and Spurious Philosophy, *Atheistically-Atomical*, or *Atomically-Atheistical*.

But though we have so well proved, that *Lencipps* and *Democritus* were not the first Inventors, but only the Depravers and Adulterators of the Atomical Philosophy; yet if any will notwithstanding obstinately contend, that the first Invention thereof ought to be imputed to them, the very Principles of their Atheism seeming to lead them naturally to this, to strip and devest Body of all those Forms and Qualities, it being otherwise Impossible for them, surely and safely to exclude a Corporeal Deity; yet so, as that the Wit of these Atheists was also much to be admired, in the managing and carrying on of those Principles in such a manner, as to make up so Entire a System of Philosophy out of them, all whose parts should be so coherent and consistent together; We shall only say thus much; That if those Atheists were the first Inventors of this Philosophy, they were certainly very unhappy and unsuccessful in it, whilst endeavouring by it to secure themselves from the Possibility and Danger of a *Corporeal God*, they unawares laid a Foundation for the clear Demonstration of an *Incorporeal one*, and were indeed so far from making up any such coherent Frame as is pretended, that they were forced every where to contradict their own Principles; so that Non-sence lies at the bottom of all, and is interwoven throughout their whole Atheistical System. And that we ought to take notice of the invincible power and Force of Truth, prevailing irresistibly against all Endeavours to oppress it; and how desperate the Cause of Atheism is, when that very Atomical *Hypothesis* of theirs, which they would erect and build up for a strong Castle to garrison themselves in, proves a most Effectual Engine against themselves, for the battering of all their Atheistical Structure down about their Ears.

XLIV. *Plato's* Mutilation and Interpolation of the old *Moschical* Philosophy, was a great deal more excusable, when he took the Theology and Metaphysics of it, the whole Doctrine of Incorporeals, and abandoned the Atomical or Mechanical way of Physiologizing. Which, in all Probability, he did, partly because those forementioned Atheists having so much abused that Philosophy, adopting it as it were to themselves, he thereupon began to entertain a Jealousie and Suspicion of it; and partly, because he was not of himself so inclinable to Physiology as Theology, to the study of Corporeal as of Divine things; which some think to be the reason why he did not attend to the Pythagorick System of the Corporeal World, till late in his old Age. His *Genius* was such, that he was Naturally more addicted to *Ideas* than to *Atoms*, to *Formal* and *Final* than to *Material*

Material Causes. To which may be added, that the way of Physiologizing by Matter, Forms and Qualities, is a more *Huffie* and *Phanciful* thing than the other; and lastly, that the Atomical Physiology is more remote from Sense and vulgar Apprehension, and therefore not so easily understood. For which cause many learned Greeks of later times, though they had read *Epicurus* his Works, and perhaps *Democritus* his too, yet they were not able to conceive how the Corporeal and Sensible *Phænomena* could possibly be salved without Real Qualities. One Instance whereof might be given in *Plutarch*, writing against *Colotes* the *Epicurean*. Wherefore *Plato*, that was a zealous Asserter of an Incorporeal Deity, distinct from the World, and of Immortal Souls, seriously Physiologized only by Matter, Forms and Qualities, Generation, Corruption and Alteration; and he did but play and toy sometimes a little with Atoms and Mechanism. As where he would compound the Earth of Cubical, and Fire of Pyramidal Atoms, and the like. For that he did therein imitate the Atomical Physiology is plain from these words of his; *πῶτα ἐν αὐτῷ ταῦτα διακρίσθαι σμικροῖς ἔσσι, ὥς καὶ ἐν ἑαυτοῖς ἔστιν ὁρώμενον ὑπὸ ὕμῶν, συναθροισθέντων ὁ πῶτα, τὰς εἰσὺς αὐτῶν ὁρώμενον* All these Cubical and Pyramidal Corpuscula of the Fire and Earth are in themselves so small, that by reason of their parvitude, none of them can be perceived singly and alone, but only the Aggregations of many of them together.

XLV. And *Aristotle* here trode in *Plato*'s footsteps, not only in the better part, in asserting an Incorporeal Deity, and an Immoveable first Mover; but also in Physiologizing by Forms and Qualities, and rejecting that Mechanical way by Atoms, which had been so generally received amongst the Ancients. Wherefore though the *Genius* of these two Persons was very different, and *Aristotle* often contradicted *Plato*, and really dissent from him in several Particularities; yet, so much I think may be granted to those Reconcilers, (*Porphyry*, *Simplicius*, and others) that the main Essentials of their two Philosophies are the same.

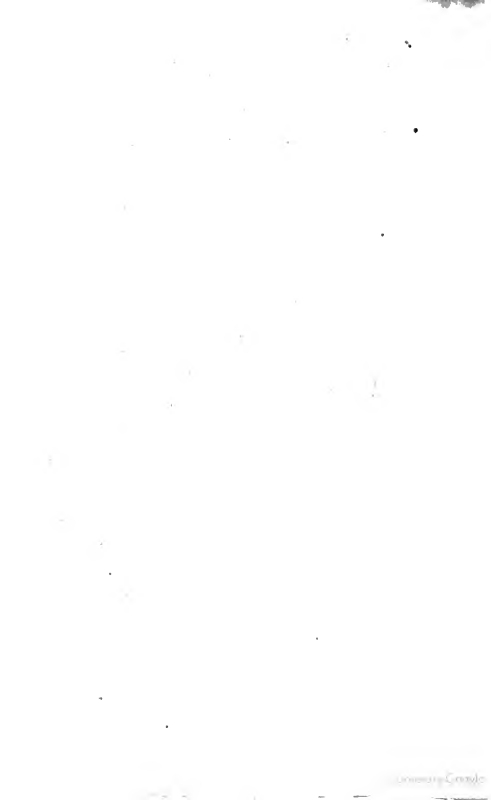
Now I say the whole Aristotelical*System of Philosophy is infinitely to be preferred before the whole Democritical; though the former hath been so much disparaged, and the other cried up of late amongst us. Because, though it cannot be denied but that the Democritical *Hypothesis* doth much more handsomely and intelligibly salve the Corporeal *Phænomena*, yet in all those other things which are of far the greatest moment, it is rather a Madness than a Philosophy. But the Aristotelick System is right and sound here, as to those greater things, it asserting Incorporeal Substance, a Deity distinct from the World, the Naturality of Morality, and Liberty of Will. Wherefore though a late Writer of Politicks do so exceedingly disparage *Aristotle*'s *Ethicks*, yet we shall do him this right here to declare, that his *Ethicks* were truly such, and answered their Title; but that new Modle of *Ethicks*, which hath been obtruded upon the World with so much Fastuosity, and is indeed nothing but the old Democritical Doctrine revived, is no *Ethicks* at all, but a mere Cheat, the undermining

and subversion of all Morality, by substituting something like it in the Room of it, that is a mere Counterfeit and Changeling. The Design whereof could not be any other than to debauch the World.

We add further, that *Aristotle's* System of Philosophy seems to be more consistent with Piety, than the Cartesian *Hypothesis* it self, which yet plainly supposeth Incorporeal Substance. For as much as this latter makes God to contribute nothing more to the Fabrick of the World, than the Turning round of a *Vortex* or Whirlpool of Matter; from the fortuitous Motion of which, according to certain General Laws of Nature, must proceed all this Frame of things that now is, the exact Organization, and successive Generation of Animals, without the Guidance of any Mind or Wisdom. Whereas *Aristotle's* Nature is no Fortuitous Principle, but such as doth Nothing in Vain; but all for Ends, and in every thing pursues the Best; and therefore can be no other than a Subordinate Instrument of the Divine Wisdom, and the *Manuary Officer* or Executioner of it.

However, we cannot deny, but that *Aristotle* hath been taxed by sundry of the Ancients, Christians and others, for not so explicitly asserting these two things, the Immortality of Humane Souls, and Providence over men, as he ought to have done, and as his Master *Plato* did. Though to do him all the right we can, we shall observe here, that in his *Nicomachian* Ethicks, he speaks favourably for the Latter, *ὅ γὰρ τις ἐπιμέλεια τῇ ἀνθρώπων ὑπὸ θεῶν γίνηται, ὥσπερ θεῶν, καὶ ὁ λόγος χαίρειν αὐτὰς τῇ ἀρεῇ καὶ τῇ σύγκριστι (τὴν γὰρ αὖ οἶτος) καὶ τὰς ἀγαθὰς μάλιστ' καὶ τὰς πικρὰς ἀνδραγαθίαν, ἐς τὴν φίλων αὐτοῦ ἐπιμαχόμενος, ὥσπερ τι καλὰς προήσους* If God take any Care of Humane things, as it seems he doth, then it is reasonable to think also, that he is delighted with that which is the Best, and nearest akin to himself (which is Mind or Right Reason) and that he rewards those who most Love and Honour it (as taking care of such things as are most pleasing to him) in doing rightly and honestly. A very good Sentence, were it not Ushered in with too much of Scepticism. And as for the Point of the Soul's Immortality; It is true, that whereas other Philosophers before *Aristotle*, asserted the Preexistence, Incorporeity, and Immortality of all Souls, not only the Rational but the Sensitive also, (which in Men they concluded to be one and the same Substance) according to that of *Plato's*, *πάντα ψυχὴ ἀθάνατον*, Every Soul is Immortal, they resolving that no Life nor Cogitation could be Corporeal; *Aristotle*, on the contrary, doth expressly deny the Preexistence, that is, the Separability, Incorporeity and Immortality of all Sensitive Souls, not in Brutes only, but also every where, giving his reason for it in these words; *ὅτι μὲν ἔχ' οὖν τι πῶσας προύπερχαν, φαίρεν ἔσθ' ὡς τῇ τῷ σώματι, ὥσπερ ἔσθ' ἀρχὴν ἢ ἐνέργειαν σωματικῇ, ὅθεν ἐπὶ τῷ σώματι ἀδύνατον ὑπερῆχ'· οἷον βαδίζειν ἀνδρῶν πῶν ὥσπερ ἀνεργεῖν ἀδύνατον. οἷον γὰρ αὐτὰς καὶ ταῦτα εἶναι οὖν τι ἀχωρεῖσθαι ὅσας, ἐπὶ ἐν σώματι εἶναι* That all Souls cannot Preexist, is manifest from hence, because those Principles whose Action is Corporeal, cannot possibly exist without the Body, as the Power of Walking without

without the Feet: Wherefore it is impossible that these Sensitive Souls (preexisting) should come into the Body from without, since they can neither come alone by themselves naked and stript of a *ll* Body, they being inseparable from it; neither can they come in with a Body, that is, the *Soul*. This is Aristotle's Argument, why all Sensitive Souls must needs be Corporeal, because there is no Walking without Feet, nor Seeing without Eyes. But at the same time, he declares that the Mind or Intellect does Preexist and come in from without, that is, is Incorporeal, Separable and Immortal, giving his Reason for it in like manner, λέγεται ὁ δὲ τὸν μόνον δύνασθαι ἰπερίναυ, καὶ θεὸν εἶναι μένον· ἐν δὲ αὐτῷ τῇ ἐνεργείᾳ κοινῶν σωματικῇ ἐνεργείᾳ. It remains that the Mind or Intellect, and that alone (preexisting) enter from without and be only Divine; since its Energy is not blended with that of the Bodies, but it acts independently upon it. Notwithstanding which, Aristotle elsewhere distinguishing concerning this Mind or Intellect, and making it to be twofold, Agent, and Patient, concludes the former of them only to be Immortal, but the latter Corruptible, τὸ το μόνον ἀθάνατον καὶ αἰδῶν, ὁ δὲ παθητικὸς τὸς φθαρτὸς, The Agent Intellect is only Immortal and Eternal, but the Passive is Corruptible; where some Interpreters that would willingly excuse Aristotle, contend that by the Passive Intellect, is not meant the Patient, but the Phantasm only, because Aristotle should otherwise contradict himself, who had before affirmed, the Intellect to be Separable, Unmixed and Inorganical, which they conceive must needs be understood of the Patient. But this *salvo* can hardly take place here, where the Passive Intellect is directly opposed to the Agent. Now what Aristotle's Agent Understanding is, and whether it be any thing in us, any Faculty of our Humane Soul or no, seems to be a thing very questionable, and has therefore caused much Dispute amongst his Interpreters; it being resolved by many of them to be the Divine Intellect, and commonly by others, a Foreign Thing. Whence it must needs be left doubtful, whether he acknowledged any thing Incorporeal and Immortal at all in us. And the rather because, laying down this Principle, That nothing is Incorporeal, but what acts independently upon the Body, he somewhere plainly determines, that there is no Intellection without Corporeal Phantasms. That which led Aristotle to all this; positively to affirm the Corporeity of Sensitive Souls, and to stagger so much concerning the Incorporeity of the Rational, seems to have been his Doctrine of Forms and Qualities, whereby Corporeal and Incorporeal Substance are confounded together, so that the Limits of each could not be discerned by him. Wherefore we cannot applaud Aristotle for this; but that which we commend him for, is chiefly these Four things: First, for making a Perfect Incorporeal Intellect to be the Head of all; and Secondly, for resolving that Nature, as an Instrument of this Intellect, does not merely act according to the Necessity of Material Motions, but for Ends and Purposes, though unknown to itself; Thirdly, for maintaining the Naturality of Morality; and Lastly, for asserting the τὸ ἐφ' ἡμῶν, Autexousie, or Liberty from Necessity.





CHAP. II.

In this Chapter are contained all the pretended Grounds of Reason for the Atheistick Hypothesis. 1. That the Democritick Philosophy which is made up of these two Principles, Corporealism and Atomism complicated together, is Essentially Atheistical. 2. Though Epicurus, who was an Atomical-Corporealist, pretended to assert a Democracy of Gods, yet he was, for all that, an Absolute Atheist: And that Atheists commonly Equivocate and Disguise themselves. 3. That the Democritick Philosophy is nothing else but a System of Atheology, or Atheism swagging under the glorious Appearance of Philosophy. And though there be another Form of Atheism which we call Stratonical, yet the Democritick Atheism is only considerable; all whose Dark Mysteries will be here revealed. 4. That we being to treat concerning the Deity, and to produce all that Profane and Unhalloved Stuff of Atheists in order to a Confutation, the Divine Assistance and Direction ought to be implored. 5. That there are Two things here to be performed: First, to shew what are the Atheist's pretended Grounds of Reason against the Deity; and Secondly, how they endeavour either to Salve or Confute the Contrary Phenomena. The First of those Grounds, That no man can have an Idea or Conception of God, and that he is an Incomprehensible Nothing. 6. The Second Atheistick Argument, That there can be no Creation out of Nothing, nor no Omnipotence, because Nothing can come from Nothing, and therefore whatsoever Substantially is, was from Eternity Self-existent, and Uncreated by any Deity. 7. The Third pretended Reason against a Deity, That the Strictest Notion of a God implying him to be Incorporeal, there can be no such Incorporeal Deity, because there is no other Substance but Body. 8. The Atheist's Pretence, That the Doctrine of Incorporeal Substances sprung from a Ridiculous Mistaking of Abstract Names and Notions for Realities. They Impudently make the Deity to be but the Chief of Spectres, and an Oberon or Prince of Fairies and Phancies. Their Fourth Argument against a Deity, That to suppose an Incorporeal Mind to be the Original of all things, is but to make a mere Accident and Abstract Notion to be the First Cause of all. 9. Their Fifth Argument; a Confutation of a Corporeal Deity from the Principles of Corporealism it self, That Matter being the only Substance, and all other Differences of things nothing but Accidents, Generable and Corruptible; no Living Under-

standing

standing Being can be Essentially Incorruptible. The Stoical God Incorruptible, only by Accident. 19. Their Sixth Ratiocination from a Complication of Atomicism; That the First Principle of all things whatsoever in the Universe, is Atoms or Corpuscula devoid of all Qualities, and consequently of Sense and Understanding, (which spring up afterwards from a certain Composition of them) and therefore Mind or Deity was not the First Original of all. 11. In the Seventh place they disprove the Worlds Animation, or its being govern'd by a Living Understanding Animalish Nature, presiding over the Whole; Because Sense and Understanding are a Peculiar Appendix to Flesh Blood and Brains, and Reason is no where to be found but in Humane Form. 12. The Eighth Atheistick Ground, That God being taken by all for a most Happy, Eternal and Immortal Animal, (or Living Being) there can be no such thing, because all Living Beings are Concretions of Atoms that were at first Generated, and are liable to Death and Corruption by the Dissolution of their Compages. And that Life is no simple Primitive Nature, but an Accidental Modification of Compounded Bodies, which upon the Dissolution of their Parts vanisheth into Nothing. 13. The Ninth pretended Atheistick Demonstration, That by God is meant a first Cause or Mover, which was not before moved by any thing else without it; But Nothing can move it self, and therefore there can be no Unmoved Mover, nor any First in the order of Causes, that is, a God. 14. Their further Proof of this Principle, That Nothing can move it self, with an Atheistick Corollary from thence, That no Thinking Being could be a First Cause, no Cogitation arising of it self without a Cause; which may be reckoned a Tenth Argument. 15. Another Mystery of Atheism, That all Knowledge, and Mental Conception, is the Information of the things themselves known, existing without the Knower, and a Passion from them; and therefore the World must needs be before any Knowledge or Conception of it, and no Knowledge or Conception before the World, as its Cause. 16. The Twelfth Argumentation, That things could not be made by a God, because they are so Faulty and Ill made, that they were not contriv'd for the Good of Man, and that the Deluge of Evils, that overflows all, shows that they did not proceed from any Deity. 17. The Thirteenth Instance of the Atheists against a Deity, from the Defect of Providence, That in Humane Affairs all is Tohu and Bohu, Chaos and Confusion. 18. The Fourteenth Atheistick Ground, That it is not possible for any one Being to Animadvert and Order all things in the distant places of the whole World at once: But if it were possible, That such Infinite Negotiosity would be Absolutely Inconsistent with Happiness. 19. Several bold but slight Queries of Atheists, Why the World was not made sooner? and What God did before? Why it was made at all, since it was so long unmade? and, How the Architects of the World could rear up so huge a Fabrick? 20. The Atheists Pretence, That it is the great Interest of Mankind, That there should be no Gods, and that it was a Noble and Heroical Exploit of the Democriticks, to chase away that affrightful Spectre out of the World, and to free men from the continual Fear of a Deity and Punishment after Death, imbittering all the Pleasures of Life. 21. Another Pretence of theirs, That Theism is inconsistent with Civil Sovereign-

ty, it introducing a Fear greater than the Fear of the Leviathan; And that any other Conscience allowed of besides the Civil Law (being Private Judgment) is, ipso facto, a Dissolution of the Body Politick and a Return to the State of Nature. 22. The Atheists Conclusion from the former Premises, as set down in Plato and Lucretius, That all things sprung Originally from Nature and Chance, without any Mind or God, that is, proceeded from the Necessity of Material Motions, undirected for Ends; That Infinite Atoms devoid of Life and Sense, moving in Infinite Space from Eternity, by their fortuitous Recounters and Intanglements, produced the System of the whole Universe, and as well Animate as Inanimate things.

I.  Having in the Former Chapter given an Account of the Genuine and Primitive Atomical Philosophy, which may be called the *Moschical*; we are in the next place to consider the *Democritical*, that is, the *Atheized* and *Adulterated Atomology*. Which had its Origin from nothing else but the joyning of this Heterogeneous and Contradictious Principle, to the Atomical Physiology, *That there is no other Substance in the World besides Body*. Now we say, That that Philosophy which is thus compounded and made up of these Two things, *Atomicism* and *Corporealism* complicated together, is essentially Atheistical, though neither of them alone be such. For the Atomical Physiology, as we have declared already, is in its own Nature sufficiently repugnant to Atheism. And it is possible for one who holds, *That there is Nothing in the world besides Body*, to be persuaded notwithstanding of a *Corporeal Deity*, and that the world was at first framed and is still governed by an *Understanding Nature* lodged in the Matter. For thus some of these Corporealists have phancied, The whole Universe it self to be a God, that is, an *Understanding and Wise Animal*, that ordered all things within it self, after the Best manner possible, and providently governed the same. Indeed it cannot be denied, but that this is a very great Infirmary of mind, that such Persons lie under, who are not able to conceive any other Substance besides Body, by which is understood, that which is *Impenetrably Extended*, or else in Plato's Language, which hath *περσφωδις ἡ ἐκτασις*, that thrusts against other Bodies and resists their impulse; or as others express it, which is *τὴν ἀπορρητικὴν*, that fills up place, as to exclude any other Body or Substance from Coexisting with it therein; and such must needs have not only very imperfect, but also Spurious and false Conceptions of the Deity, so long as they apprehend it to be thus Corporeal; but yet it does not therefore follow that they must needs be accounted Atheists. But whosoever holds these two Principles (before mentioned) together, *That there is no other Substance besides Body*, and *That Body hath nothing else belonging to it but Magnitude, Figure, Site and Motion, without Qualities*, I say, whosoever is *That confounded Thing*, of an *Atomist* and *Corporealist* jumbled together, he is Essentially and Unavoidably that which is meant by an Atheist, though he should in words never so much disclaim it, because he must needs fetch the Original of all things

things from *Sensless Matter*, whereas to assert a God, is to maintain that all things sprung Originally from a *Knowing and Understanding Nature*.

II. *Epicurus*, who was one of those Mongrel Things before mentioned, (an Atomic-Corporealist or Corporeal-Atomist) did notwithstanding profess to hold a Multifarious Rabble and Democracy of Gods, such as though they were ἀνθρωπομορφοί, of *Humane Form*, yet were so Thin and Subtle, as that Comparatively with our Terrestrial Bodies they might be called *Incorporeal*; they having not so much *Carnem* as *Quasi-carnem*, nor *Sanguinem* as *Quasi-sanguinem*, a certain kind of *Aereal or Ethereal Flesh and Blood*: which Gods of his were not to be supposed to exist any where within the World, upon this pretence, that there was no place in it fit to receive them,

*Illud item non est ut possis credere Sedes
Esse Deum Sanctas, in Mundi partibus nullis.*

And therefore they must be imagined to Subsist in certain *Intermundane Spaces*, and *Utopian Regions* without the World, the Delicousness whereof is thus Elegantly described by the Poet,

*Quos neque concutiunt Venti, neque Nubila nimbi
Adspargunt, neque nix acri concreta pruina
Cana cadens violat, semperque innubilis Æther
Integit, & large diffuso lumine ridet.*

Whereunto was added, that the chief Happiness of these Gods consisted, in *Omnium Vacatione Munerum*, in freedom from all *Business and Employment*, and doing nothing at all, that so they might live a Soft and Delicate life. And lastly, it was pretended, that though they had neither any thing to do with us, nor we with them, yet they ought to be worshipped by us for their own Excellent Natures sake, and Happy State.

But whosoever had the least Sagacity in him could not but perceive, that this Theology of *Epicurus* was but Romantical, it being directly Contrary to his avowed and professed Principles, to admit of any other Being then what was Concreted of Atoms, and consequently Corruptible; and that he did this upon a Politick Account, thereby to decline the Common *Odium*, and those Dangers and Inconveniences which otherwise he might have incurred by a downright denial of a God, to which purpose it accordingly served his turn. Thus *Possidonius* rightly pronounced, *Nullos esse Deos Epicuro videri; quæque de Diis immortalibus dixerit, Invidiæ detestandæ gratiâ dixisse*. Though he was partly Jocular in it also, it making no small Sport to him, in this manner, to delude and mock the credulous Vulgar. *Deos Jocandæ causâ induxit Epicurus periculosos & perscrutabiles, & habitantes tanquam inter duos Litos, sic inter duos Mundos propter metum ruinarum*. However if *Epicurus* had been never so much in Earnest in all this, yet by *Gassendus* his leave, we should pronounce him to have been not a jot the less

less an Atheist, so long as he maintained, that the whole World was made *μὴδὲς διατάξις ἢ διατάξις τὴν πᾶσαν μακροχρόνιον ἔχοντες μὴ ἀφαιεῖται*, without the ordering and direction of any Understanding Being that was perfectly happy and immortal, and fetcht the original of all things in the Universe, even of Soul and Mind, *ἀπὸ τῆς ἀτιμῆς πᾶσι δὲ ἀπερίσταν ἐν τοῖς αἰῶσι τὴν κίνησιν*, from senseless Atoms fortuitously moved. He together with Democritus hereby making the World to be, in the worst Sence, *ἡν ἡ νύκτις*, an *Edge of the Night*, that is, not the off-spring of Mind and Understanding, but of dark Senseless Matter, of *Tobu* and *Boku*, or Confused *Chaos* ; and deriving the Original of all the Perfections in the Universe, from the most Imperfect Being and the lowest of all Entities, than which nothing can be more Atheistical. And as for those Romantick Monogrammous Gods of Epicurus, had they been Seriously believed by him, they could have been nothing else but a certain kind of *Aerial* and *Spectrous Aen*, living by themselves, no Body knows where, without the World ; *ἐκίναται ὡς μὴ πρὸς τὴν πολλὰς ἀπολείπει οὐδὲν ὡς ὃ πρὸς τὴν φαντασίαν*, Epicurus according to *Vulgar Opinion* leaves a God, but according to the Nature of things none at all.

And as Epicurus so other Atheists in like manner, have commonly had their Vizards and Disguises; Atheism for the most part prudently chusing to walk abroad in Masquerade. And though some over-credulous Persons have been so far imposed upon hereby, as to conclude that there was hardly any such thing as an Atheist any where in the World, yet they that are Sagacious, may easily look through these thin Veils and Disguises, and perceive these Atheists oftentimes insinuating their Atheism even then, when they most of all profess themselves Theists, by affirming that it is impossible to have any *Idea* or *Conception* at all of God, and that as he is not *Finite* so he cannot be *Infinite*, and that no Knowledge or Understanding is to be attributed to him, which is in effect to say, that there is no such thing. But whosoever entertains the Democritick Principles, that is, both rejects Forms and Qualities of Body, and makes all things to be Body, though he pretend never so much to hold a *Corporeal Deity*, yet he is not at all to be believed in it, it being a thing plainly Contradictious to those Principles.

III. Wherefore this Mongrel Philosophy, which *Leucippus*, *Democritus* and *Protagoras*, were the Founders of, and which was entertained afterwards by Epicurus, that makes (as *Laertius* writes) *ἀρχὴς τῆς ὅλης ἀτιμῆς*, senseless Atoms to be the first Principles, not only of all Bodies (for that was a thing admitted before by *Empedocles* and other Atomists that were Theists) but also of *All things whatsoever* in the whole Universe, and therefore of Soul and Mind too ; this, I say, was really nothing else but a Philosophical Form of *Atheology*, a Gigantical and Titanical Attempt, to dethrone the Deity, not only by Salving all the *Phænomena* of the World without a God, but also by laying down such Principles, from whence it must needs follow, that there could be neither an Incorporeal nor Corporeal Deity. It was Atheism openly Swaggering, under the glorious Appearance of Wisdom and Philosophy.

There is indeed another Form of Atheism, which (insisting on the Vulgar way of Philosophizing by Forms and Qualities) we for distinction sake shall call *Stratonical*; such as being too modest and shame-faced to fetch all things from the Fortuitous Motion of Atoms, would therefore allow to the several Parts of Matter, a certain Kind of *Natural* (though not *Animal*) *Perception*, such as is devoid of *Reflexive Consciousness*, together with a *Plastick power*, whereby they may be able *Artificially* and *Methodically* to Form and Frame themselves to the best advantage of their Respective Capabilities; something like to *Aristotle's* Nature, but that it hath no dependence at all upon any higher Mind or Deity. And these Atheists may be also called *Hylonoick* (as the other *Atomick*) because they derive all things in the whole Universe, not only Sensitive but also Rational Souls, together with the Artificial Frame of Animals, from the *Life* of the *Matter*. But this kind of Atheism seems to be but an unhappan *Embryo* of some Dark and Cloudy Brains that was never yet digested into an entire System, nor could be brought into any such tolerable Form, as to have the confidence to shew it self abroad in full and open View. But the *Democritik* and *Atomick Atheism*, as it is the boldest and rankest of all Atheisms, it not only undertaking to save all *Phænomena* by Matter Fortuitously moved, without a God, but also to demonstrate that there cannot be so much as a *Corporeal Deity*; so it is that alone which pretending to an entire and coherent System, hath publickly appeared upon the Stage, and therefore doth in a manner only deserve our Consideration.

And now we shall exhibit a full View and Prospect of it, and discover all its *Dark Mysteries* and *Profundities*; we being much of this Perswasion, that a plain and naked Representation of them, will be a great part of a Confutation; at least, not doubting but it will be made to appear, that though this Monster, big-swoln with a Puffy shew of Wisdom, strut and stalk so Gigantically, and march with such a kind of stately Philosophick Grandeur, yet it is indeed but like the Giant *Orgoglio*, in our English Poet, a mere *Empty Bladder*, blown up with vain Conceit, an *Empusa*, *Phantasm*, or *Spéctre*, the Off-spring of Night and Darknes, Non-sence and Contradiction.

And yet for all that we shall not wrong it the least in our Representation, but give it all possible Advantages of Strength and Plausibility, that so the Atheists may have no Cause to pretend (as they are wont to do in such Cases) that either we did not understand their Mysteries nor apprehend the full strength of their Cause, or else did purposely smother and conceal it. Which indeed we have been so far from, that we must confess we were not altogether unwilling, this business of theirs should look a little like something that might deserve a Confutation. And whether the Atheists ought not rather to give us Thanks for Mending and Improving their Arguments, then complain that we have any way Embaird them, we shall leave it to the Censure of impartial Judgments.

IV. *Plato* tells us that even amongst those Pagans in his time, there was generally such a Religious Humor, that πάντες οὐκ ἄν' ἀπαρ-
χοῦντες μελέων, ἐπὶ πᾶσι ἐμὴ καὶ σμικρὰ καὶ μεγάλα πρᾶγμα, *ὅταν δὲ πρὸς ἐπιχειρήσῃ· Whosoever had but the least of Seriousness and So-*
briety in them, whensoever they took in hand any Enterprize, whether
great or small, they would always invoke the Deity for Assistance and Di-
rection. Adding moreover that himself should be very faulty, if in
his *Timæus*, when he was to treat about so grand a point, concerning
the whole World, εἰ γὰρ οὐκ ἔγνω, whether it were made or
unmade, he should not make his Entrance thereinto by a Religious
Invocation of the Deity. Wherefore certainly, it could not be less
than a piece of Impiety in a Christian, being to treat concerning the
Deity it self, and to produce all that Prophane and Unhallowed stuff
of Atheists, out of their Dark Corners, in order to a Confutation, and
the better Confirmation of our Faith in the Truth of his Existence,
not to implore his Direction and Assistance. And I know no Reason
but that we may well do it in that same Litany of *Plato's*, καὶ νῦν ἐ-
κτίσθαι μετὰ μακάρις, ὑπομνήσας τὴν ἑαυτοῦ φύσιν, *that we may first speak agreeably*
to his own mind or becomingly of his Nature, and then conjunctaneously
with our Selves.

V. Now there are these two things here to be performed by us,
First, to discover and produce the Chief Heads of Arguments or
Grounds of Reason, insisted on by the Atheists to disprove a Deity,
evincing withall briefly the Ineffectualness and Falseness of them.
And Secondly, to shew how they Endeavour either to Confute or
Salve, consistently with their own Principles, all those *Phænomena*
which are commonly urg'd against them, to prove a Deity and Incor-
poreal Substance; manifesting likewise the Invalidity thereof.

The grounds of Reason alledged for the Atheistical Hypothesis are
chiefly these that follow. First, That we have no *Idea of God*, and
therefore can have no Evidence of him; which Argument is further
flourish'd and descanted upon in this manner. That Notion or Con-
ception of a Deity, that is commonly entertained, is nothing but a
Bundle of Incomprehensibles, Unconceivables, and Impossibles; it
being only a compilement of all Imaginable Attributes of Honour,
Courtship, and Complement, which the Confounded Fear, and Asto-
nishment of Mens minds, made them huddle up together, without
any Sense or Philosophick Truth: This seems to be intimated by a
Modern Writer in these words; *The Attributes of God signifie not True*
nor False, nor any Opinion of our Brain, but the Reverence and De-
votion of our Hearts, and therefore they are not sufficient Premises to
infer Truth or convince Falshood. And the same thing again is further
set out, with no small pretence to wit, after this manner; *They that*
venture to dispute Philosophically or reason of God's Nature from
these Attributes of Honour, losing their Understanding in the
very first attempt, fall from one Inconvenience into another
without end, and without number; In the same manner as when one
ignorant of the Ceremonies of Court, coming into the presence of a greater

Person than he is used to speak to, and stumbling at his Entrance, to save himself from falling lets slip his Cloak to recover his Cloak lets fall his Hat, and with one disorder after another discovers his Astonishment and Rusticity. The meaning of which, and other like passages of the same Writer, seem to be this; That the Attributes of God (by which his Nature is supposed to be expressed) having no Philosophick Truth or Reality in them, had their only Original from a certain Rustick Astonishment of Mind, proceeding from excess of Fear, raising up the Phantasm of a Deity, as a Bug-bear for an Object to it self, and affrighting men into all manner of Confounded Non-sence, and Absurdity of Expressions concerning it, such as have no signification, nor any Conception of the Mind answering to them. This is the First Argument, used especially by our modern Democriticks, against a Deity, That because they can have no *Phantastick Idea* of it, nor fully comprehend all that is included in the Notion thereof, that therefore it is but an *Incomprehensible Nothing*.

V I. Secondly, Another Argument much insisted on by the old Democritick Atheists, is directed against the Divine *Omnipotence* and *Creative Power*, after this manner. By God is always understood a Creatour of something or other out of Nothing. For however the Theists be here divided amongst themselves, Some of them believing that there was once Nothing at all existing in this whole Space which is now occupied by the World, besides the Deity, and that he was then a Solitary Being, so that the Substance of the whole Corporeal Universe had a Temporary Beginning, and Novity of Existence, and the Duration of it hath now continued but for so many years only. Others perswading themselves, that though the Matter and Substance at least, (if not the Form also) of the Corporeal World, did exist from Eternity, yet nevertheless, they both alike proceeded from the Deity by way of Emanation, and do continually depend upon it, in the same manner as Light, though coeue with the Sun, yet proceeded from the Sun, and depends upon it, being always, as it were, Made A-new by it; Wherefore, according to this *Hypothesis*, though things had no Antecedent Non-Entity in Time, yet they were as little of themselves, and owed all their Being as much to the Deity, as if they had been once Actually Nothing, they being as it were perpetually Created out of Nothing by it. Lastly, Others of those Theists resolving, that the Matter of the Corporeal Universe was not only from Eternity, but also Self-existent and Uncreated, or Independent upon any Deity as to its Being; But yet the Forms and Qualities of all Inanimate Bodies, together with the Souls of all Animals, in the successive Generations of them, (being taken for Entities distinct from the Matter) were Created by the Deity out of Nothing. We say, though there be such Difference amongst the Theists themselves, yet they all agree in this, that God is in some Sence or other, the Creatour of some Real Entity out of Nothing, or the Cause of that which otherwise would not have been Of it self, so that no Creation out of Nothing, (in that enlarged sence) no Deity. Now it is utterly impossible that any

any Substance or Real Entity should be Created out of Nothing, it being Contradictious to that indubitable Axiom of Reason, *De Nihilo Nihil, From Nothing Nothing*. The Argument is thus urged by *Lucretius*, according to the Minds of *Epicurus* and *Democritus*.

*Principium hinc cujus nobis Exordia sumet,
Nullam rem è Nihilo gigni Divinitus unquam.
Quippe ità Formido Mortales continet omnes;
Quod multa in Terris Mori Caeloque tuentur,
Quorum operum Causas nullà ratione videre
Possunt; ac fieri Divino Numine rentur:
Quas ob res, ubi viderimus Nil posse Creari
De Nihilo, tum quodsequimur, jam tutius inde
Perspicimus, & unde queat res queque Creari,
Et quo queque modo fiant opera sine Divum.*

It is true indeed that it seems to be chiefly level'd by the Poet against that Third and last sort of Theists before mentioned, such as *Heracitus* and the *Stoicks*, (which latter were Contemporary with *Epicurus*) who held the Matter of the whole World to have been from Eternity of it self Uncreated, but yet the Forms of Mundane things in the successive Generations of them (as Entities distinct from the Matter) to be Created or made by the Deity out of Nothing. But the force of the Argument must needs lie stronger against those other Theists, who would have the very Substance and Matter it self of the World, as well as the Forms, to have been created by the Deity out of Nothing. Since Nothing can come out of Nothing, it follows, that not so much as the Forms and Qualities of Bodies (conceiv'd as Entities really distinct from the Matter) much less the Lives and Souls of Animals, could ever have been Created by any Deity, and therefore certainly, not the Substance and Matter it self: But all Substance, and Real Entity, whatsoever is in the World, must needs have been from Eternity, Uncreated and Self-existent. Nothing can be Made or Produced but only the different Modifications of Preexistent Matter. And this is done by Motions, Mixtures and Separations, Concretions and Secretions of Atoms, without the Creation of any Real distinct Entity out of Nothing; so that there needs no Deity for the Effecting of it, according to that of *Epicurus*, *ἡ θεὰ φύσις πρὸς τὰ αὐτὰ μὴ δυνάμει τεσσάρηδω*, *No Divine Power ought to be call'd in, for the salving of those Phenomena*. To Conclude therefore, If no Substance, nor Real Entity can be made, which was not before, but all whatsoever Is, Will be, and Can be, was from Eternity Self-existent, then *Creative Power*, but especially, that Attribute of *Omnipotence*, can belong to nothing, and this is all one as to say, There can be no Deity.

VII. Thirdly the Atheists argue against the stricter and higher sort of Theists, who will have God to be the Creatour of the whole Corporal Universe and all its Parts out of Nothing, after this manner; That which Created the whole Mass of Matter and Body, cannot be it self Body, Wherefore this Notion of God plainly implies

him to be Incorporeal. But there can be no Incorporeal Deity, because by that word must needs be understood, either that which hath no Magnitude nor Extension at all, or else that which is indeed extended, but otherwise than Body. If the Word be taken in the former sence, then nothing at all can be so Incorporeal, as to be altogether Unextended and devoid of Geometrical Quantity, because Extension is the very Essence of all *Existent, Entity*, and that which is altogether unextended is perfectly Nothing. There can neither be any Substance nor Mode or Accident of any Substance, no Nature whatsoever Unextended. But if the Word Incorporeal be taken in the latter sence, for that which is indeed Extended but otherwise than Body, namely so as to penetrate Bodies and coexist with them, this is also a thing next to Nothing, since it can neither act upon any other thing, nor be acted upon by, or sensible of, any thing; It can neither do nor Suffer any thing.

Nam facere & fungi nisi Corpus nulla potest res.

Wherefore to speak plainly, this can be nothing else but empty Space, or *Vacuum*, which runs through all things, without laying hold on any thing, or being affected from any thing. This is the only *Incorporeal thing*, that is or can be in Nature, Space or Place; and therefore to suppose an *Incorporeal Deity* is to make *Empty Space* to be the Creatour of all Things.

This Argument is thus proposed by the Epicurean Poet.

————— *Quodcumque erit esse aliquid debet id ipsum*
Angine vel grandi vel parvo ———
Cui si Talis erit, quamvis levis exiguisque,
Corporum angebit numerum Summamque sequetur :
Sin Intabile erit, nulla de parte quod ullam
Rem prohibere queat per se transire meantem,
Scilicet hoc id erit Vacuum quod Inane vocamus.

Whatsoever is, is Extended or hath Geometrical Quantity and Mensurability in it; which if it be Tangible, then it is Body, and fills up a Place in the World, being part of the whole Mass; but if it be Intangible, so that it cannot resist the Passage of any thing thorough it, then it is nothing else but empty Space or Vacuum. There is no Third thing besides these Two, and therefore whatsoever is not Body, is empty Space or Nothing,

————— *Præter Inane & Corpora Tertia per se,*
Nulla potest rerum in numero Natura relinqui.

Thus the Ancient Epicureans and Democriticks argued; there being nothing Incorporeal but Space, there can be no Incorporeal Deity.

But because this seems to give Advantage to the Theists, in making Space Something, or that which hath a Real Nature or Entity with-
 out

out our Conception, from whence it will follow, that it must needs be either it self a Substance, or else a Mode of some Incorporeal Substance, the Modern Democriticks are here more cautious, and make Space to be no Nature really existing without us, but only the Phantasm of a Body, and as it were the *Ghost* of it, which has no Reality without our Imagination. So that there are not two Natures of Body, and Space, which must needs infer two distinct Substances, one whereof must be Incorporeal, but only One Nature of Body. The Consequence of which will be this; That an Incorporeal Substance is all one with an *Incorporeal Body*, and therefore Nothing.

VIII. But because it is generally conceived that an Error cannot be sufficiently confuted, without discovering *τὸ αἴτιον τῆς ᾧδούρας*, the Cause of the Mistake, therefore the Atheists will in the next place undertake to shew likewise, the Original of this Doctrine of Incorporeal Substances, and from what Misapprehension it sprung, as also take occasion from thence, further to disprove a Deity:

Wherefore they say, that the Original of this Doctrine of Incorporeal Substances proceeded chiefly from the Abuse of *Abstract Names*, both of Substances (whereby the Essences of singular Bodies, as of a Man or an Horse, being Abstracted from those Bodies themselves, are consider'd Universally) as also of Accidents when they are consider'd alone without their Subjects or Substances. The latter of which is a thing, that Men have been necessitated to, in order to the Computation or Reckoning of the Properties of Bodies, the Comparing of them with one another, the Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying and Dividing of them, which could not be done, so long as they are taken Concretely, together with their Subjects. But yet, as there is some Use of those Abstract Names, so the Abuse of them has been also very great; Forasmuch as, though they be really the *Names of Nothing*, since the Essence of this and that Man is not any thing without the Man, nor is an Accident any thing without its Substance, yet men have been led into a gross mistake by them, to imagine them to be Realities existing by themselves. Which Insatiation hath chiefly proceeded from Scholasticks, who have been so intemperate in the use of these Words, that they could not make a Rational Discourse of any thing, though never so small, but they must stuff it with their Quiddities, Entities, Essences, Hæccities and the like. Wherefore these are they, who being first deluded themselves, have also deluded the World, introducing an Opinion into the Minds of Men, that the Essence of every thing is something without that thing it self, and also Eternal, and therefore when any thing is Made or Generated, that there is no new Being produced, but only an antecedent and Eternal Essence clothed (as it were) with a new Garment of Existence. As also that the mere Accidents of Bodies may exist alone by themselves without their Substances. As for Example, that the Life, Sense and Understanding of Animals, commonly call'd by the Names of Soul and Mind, may exist without the Bodies or Substances of them by themselves, after the Animals are dead; which plainly makes them to be Incorporeal Substances, as it were the *separate*

rate and Abstract Essences of Men. This hath been observed by a Modern Writer in these words; *Est Hominum Abstractorum tum in omni Vita, tum in Philosophia, magnus & Usus & Abusus: Abusus in eo consistit, quod cum videant aliqui, Considerari posse, id est, inferri in Rationes, Accidentium Incrementa & Decrementa, sine Consideratione Corporum, sive Subjectorum suorum, (id quod appellatur Abstrahere) loquuntur de Accidentibus, tanquam possent ab omni Corpore Separari: Hinc enim Originem trahunt quorundam Metaphysicorum crassi Errores. Nam ex eo, quod Considerari potest Cogitatio, sine consideratione Corporis, inferre solent non esse Opus Corporis Cogitantis. It is a great Abuse that some Metaphysicians make of these Abstract Names, because Cogitation can be considered alone without the consideration of Body, therefore to conclude that it is not the Action or Accident of that Body that thinks, but a Substance by it self. And the same Writer elsewhere observes, That it is upon this Ground, that when a Man is dead and buried, they say his Soul (that is, his Life) can walk, separated from his Body, and is seen by night amongst the Graves. By which means the Vulgar are confirmed in their Superstitious Belief, of Ghosts, Spirits, Demons, Devils, Fayries and Hob-goblins, Invisible Powers and Agents, called by several Names, and that by those Persons whose work it ought to be, rather to free men from such Superstition. Which Belief at first had another Original, not altogether unlike the former; Namely from mens mistaking their own Phancies for Things Really existing without them. For as in the sense of Vision, men are commonly deceived, in supposing the Image behind the Glass to be a Real thing existing without themselves, whereas it is indeed nothing but their own Phancy; In like manner when the Minds of Men strongly possess'd with Fear, especially in the Dark, raise up the Phantasms of Spectres, Bug-bears, or Affrightful Apparitions to them, they think them to be Objects really existing without them, and call them Ghosts and Spirits, whilst they are indeed nothing but their own Phancies; So the Phantasm or Phancy of a Deity (which is indeed the Chief of all Spectres) created by Fear, has upon no other Accompt, been taken for a Reality. To this purpose a Modern Writer, From the Fear that proceeds from the Ignorance it self, of what it is that hath the Power to do men Good or Harm, men are inclined to suppose and Feign to themselves, several kinds of Powers Invisible, and to stand in awe of their own Imaginations, and in time of Distress to invoke them, as also in the time of an expected good Success, to give them thanks, making the Creatures of their own Fancies, their Gods. Which though it be prudently spoken in the Plural Number, that so it might be diverted and put off to the Heathen Gods, yet he is very simple, that does not perceive the reason of it to be the same concerning that one Deity, which is now commonly worshipped, and that therefore this also is but the Creature of Mens Fear and Phancie, the Chief of all Phantastick Ghosts and Spectres, as it were an Oberon or Prince of Fayries and Phancies. This (we say) was the first Original of that Vulgar Belief of Invisible Powers, Ghosts, and Gods; mens taking their own Phancies for Things really Existing without them. And as for the Matter and Substance of these Ghosts, they could not by their own natural Cogitation fall into any other Conceit, but that it was the same,*

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with that which appeareth in a Dream to one that sleepeth, or in a Looking-glass to one that is awake, *Thin Aerial Bodies*, which may appear and vanish when they please. But the Opinion, that such Spirits were Incorporeal and Immaterial, could never enter into the minds of men by Nature, Unabused by Doctrine; but it sprung up from those deceiving and deceived *Literati*, Scholasticks, Philosophers, and Theologers enchanting mens Understandings, and making them believe, that the Abstract Notions of Accidents and Essences could exist alone by themselves, without the Bodies, as certain Separate and Incorporeal Substances.

To Conclude therefore, To make an Incorporeal Mind to be the Cause of all things, is to make our own Phancie, an Imaginary Ghost of the World, to be a Reality; and to suppose the mere *Abstract Notion* of an *Accident*, and a *Separate Essence*, to be not only an Absolute thing by it self, and a Real Substance Incorporeal, but also the first Original of all Substances, and of whatsoever is in the Universe. And this may be reckon'd for a Fourth Atheistick Ground:

I X. Fifthly, the Atheists pretend further to prove, that there is no other Substance in the World besides Body, as also from the Principles of Corporealism it self, to evince that there can be no Corporeal Deity, after this manner: No man can devise any other Notion of Substance, than that it is a thing Extended, existing without the Mind, not Imaginary but Real and Solid Magnitude; For whatsoever is not Extended, is Nowhere and Nothing. So that *Res Extensa*, is the only Substance, the solid *Basis* and *Substratum* of all. Now this is the very self-same thing with Body; For *adhærensia*, or *Resistance* seems to be a necessary Consequence and Result from Extension, and they that think otherwise, can show no reason why Bodies may not also penetrate one another, as some Corporealists think they do; From whence it is inferred, that Body or Matter is the only Substance of all things. And whatsoever else is in the World, that is, all the Differences of Bodies, are nothing but several Accidents and Modifications of this Extended Substance, Body or Matter. Which Accidents, though they may be sometimes call'd by the names of Real Qualities, and Forms, and though there be different apprehensions concerning them amongst Philosophers, yet generally they agree in this, that there are these two Properties belonging to them; First, that none of them can subsist alone by themselves, without Extended Substance or Matter, as the *Basis* and Support of them: And Secondly, that they may be all destroyed without the Destruction of any Substance. Now as Blackness and Whiteness, Heat and Cold, so likewise Life, Sense and Understanding, are such Accidents, Modifications or Qualities of Body, that can neither exist by themselves, and may be destroyed without the Destruction of any Substance or Matter. For if the Parts of the Body of any Living Animal be disunited and separated from one another, or the Organical Disposition of the Matter alter'd, those Accidents, Forms or Qualities, of Life and Understanding, will presently vanish away to Nothing; all the Substance of the Matter still remaining one where or other

other in the Universe entire, and Nothing of it lost. Wherefore the Substance of Matter and Body, as distinguished from the Accidents, is the only thing in the world that is Uncorruptible and Undestroyable. And of this it is to be understood that Nothing can be made out of Nothings, and Destroyed to Nothing, (*i. e.*) that every entire thing that is Made or Generated, must be made of some preexistent Matter; which Matter was from Eternity, Self-existent and Unmade, and is also undestroyable, and can never be reduc'd to Nothing. It is not to be understood of the Accidents themselves, that are all Makeable and Destroyable, Generable and Corruptible. Whatsoever is in the World is but *ὡς πρὸς ἕχρον*, Matter *so and so Modified or Qualified*, all which Modifications and Qualifications of Matter are in their own nature Destroyable, and the Matter it self (as the *Basis* of them, not necessarily determin'd to this or that Accident) is the only *ἀχώριστος καὶ ἀνάλλετος*, the only Necessarily Existent. The Conclusion therefore is, that no Animal, no Living Understanding Body, can be Absolutely and Essentially Incorruptible, this being an Incommunicable Property of the Matter, and therefore there can be no Corporeal Deity, the Original of all things, Essentially Undestroyable.

Though the *Stoicks* imagined the whole Corporeal Universe to be an Animal or Deity, yet this Corporeal God of theirs was only by Accident Incorruptible and Immortal, because they supposed, that there was no other Matter, which existing without this World, and making Inroads upon it, could disunite the Parts of it or disorder its Compages. Which if there were, the Life and Understanding of this Stoical God, or great Mundane Animal, as well as that of other Animals in like Cases, must needs vanish into nothing. Thus from the Principles of Corporealism it self, it plainly follows that there can be no Corporeal Deity, because the Deity is supposed to be *ἀχώριστος καὶ ἀνάλλετος*, a thing that was never made, and is Essentially Undestroyable, which are the Privileges and Properties of nothing but Senseless Matter.

X. In the next place, the Atheists undertake more effectually to confute that Corporeal God of the *Stoicks* and others, from the Principles of the Atomical Philosophy, in this manner. All Corporeal Theists who assert that an Understanding Nature or Mind, residing in the Matter of the whole Universe, was the first Original of the Mundane System, and did Intellectually frame it, betray no small Ignorance of Philosophy and the Nature of Body, in supposing Real Qualities, besides Magnitude, Figure, Site and Motion, as Simple and Primitive things, to belong to it; and that there was such a Quality or Faculty of Understanding in the Matter of the whole Universe, coeternal with the same, that was an Original thing Uncompounded and Underived from any thing else. Now to suppose such Original Qualities and Powers, which are Really Distinct from the Substance of Extended Matter and its Modifications, of Divisibility, Figure, Site and Motion, is Really to suppose so many Distinct Substances, which therefore must needs be Incorporeal.

poreal. So that these Philosophers fall unawares into that very thing which they are so abhorrent from. For this Quality or Faculty of Understanding, in the Matter of the Universe, Original and underv'd from any other thing, can be indeed nothing else but an Incorporeal Substance. *Epicurus* suggested a Caution against this Vulgar Mistake concerning Qualities to this purpose. *Non sic cogitande sunt Qualitates, quasi sint quedam per se existentes Natura seu Substantia, siquidem id mente assequi non licet; sed solummodo ut variis modi sese habendi Corporis, considerande sunt.*

Body, as such, hath nothing else belonging to the Nature of it, but what is included in the *Idea* of Extended Substance, Divisibility, Figure, Site, Motion or Rest, and the Results from the various Compositions of them, causing different Phancies; Wherefore, as vulgar Philosophers make their first Matter (which they cannot well tell what they mean by it) because it receives all Qualities, to be it self devoid of all Quality; So we conclude that Atoms (which are really the first Principles of all things) have none of those Qualities in them which belong to compounded Bodies; they are not absolutely of themselves Black or White, Hot or Cold, Moist or dry, Bitter or Sweet, all these things arising up afterwards, from the various Aggregations and Contextures of them, together with different Motions. Which *Lucretius* confirms by this reason, agreeable to the Tenour of the Atomical Philosophy, That if there were any such Real Qualities in the first Principles, then in the various Corruptions of Nature, things would at last be all reduc'd to Nothing:

*Immutabile enim quiddam superare necesse est
Nè res ad Nihilum redigantur funditis omnes;
Proinde Calore cave contingas semina rerum,
Nè tibi res redeant ad Nilum funditis omnes.*

Wherefore he concludes, that it must not be thought, that White things are made out of White Principles, nor Black things out of Black Principles,

——— *Nè ex Albis Alba rearis
Principiis esse, ———
Aut ea quæ nigrant, nigro de semine nata:
Neve alium quemvis quæ sunt induta colorem.
Propterea gerere hunc credas, quod materiali
Corpora consimili sint ejus tincta colore;
Nullus enim Color est omnino materiali
Corporibus, neque par rebus, neque denique dispar.*

Adding that the same is to be resolv'd likewise concerning all other Sensible Qualities as well as Colours.

*Sed nè fortè putes solo spoliata colore
Corpora prima manere: etiam secreta Teporis
Sunt, ac Frigoris omnino, Calidique Vaporis:*

*Et sonitu sterila, & Succo jejuna feruntur,
Nec jaciunt ullum proprio de corpore Odorem.*

Lastly he tells us in like manner that the same is to be understood also concerning Life, Sense and Understanding, that there are no such simple Qualities or Natures in the first Principles, out of which Animals are compounded, but that these are in themselves altogether devoid of Life, Sense and Understanding.

*Nunc ea, quæ Sentire videmus cunque, necesse 'st
Ex Insensibilibus tamen omnia conficere
Principiis constare: neque id manifesta refutant;
Sed magis ipsa manu ducunt, & credere cogunt,
Ex insensibilibus, quod dico, Animalia gigni.
Quippe videre licet, vivos existere vermes.
Stercore de tetro, putrorem cum sibi nata 'st
Intempestivis ex imbris humida tellus.*

All Sensitive and Rational Animals are made of Irrational and Senseless Principles, which is proved by Experience, in that we see Worms are made out of putrified Dung, moistened with immoderate Showers.

Some indeed, who are no greater Friends to a Deity than our selves, will needs have that Sense and Understanding that is in Animals and Men, to be derived from an Antecedent Life and Understanding in the Matter. But this cannot be, because if Matter as such, had Life and Understanding in it, then every Atom of Matter must needs be a Distinct Percipient, Animal, and Intelligent Person by it self; and it would be impossible for any such Men and Animals as now are, to be compounded out of them, because every Man would be, *Variorum Animalculorum Accruius*, a Heap of Innumerable Animals and Percipients.

Wherefore as all the other Qualities of Bodies, so likewise Life, Sense, and Understanding arise from the different Contextures of Atoms devoid of all those Qualities, or from the Composition of those simple Elements of *Magnitudes, Figures, Sites and Motions*, in the same manner as from a few Letters variously compounded, all that Infinite Variety of Syllables and Words is made,

*Quin etiam refert nostris in versibus ipsis
Cum quibus & quali Positura contineantur;
Namque eadem Cælum, Mare, Terræ, Flumina, Solem
Significant, eadem, fruges, arbuscæ, animantes;
Sic ipsi in rebus item jam materiai
Intervalla, viæ, connexus, pondera, plage,
Concurfus, motus, ordo, Positura, Figure,
Cum permutantur mutari res quoque debent.*

From the Fortuitous Concretions of *Senseless Unknowing* Atoms, did rise up afterwards, in certain parts of the World called Animals, *Soul*,
and

and *Mind, Sense and Understanding, Counsel and Wisdom.* But to think that there was any *Animalisb Nature* before all these *Animals*, or that there was an antecedent *Mind and Understanding, Counsel and Wisdom*, by which all *Animals* themselves, together with the whole *World*, were made and contrived, is either to run round in a *Senseless Circle*, making *Animals and Animality* to be before one another infinitely; or else to suppose an impossible Beginning of an Original Understanding Quality in the Matter. Atoms in their first Coalitions together, when the *World* was a making, were not then directed by any previous Counsel or preventive Understanding; which were things as yet *Unborn and Unmade*,

*Nam certè neq; consilio Primordia rerum
Ordine se quæque atque sagaci mente locarunt,
Nec quos quæque darent motus, pepigere profectò.*

Mind and Understanding, Counsel and Wisdom did not lay the Foundations of the Universe, they are no *Archical things*, that is; they have not the Nature of a *Principle* in them, they are not *Simple, Original, Primitive and Primordial*, but as all other Qualities of Bodies, *Secondary, Compounded and Derivative*, and therefore they could not be *Architelonical* of the *World. Mind and Understanding* is no *God*, but the *Creature of Matter and Motion*.

The sense of this whole Argument is briefly this; The first Principle of all things in the whole Universe is Matter, or Atoms devoid of all Qualities, and consequently of all Life, Sense and Understanding, and therefore the Original of things is no Understanding, Nature, or Deity.

XI. Seventhly, The Democritick Atheists argue further after this manner: They who assert a Deity, suppose *ἡ ψυχή ἐστὶν τῆς κόσμου*, the whole World to be Animated, that is, to have a Living, Rational and Understanding Nature presiding over it. Now it is already evident from some of the premised Arguments, that the World cannot be Animated, in the sense of Platonists, that is, with an Incorporeal Soul, which is in order of Nature before Body, it being proved already that there can be no Substance Incorporeal; as like wise that it cannot be Animated neither in the Stoical sense, so as to have an Original Quality of Understanding or Mind in the Matter; But yet nevertheless, some may possibly imagine, that as in our selves and other Animals, though compounded of Senseless Atoms, there is a Soul and Mind, resulting from the Contexture of them, which being once made, domineers over the Body, governing and ordering it at pleasure; so there may be likewise such a Living Soul and Mind, not only in the Stars, which many have supposed to be lesser Deities, and in the Sun, which has been reputed a principal Deity; but also in the whole Mundane System, made up of Earth, Seas, Air, Ether, Sun, Moon, and Stars all together; one General Soul and Mind, which though resulting at first from the Fortuitous Motion of Matter, yet being once produced,

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may rule, govern and sway the Whole, Understandingly, and in a more perfect manner than our Souls do our Bodies, and so long as it continues, exercise a Principality and Dominion over it. Which although it will not amount to the full Notion of a God, according to the strict fence of Theists, yet it will approach very near unto it, and indanger the bringing in of all the same Inconveniences along with it. Wherefore they will now prove that there is no such Soul or Mind as this, (resulting from the Contexture of Atoms) that presides over the Corporeal Universe, that so there may not be so much as the Shadow of a Deity left.

It was observed before, that Life, Sense, Reason and Understanding are but Qualities of Concreted Bodies, like those other Qualities of Heat, and Cold, &c. arising from certain particular Textures of Atoms; Now as those first Principles of Bodies, namely single Atoms, have none of those Qualities in them, so neither hath the whole Universe any (that it can be denominated from) but, only the Parts of it. The whole World is neither Black nor White, Hot nor Cold, Pellucid nor Opaque, it containing all those Qualities in its several Parts: In like manner, the whole has no Life, Sense, nor Understanding in it, but only the parts of it, which are called Animals. That is, Life and Sense are qualities that arise, only from such a Texture of Atoms as produceth soft Flesh, Blood, and Brains, in Bodies organized, with Head, Heart, Bowels, Nerves, Muscles, Veins, Arteries and the like;

————— *Sensus jungitur omnis*
Visceribus, Nervis, Venis, quæcunque videmur,
Mollia mortali consistere Corpore creta;

And Reason and Understanding, properly so called, are peculiar Appendices to humane Shape; *Ratio nusquam esse potest nisi in hominis figura.* From whence it is concluded that there is no Life, Soul nor Understanding acting the whole World, because the World hath no Blood nor Brains, nor any Animalish or Humane Form. *Qui Mundum ipsum Animantem sapientemque esse dixerunt, nullo modo viderunt Animi Naturam, in quam Figuram cadere posset.* Therefore the Epicurean Poet concludes upon this Ground, that there is no Divine Sense in the whole World,

Dispositum videtur ubi esse & crescere possit
Scorsim Anima atque Animus; tanto magis insciendum,
Totum posse extra Corpus Formamque Animalem,
Putribus in glebis terrarum, aut Solis in Igni,
Aut in Aqua durare, aut altis Ætheris oris.
Haud igitur constant Divino prædita Sensu,
Quandoquidem nequeunt vitaliter esse Animata.

Now if there be no Life nor Understanding above us, nor round about us, nor any where else in the World, but only in our selves and Fellow-Animals, and we be the highest of all Beings; if neither
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the whole Corporeal System be Animated, nor those greater parts of it, Sun, Moon nor Stars, then there can be no danger of any Deity.

XII. Eighthly, the Democritick Atheists dispute further against a Deity in this manner : The Deity is generally supposed to be *ἕλκον μακάρεσιν ἡ ἀφθάρτου*, a *Perfectly Happy Animal, Incorruptible and Immortal*. Now there is no Living Being Incorruptible and Immortal, and therefore none perfectly Happy neither. For according to that Democritick *Hypothesis* of Atoms in Vacuity ; the only Incorruptible things will be These three : First of all, *Vacuum* or *Empty Space*, which must needs be such, because it cannot suffer from any thing, since it is *plagiarum expert*,

Et manet intaſum, nec ab iſuſungitur hilum.

Secondly, the *Single Atoms*, because by reason of their Parvitude and Solidity, they are Indivisible ; And lastly, the *Summa Summarum* of all things, that is the Comprehension of all Atoms dispersed every where throughout Infinite Space.

— *Quia nulla loci ſtat copia certum*
Quò quaſi res poſſint diſcedere diſſoluique.

But according to that other *Hypothesis* of ſome modern Atomists (which alſo was entertained of old by *Empedocles*) that ſuppoſes a Plenity, there is nothing at all Incorruptible, but the Substance of Matter it ſelf. All Systems and Compages of it, all *συνεſματα* and *ἀσπερίσματα*, all Concretions and Coagmentations, of Matter divided by Motion, together with the Qualities reſulting from them, are Corruptible and Deſtroyable : *Quæ eſt Coagmentatio rerum non diſſolubilis* ? Death deſtroys not the Substance of any Matter ; For as no Matter came from Nothing but was Self-eternal, ſo none of it can ever vaniſh into Nothing ; but it diſſolves all the Aggregations of it.

Non ſic interimit Mors res ut Material
Corpora conficiat, ſed cæcum diſſipat oſſis.

Life is no *Subſtantial thing*, nor any *Primitive* or *Simple Nature* ; it is only an *Accident* or *Quality* ariſing from the Aggregation and Contexture of Atoms or *Corpuſcula*, which when the Compages of them is diſunitied and diſſolved, though all the Substance ſtill remain ſcattered and diſperſed, yet the Life utterly periſhes and vaniſheth into Nothing. No Life is Immortal ; there is no Immortal Soul ; nor Immortal Animal, or Deity. Though this whole Mundane System were it ſelf an Animal, yet being but an Aggregation of Matter, it would be both Corruptible and Mortal. Wherefore ſince no living Being can poſſibly have any ſecurity of its future Permanency ; there is none that can be perfectly Happy. And it was rightly determined by our Fellow-Atheiſts, the *Hedonicks* and *Cyrenaicks*, *ἀδύναμις ἀδύνατον*, *Perſect Happineſs is a mere Notion*, a Romantick Fiction, a thing which can have no Exiſtence any where. This is recorded to have been one of *Democri-*

his chief Arguments against a Deity, because there can be no Living Being *Immortal*, and consequently none perfectly *Happy*. *Cum Democritus, quia nihil semper suo statu maneat, neget, esse quicquam sempiternum, nonne Deum ita tollit omnino, ut nullam Opinionem ejus reliquam faciat?*

XIII. A Ninth pretended Demonstration of the Democritick Atheists is as followeth. By God is understood a *First Cause* or *Mover*, which being not before acted upon by any thing else, but acting Originally from it self, was the Beginning of all things. Now it is an indubitable Axiom, and generally received amongst Philosophers, that Nothing can move it self, but *Quicquid movetur ab alio movetur*, Whatsoever is moved is moved by something else; nothing can act otherwise than it is made to act, by something without it, acting upon it. The necessary Consequence whereof is this, That there can be no such thing as any *First Mover*, or *First Cause*, that is, no God. This Argument is thus urged by a Modern Writer, agreeably to the Sence of the Ancient Democriticks; *Ex eo quod nihil potest movere seipsum, non inferetur, id quod inferri solet, nempe Eternum Immobile, sed contra Eternum Motum, siquidem ut verum est, nihil moveri à seipso, ita etiam verum est nihil moveri nisi à Moto*. From hence, that Nothing can move it self, it cannot be rightly inferred, as commonly it is, that there is an *Eternal Immoveable Mover* (that is, a God) but only an *Eternal Moved Mover*; or that one thing was moved by another from Eternity, without any *first Mover*. Because as it is true that nothing can be Moved, but from it self; so it is likewise true, that nothing can be moved but from that which was it self also moved by something else before; and so the progress upwards must needs be infinite, without any Beginning or first Mover. The plain Drift and Scope of this Ratiocination, is no other then this, to shew that the Argument commonly taken from Motion, to prove a God, (that is, a *First Mover* or *Cause*) is not only Ineffectual and Inconclusive; but also that on the contrary, it may be demonstrated from that very Topick of Motion; that there can be no Absolutely First Mover, No First in the order of Causes, that is, no God.

XIV. Tenthly, because the Theists conceive that though no Body can move it self, yet a perfect *Cogitative*, and *Thinking Being* might be the Beginning of all, and the first Cause of Motion; the Atheists will endeavour to evince the contrary, in this manner. No man can conceive how any Cogitation which was not before, should rise up at any time, but that there was some cause for it, without the *Thinker*. For else there can be no reason given, why this Thought rather than that, and at this time rather than another, should start up. Wherefore this is universally true, of all Motion and Action whatsoever, as it was rightly urged by the Stoicks, that there can be no *κίνησις ἀνακτινος*, no Motion without a Cause, i. e. no Motion which has not some Cause without the Subject of it. Or, as the same thing is expressed by a modern Writer; *Nothing taketh Beginning from it self, but from the Action of some other Immediate Agent without it*. Wherefore no *Thinking Being* could be a *First Cause*, any more than an *Automaton* or *Machin* could. To this, it is further argued, that these

these two Notions, the one of a *Knowing Understanding Being*, the other of a *Perfectly Happy Being*, are Contradictious; because all Knowledge Essentially implies Dependence upon something else, as its Cause; *Scientia & Intellectus signum est Potentie ab alio Dependenti, id quod non est Beatissimum.* They conclude that *Cogitation* and all *Action* whatsoever, is really nothing else but *Local Motion*, which is Essentially *Heterokinesie*, that which can never rise of it self, but is caused by some other Agent without its Subject.

XV. In the Eleventh place; the Democritick Atheists reason thus: If the World were made by any Antecedent Mind or Understanding, that is, by a Deity; then there must needs be an *Idea*, *Platform* and *Exemplar* of the whole World before it was made; and consequently *Actual Knowledge*, both in order of Time and Nature, before Things. But all Knowledge is the *Information* of the things themselves known, all Conception of the Mind is a *Passion* from the things Conceived, and their Activity upon it; and is therefore Junior to them. Wherefore the World and Things, were before Knowledge and the Conception of any Mind, and no Knowledge, Mind or Deity before the World as its Cause. This Argument is thus proposed by the Atheistick Poet;

*Exemplum porro gignendis rebus, & ipsa
Notities hominum Divis unde insita primum,
Quid vellent facere ut scirent, animosq; viderent?
Quove modo est unquam Vis cognita Principiorum,
Quidnam inter sese permutato Ordine possent,
Si non ipsa dedis specimen Natura creandi?*

How could the supposed Deity have a *Pattern* or *Platform* in his Mind, to frame the World by, and whence should he receive it? How could he have any Knowledge of Men before they were made, as also what himself should will to do when there was nothing? How could he understand the Force and Possibility of the Principles, what they would produce when variously combined together, before Nature and Things themselves, by Creating, had given a Specimen?

XVI. A Twelfth Argument of the Democritick and Epicurean Atheists against a Deity, is to this purpose: That things could not be made by a Deity that is supposed to be a Being every way Perfect; because they are so Faulty, and so Ill made: The Argument is thus propounded by *Lucretius*;

*Quid si jam rerum ignorem primordia quæ sint,
Hoc tamen ex ipsis Cæli Rationibus ausim
Confirmare, aliisque ex rebus reddere multæ,
Nequaquam nobis Divinitus esse paratam
Naturam rerum, tantâ stat prædita Culpa.*

This Argument, *à Cæli Rationibus*, from Astronomy, or the Constitution of the Heavens, is this: That the Mundane Sphere is so framed, in

respect of the Disposition of the *Aequator* and *Ecliptick*, as renders the greatest part of the Earth uninhabitable to Men and most other Animals; partly by reason of that excess of Heat in the Torrid Zone (containing all between the Tropicks) and partly from the Extremity of Cold in both the Frigid Zones, towards either Pole. Again, whereas the Stoical Theists Contemporary with *Epicurus* concluded, that the whole World was made by a Deity, only for the sake of Men,

————— *Horum omnia causa*
Constituisse Deum fingunt —————

It is urged on the contrary, that a great part of the Habitable Earth is taken up by Seas, Lakes and Rocks, barren Heaths and Sands, and thereby made useless for Mankind; and that the remainder of it yields no fruit to them, unless expugned by obstinate Labour, after all which, men are often disappointed of the Fruits of those Labours, by unreasonable Weather, Storms and Tempests. Again, that Nature has not only produced many noxious and poisonous Herbs, but also Destructive and Devouring Animals, whose Strength surpasseth that of Mens; and that the Condition of Mankind is so much Inferiour to that of Brutes, that Nature seems to have been but a Step-mother to the former, whilst she hath been an Indulgent Mother to the latter. And to this purpose, the manner of mens coming into the World is thus aggravated by the Poet:

Tum porro puer, ut sevis projectus ab undis
Navita, nudus humi jacet, infans, indignus omni
Vitæ auxilio, cum primum in luminis oras
Nixibus ex alvo matris natura profudit:
Vagituque locum lugubri complet, ut æquum 'st,
Quoi tantum in vita restet transire malorum.

But on the contrary, the Comparative Advantages of Brutes and their Privileges, which they have above men, are described after this manner:

At variae crescunt pecudes, armenta, feræque:
Nec crepitacula cis opus sunt, nec quoquam adhibenda 'st
Alma nutritis Blanda atque Infracta loquela;
Nec varias quarunt vestes pro tempore celi.
Denique non armis opus est, non mœnibus altis,
Quæc sua tutentur, quando omnibus omnia largè
Tellus ipsa parit, naturæque Dædala rerum.

And Lastly, The Topick of Evils in General, is insisted upon by them, not those which are called *culpe*, Evils of Fault (for that is a Thing which the Democritick Atheists utterly explode in the Genuine Sense of it) but the Evils of Pain and Trouble; which they dispute concerning, after this manner. The Supposed Deity and Maker of the World, was either Willing to abolish all Evils, but

but not Able, or he was Able but not Willing; or Thirdly, he was neither Willing nor Able; or else Lastly, he was both Able and Willing. This Latter is the only thing that answers fully to the Notion of a God. Now that the supposed Creator of all things was not thus both Able and Willing to abolish all Evils, is plain, because then there would have been no Evils at all left. Wherefore since there is such a Deluge of Evils overflowing all, it must needs be, that either he was Willing and not Able to remove them, and then he was *Impotent*, or else he was Able and not Willing, and then he was *Envious*, or Lastly he was neither Able nor Willing, and then he was both *Impotent* and *Envious*.

XVII. In the Twelfth Place, the Atheists further dispute in this manner. If the World were made by any Deity, then it would be governed by a *Providence*, and if there were any *Providence*, it must appear in Humane Affairs. But here it is plain, that all is *Tobn* and *Bohn*, *Chaos* and *Confusion*: Things happening alike to all, to the Wise and Foolish, Religious and Impious, Virtuous and Vicious. (For these Names the Atheist cannot chuse but make use of, though by taking away Natural Morality, they really destroy the Things.) From whence it is concluded, that all things float up and down, as they are agitated and driven by the Tumbling Billows of Careless Fortune and Chance. The Impieties of *Dionysius*, his scoffing Abuses of Religion, and whatsoever was then Sacred, or worshipt under the Notion of a God, were most notorious; and yet it is observed, that he fared never a jot the worse for it. *Hunc nec Olympius Jupiter fulmine percussit, nec Æsculapius misero diuturnoque morbo tabescentem interemit, verum in suo lectulo mortuus, in Tympanidis rogum illatus est, eamque potestatem quam ipse per scelus nactus erat, quasi justam & legitimam, hereditatis loco tradidit*: Neither did Jupiter Olympius strike him with a Thunderbolt, nor Æsculapius insiſt any languishing Disease upon him, but he died in his bed, and was honourably interred, and that Power which he had wickedly acquired, he transmitted, as a Just and Lawful Inheritance, to his Posterity. And Diogenes the Cynick, though much a Theist, could not but acknowledge, that *Harpalus* a famous Robber or Pirate in those times, who committing many Villanous actions, notwithstanding lived prosperously, did thereby *Testimonium dicere contra Deos*, bear testimony against the Gods. Though it has been objected by the Theists, and thought to be a strong argument for Providence, that there were so many Tables hung up in Temples, the Monuments of such as having prayed to the Gods in Storms and Tempests, had escaped Shipwrack; yet as *Diagoras* observed, *Nusquam picti sunt qui Naufragium fecerunt*, there are no Tables extant of those of them who were Shipwrackt. Wherefore it was not considered by these Theists, how many of them that prayed as well to the Gods, did notwithstanding suffer Shipwrack; as also how many of those, which never made any Devotional Addresses at all, to any Deity, escaped equal Dangers of Storms and Tempests.

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Moreover, it is consentaneous to the opinion of a God, to think that Thunder rattling in the Clouds with Thunder-bolts, should be the immediate Significations of his wrath and displeasure: whereas it is plain, that these are flung at random, and that the Fury of them often lights upon the Innocent, whilst the notoriously guilty scape untouched, and therefore we understand not, how this can be answered by any Theists.

*Cui, quibus incantum Scelus averfabile cumque eſt,
Non faciunt, iſſi flammas ut fulguris halent,
Pectore perfixo ; documen Mortalibus acre ?
Et potius nullæ ſibi turpis Conſcius rei,
Voluitur in flammis innoxius, inque peditur,
Turbine cæleſti, ſubito correptus, & igni ?*

Now the force of this Argument appears to be very powerful, becauſe it hath not only ſtaggered and confounded *Theiſts* in all Ages, but alſo hath effectually transformed many of them into *Atheiſts*. For *Diagoras Melius* himſelf was once a Superſtitious Religioniſt, in ſo much that being a *Diſthyrambick* Poet, he began one of his Poems with theſe words, *ἔνθα δαίμονα ἢ πύχλω πάλαι τιθέταις*, *All things are done by God and Fortune*. But being injured afterwards by a Perjured Perſon, that ſuffered no Evil nor Diſaſter thereupon, he therefore took up this contrary Perſwaſion, that there was no Deity. And there have been innumerable others, who have been ſo far wrought upon by this Conſideration, as if not abſolutely to diſclaim and diſcard a Deity, yet utterly to deny Providence, and all Care of Humane Affairs by any Inviſible Powers. Amongſt whom the Poet was one, who thus expreſſed his Senſe.

*Sed cùm res hominum tantâ caligine volvi
Aſpicerem, lætôſque diu florere nocenter,
Vexarique pios, rursus labefaſta cadebat
Religio, cauſæque viam non ſponte ſequerbar
Alterius, vacuo quæ currere Semina motu
Aſſeruat, magnûmque novas per Inane Figuras,
Fortunâ non Arte regi ; quæ Numina ſenſu
Ambiguo vel Nulla putat, vel Neſcia noſtri.*

XVIII. A thirteenth Argumentation of the Democritick and Epicurean Atheiſts is to this purpoſe ; That whereas the Deity is ſuppoſed to be ſuch a being, as both Knows all that is done every where in the moſt diſtant Places of the World at once, and doth himſelf immediately Order all things ; this is, Firſt, impoſſible for any one Being, thus to animadvert and order all things in the whole Univerſe,

*Quis regere immenſi Summam, quis habere profundi
Indu manu validas potis eſt moderanter habenas ?
Quis pariter cælos omnes convertere ? & omnis*

Ignibus

*Ignibus ætheriis terras suffire feracis ?
Omnibus inque locis esse omni tempore præstō ?
Nubibus ut tenebras faciat, cælique serena
Concitat sonitu ? &c.*

And Secondly, if it were supposed to be possible, yet such infinite *Negotiosity* would be absolutely inconsistent with a *Happy State* ; Nor could such a Deity ever have any quiet Enjoyment of himself, being Perpetually filled with Tumult and Hurliburly, ἡ συμφωνία πραγμάτων καὶ φροντίδες καὶ ὀφθαλμοὶ καὶ χεῖρες μαχαλοῦνται, ἀλλ' ἀδυνατοὶ καὶ φόβος καὶ προσδοκία τῶν πλείων ταῦτα γίνεται *Distraction of Business and Sollicitous Cares, Displeasures and Favours, do not at all agree with Happiness, but they proceed from Imbecillity, Indigency and Fear*; τὸ μακάριον καὶ ἀφάετον ὅτι αὐτὸ πρὸς γυμνάσια ἔχει, ὅτι ἄλλως παρέχει, ὥστε ὅτι ὀφθαλμοὶ καὶ χεῖρες συνίσχεται, ὡς ἀδυνατοὶ ὅδ' πᾶν τὸ τιῶνται *That which is Happy and Incorruptible, would neither have it self any Business to do, nor create any to others, it would neither have Displeasure nor Favour, towards any other Persons, to engage it in Action ; all this proceeding from Indigency.* That is, *Favour and Benevolence, as well as Anger and Displeasure, arise only from Imbecillity.* That which is perfectly happy and wanteth nothing, ὅλον ὄν ὡς τὴν εὐνοχίαν ἢ ἰδίαν διδαιμονίαν, being wholly possessed and taken up in the Enjoyment of its own Happiness, would be regardless of the Concernments of any others ; and mind nothing besides it self, either to do it Good or Harm. Wherefore, this *Curiosus & plenus Negotii Deus, This Busy, Restless, and Pragmatical Deity*, that must needs intermeddle and have to do with every thing in the whole World, is a Contradictious Notion, since it cannot but be the most Unhappy of all things.

XIX. In the Next Place, the Atheists dispute further by propounding Several bold *Quæries*, which they conceive unanswerable, after this manner. If the World were made by a Deity, why was it not made by him sooner ? or since it was so long unmade, why did he make it at all ? *Cur mundi Edificator repente extiterit, innumerabili antè secula dormierit ?* How came this Builder and Architect of the World, to start up upon a suddain, after he had slept for infinite Ages, and bethink himself of making a World ? For, certainly, if he had been awake all that while, he would either have made it sooner, or not at all ; because there was either something wanting to his Happiness, before, or nothing ; if there had been any thing wanting before, then the World could not have been so long unmade ; but if he were completely Happy in himself without it, then μὴδὲ τίνα ποτε καὶς ἱμαλλας ἐπ' ἑρξεν ποιεῖν, wanting nothing, he vainly went about to make superfluous things. All desire of Change and Novelty, argues a Fastidious Satiety, proceeding from Defect and Indigency ;

*Quidve novi potuit tantò pòst, antè quictos
Inscire, ut cuperent vitam mutare priorem ?
Nam gaudere novis rebus debere videtur
Quoi veteres obfunt ; sed quoi nil accidit agri*

Tempore

*Tempore in anteaſſo, cùm pulchrè degeret ævum,
Quid potuit novitatũ amorẽ accendere tali ?*

Did this Deity, therefore light up the Stars, as ſo many Lamps or Torches, in that vaſt Abyſs of infinite Darkneſs, that himſelf might thereby have a more comfortable and chearful Habitation ? Why would he then content himſelf from Eternity, to dwell in ſuch a Melancholick, Horrid, and Forlorn Dungeon ?

*An Credo in tenebris vitã & mœrore jacebat,
Donce diluxit rerum Gẽnitalis Origo ?*

Was Company and that Variety of Things, by which Heaven and Earth are diſtinguiſhed, deſireable to him ? Why then would he continue Solitary ſo long, wanting the pleaſure of ſuch a Spectacle ? Did he make the World and men in it to this end, that himſelf might be worſhipped and adored, feared and honoured by them ? But what could he be the better for that, who was ſufficiently happy alone in himſelf before ? Or did he do it for the Sake of Men, to gratifie and oblige them ?

*At quid immortalibus atque beatũ
Gratia noſtra queat largiriẽr emolumentũ,
Ut noſtrã quicquam cauſã gerere aggrediantur ?*

Again, if this were done for the ſake of Men, then it muſt be either for Wiſe Men or for Fools ; If for Wiſe men only, then all that Pains was taken but for a very few ; but if for Fools, what reaſon could there be, why the Deity ſhould ſeek to deſerve ſo well at their hands ? Beſides this, what hurt would it have been to any of us, (whether Wiſe or Fooliſh) never to have been made ?

*Quidvẽ mali fuerat nobis non eſſe creatis ?
Natus enim debet quicunque eſt, velle manere
In vita, donec retinebit blanda voluptas :
Qui nunquam vcrò vita gũſtavit amorem,
Nec fui in numero, quid obeſt non eſſe creatum ?*

Laſtly, if this Deity muſt needs go about moliminouſly to make a World, *ignis, æther, & ſtones, like an Artificer and Carpenter*, what Tools and Inſtruments could he have to work withall ? what Miniſters and Subſervient Opificers ? what Engins and Machins for the rearing up of ſo huge a Fabrick ? How could he make the Matter to underſtand his meaning, and obey his beck ? how could he move it and turn it up and down ? For if Incorporeal, he could neither touch nor be touched, but would run through all things, without faſtning upon any thing : but if Corporeal, then the ſame thing was both Materials and Architect, both Timber and Carpenter, and the Stones muſt hew themſelves, and bring themſelves together, with diſcretion, into a Structure.

XX. In the last Place, the Atheists argue from *Interest* (which proves many times the most effectual of all Arguments) against a Deity; endeavouring to persuade, that it is, First, the *Interest of Private Persons*, and of all *Mankind in General*; and Secondly, the *Particular Interest of Civil Sovereigns, and Commonwealths*; that there should neither be a God, nor the Belief of any such thing entertained by the minds of Men; that is, no Religion. First, they say therefore, that it is the *Interesse of Mankind in General*; Because so long as men are persuaded, that there is an Understanding Being infinitely Powerful, having no Law but his own Will, (because he has no Superiour) that may do whatever he pleases at any Time to them, they can never Securely enjoy themselves or any thing, nor be ever free from disquieting Fear and Solitude. What the Poets Fable of *Tantalus* in Hell, being alwaies in fear of a huge stone hanging over his Head, and ready every Moment to tumble down upon him, is nothing to that true fear which men have of a Deity, and Religion, here in this Life, which indeed was the very thing mythologized in it.

*Nec miser impendens magnum timet aëre Saxum
Tantalus, (ut fama est) cassâ formidine torpens:
Sed magis in vita, Divûm Metus urget inanis
Mortales, casûmque timent, quemcumque ferat Fort.*

For besides mens *Insecurity*, from all manner of present Evils, upon the Supposition of a God, the Immortality of Souls can hardly be kept out, but it will crowd in after it, and then the fear of Eternal Punishments after Death will unavoidably follow thereupon, perpetually embittering all the Solaces of Life, and never suffering men to have the least sincere Enjoyment.

—————*si certam finem esse viderent
Ærumnarum homines, aliquâ ratione valerent,
Religionibus, atque minis obsistere Vatum.
Nunc ratio nulla est refrendi, nulla facultas:
Æternas quoniam Pœnas in morte timendum.
Ignoratur enim quæ sit natura Animæ,
Nata sit, an contrâ nascentibus insinuetur;
Et simul intereat nobiscum morte dirempta,
An Tenebras Orci visat vastâque Lacunæ.*

Wherefore it is plain, that they who first introduced the *Belief of a Deity and Religion*, whatever they might aim at in it, deserved very ill of all Mankind, because they did thereby infinitely debase and depress mens Spirits under a Servile Fear,

*Efficiunt animos humiles, formidine Divûm,
Depressâque premunt ad Terram:*

As also cause the greatest Grievs and Calamities that now disturb Humane Life,

Quanto

ceases. But as the Rod of *Moses* devoured the Rods of the *Magicians*, so certainly will the fear of an omnipotent Deity, that can punish with eternal Torments after Death, quite swallow up and devour that comparatively Petty Fear of *Civil Sovereigns*, and consequently destroy the Being of *Commonwealths*, which have no Foundation in Nature, but are mere *Artificial Things*, made by the Enchantment and *Magical Art* of Policy. Wherefore it is well observed by a Modern Writer, That men ought not to suffer themselves to be abused, by the Doctrine of Separated Essences and Incorporeal Substances, (such as God and the Soul) built upon the vain Philosophy of Aristotle, that would fright men from obeying the Laws of their Country, with Empty Names, (as of Hell, Damnation, Fire and Brimstone) as men fright Birds from the Corn, with an empty Hat, Dublet, and a crooked Stick. And again; If the fear of Spirits (the chief of which is the Deity) were taken away, men would be much more fitted than they are for Civil Obedience.

Moreover, the Power of Civil Sovereigns is perfectly Indivisible; 'tis either All or Nothing, it must be Absolute and Infinite, or else 'tis none at all; now it cannot be so, if there be any other Power equal to it, to share with it, much less if there be any Superiour (as that of the Deity) to check it and controul it. Wherefore the Deity must of Necessity be removed and displaced, to make room for the *Leviathan* to spread himself in.

Lastly, 'Tis perfectly inconsistent with the Nature of a *Body Politick*, that there should be any Private Judgment of Good or Evil, Lawful or Unlawful, Just or Unjust allowed; but Conscience (which Theism and Religion introduces) is Private Judgment concerning Good and Evil; and therefore the Allowance of it, is contradictory to Civil Sovereignty and a Commonwealth. There ought to be no other Conscience (in a Kingdom or Commonwealth) besides the Law of the Country; the allowance of Private Conscience being, *ipso facto*, a Dissolution of the *Body Politick*, and a Return to the State of Nature. Upon all these accounts it must needs be acknowledged, that those Philosophers who undermine and weaken Theism and Religion, do highly deserve of all Civil Sovereigns and Commonwealths.

XXII. Now from all the premised Considerations, the *Democriticks* confidently conclude against a Deity; That the System and Compages of the Universe, had not its Original from any Understanding Nature, but that Mind and Understanding it self, as well as all things else in the World, sprung up from Senseless Nature and Chance, or from the unguided and undirected Motion of Matter. Which is therefore called by the Name of Nature, because whatsoever moves is moved by Nature and Necessity, and the mutual Occurrences and Rencontres of Atoms, their Plugs, their Stroaks and Dashings against one another, their Reflexions and Repercussions, their Cohesions, Implexions, and Entanglements, as also their Scattered Dispersions and Divulsions, are all Natural and Necessary; but it is called also by the

name of *Chance* and *Fortune*, because it is all unguided by any *Mind*, *Conseil* or *Design*.

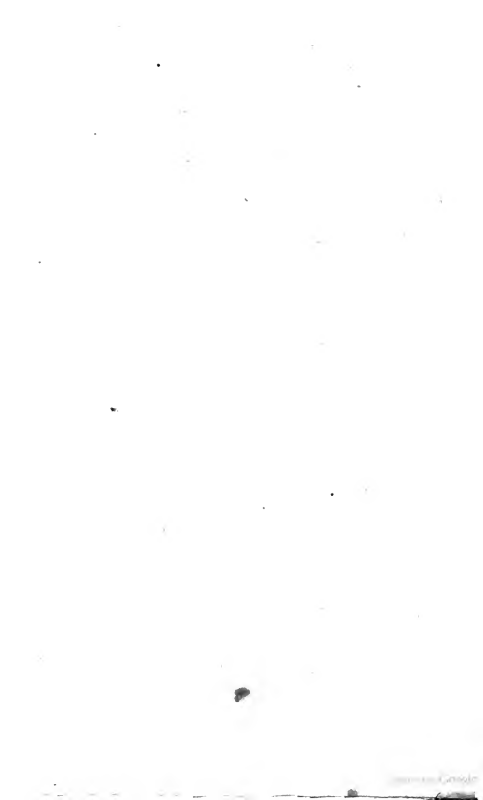
Wherefore *Infinite Atoms* of different sizes and figures, devoid of all Life and Sense, moving Fortuitously from Eternity in infinite Space, and making successively several *Encounters*, and consequently various *Implexions* and *Entanglements* with one another; produced first a confused *Chaos* of these Omnifarious Particles, jumbling together with infinite variety of Motions, which afterward by the tugging of their different and contrary forces, whereby they all hindred and abated each other, came, as it were by joint Conspiracy, to be Conglomerated into a Vortex or Vortices; where after many Convolutions and Evolutions, Molitions and Essays (in which all manner of Tricks were tried, and all Forms imaginable experimented) they chanced in length of time here to settle, into this Form and System of things, which now is, of Earth, Water, Air and Fire; Sun, Moon and Stars; Plants, Animals and Men; So that *Senseless Atoms*, fortuitously moved, and *Material Chaos*, were the first Original of all things.

This Account of the *Cosmopœia*, and first Original of the Mundane System, is represented by *Lucretius* according to the mind of *Epicurus*, though without any mention of those *Vortices*, which yet were an essential part of the old *Democritick Hypothesis*.

*Sed quibus ille modis conjectus material
Fundavit cælum, ac terram, pontique profunda,
Solis, lunæ cursus, ex ordine ponam.
Nam certè neque consilio primordia rerum,
Ordine se quæque atque sagaci mente locarunt:
Nec, quos quæque darent motus, pepigere profectò:
Sed quia multa modis multis primordia rerum,
Ex infinito jam tempore percita plagis,
Ponderibusque suis consuerunt concita ferri,
Omni modisque coire, atque omnia pertentare,
Quæcunque inter se possent congressa creare:
Propterea fit, uti magnum volgata per ævum,
Omnigenos cætus, & motus experiundo,
Tandem ea convenient, quæ ut convenere, repenti
Magnarum rerum fiant exordia sæpe,
Terrar, Maris, & Cæli, generisque Animantium.*

But because some seem to think that *Epicurus* was the first Founder and Inventor of this Doctrine, we shall here observe, that this same Atheistick Hypothesis was long before described by *Plato*, when *Epicurus* was, as yet unborn; and therefore doubtless according to the Doctrine of *Leucippus*, *Democritus* and *Protagoras*; though that Philosopher, in a kind of disdain (as it seems) refused to mention either of their Names, *τις δὲ ἰδὼς αὐτὸν καὶ ἀλεγ., φησὶ πάντα εἶναι ἐν τύχῃ καὶ ἀνάγκῃ. τίς δὲ ἰδὼς τὸν αὐτὸν. καὶ ταὐτὰ ταῦτα αὐτὸν σέματι, γὰρ τι καὶ ἡλίου καὶ σελήνης, ἀστρον τι πᾶσι, διὰ τὸ τὰν γινώσκαι, πάντας εἶναι ἀφ' ἑαυτῶν.*
τύχη

τύχη ὃ περιέμεινα τῇ ᾧ δυνάμει ἐλάττω ἐκείνῃ, ἢ συμπίπτωσαν, ἀεὶ μετέσθαι οὐκ ὡς πῶς, &c. ταύτη δὲ καὶ ταῦτα ὅσα γινώσκονται ὅτι ἐργαζὸν ὄντων καὶ πάντα ὅπλα κατ' ἐργασίαν· καὶ ἔλαττω καὶ φύλα συμπίπτει ἀεὶ πᾶσιν ἐκ τούτων γινώσκων ὅτι διὰ τῶν (φαν) ὅτι διὰ τῶν θεῶν, ὅτι διὰ τῶν ἀλλὰ ὅτι λέγεται, φύσις καὶ τύχη, τῶν καὶ ὅσα ἐκ τούτων ὅσα γινώσκων, &c. *The Atheists say that Fire, Water, Air and Earth (i. e. the four Elements) were all made by Nature and Chance; and none of them by Art or Mind (that is, they were made by the fortuitous Motion of Atoms, and not by any Deity) And that those other Bodies, of the Terrestrial Globe, of the Sun, the Moon, and the Stars (which by all, except these Atheists, were, in those times, generally supposed to be Animated, and a kind of Inferiour Deities) were afterwards made out of the foresaid Elements, being altogether Inanimate. For they being moved fortuitously or as it happened, and so making various commixtures together, did by that means, at length produce the whole Heavens and all things in them, as likewise Plants and Animals here upon earth, all which were not made by Mind, nor by Art, nor by any God; but, as we said before, by Nature and Chance. Art and Mind it self, rising up afterwards from the same Senseless Principles in Animals.*





CHAP. III.

An Introduction to the Confutation of the Atheistick Grounds, in which is contained a particular Account of all the several Forms of Atheism. 1. That the Grounds of the Hylozoick Atheism could not be insisted on in the former Chapter, together with those of the Atomick, they being directly contrary each to other; with a further Account of this Hylozoick Atheism. 2. A Suggestion, by way of Caution, for the preventing of all mistakes, That every Hylozoist must not therefore be condemned for an Atheist, or a mere Counterfeit Historiographical Theist. 3. That nevertheless, such Hylozoists as are also Corporealists, can by no means be excused from the Imputation of Atheism, for Two Reasons. 4. That Strato Lamplicenus, commonly called Physicus, seems to have been the first Asserter of the Hylozoick Atheism, he holding no other God but the Life of Nature in Matter. 5. Further proved, that Strato was an Atheist, and that of a different Form from Democritus, he attributing an Energetick Nature, but without Sense and Animality, to all Matter. 6. That Strato not deriving all things from a mere Fortuitous Principle, as the Democritick Atheists did, nor yet acknowledging any one Plastick Nature to preside over the Whole, but deducing the Original of things from a Mixture of Chance and Plastick Nature both together, in the several parts of Matter, must therefore needs be an Hylozoick Atheist. 7. That the famous Hippocrates was neither an Hylozoick nor Democritick Atheist, but rather an Heraclitick Corporeal Theist. 8. That Plato took no Notice of the Hylozoick Atheism, nor of any other, then what derives the Original of all things from a mere Fortuitous Nature; and therefore either the Democritick, or the Anaximandrian Atheism, which latter will be next declared. 9. That it is hardly imaginable, there should have been no Philosophick Atheists in the World before Democritus and Leucippus, there being in all Ages, as Plato observes, some or other sick of the Atheistick Disease. That Aristotle affirms many of the first Philosophers, to have assigned only a Material Cause of the Mundane System, without either Efficient or Intending Cause; They supposing Matter to be the only Substance, and all things else nothing but the Passions and Accidents of it, Generable and Corruptible. 10. That the Doctrine of these Materialists will be more fully understood from the Exceptions which Aristotle makes against them; His first Excep-

tion, That they assigned no Cause of Motion, but introduced it into the World unaccomptibly. 11. Aristotle's second Exception, That these Materialists did assign no Cause $\tau\acute{o}\ \tilde{\omega}\ \kappa\epsilon\ \nu\alpha\rho\acute{\alpha}\varsigma$, of Well and Fit, and give no account of the Orderly Regularity of things. That Anaxagoras was the first Ionick Philosopher who made Mind and Good a Principle of the Universe. 12. Concluded, That Aristotle's Materialists were downright Atheists, not merely because they held all Substance to be Body, since Heraclitus and Zeno did the like, and yet are not therefore accounted Atheists, (they supposing their Fiery Matter to be Originally Intellectual, and the whole World to be an Animal) but because these made Stupid Matter, devoid of all Understanding, and Life, to be the only Principle: 13. As also, because they supposed every thing besides the Substance of Matter, Life and Understanding, and all Particular Beings, to be Generable and Corruptible, and consequently that there could be no other God, then such as was Native and Mortal. That those ancient Theologers, who were Theogonists, and Generated all the Gods out of Night and Chaos, were only Verbal Theists but Real Atheists; Senseless Matter being to them the highest Numen. 14. The great difference observed betwixt Aristotle's Atheistical Materialists, and the Italick Philosophers; the former determining all things, besides the Substance of Matter, to be Made or Generated, the latter that no Real Entity was either Generated or Corrupted; thereupon both destroying Qualities and Forms of Body, and asserting the Ingenerability and Incorporeity of Souls. 15. How Aristotle's Atheistick Materialists endeavoured to baffle and elude that Axiom of the Italick Philosophers, That Nothing can come from Nothing nor go to Nothing, And that Anaxagoras was the first amongst the Ionicks who yielded so far to that Principle, as from thence to assert Incorporeal Substance, and the Pre-existence of Qualities and Forms in Similar Atoms, so far as he conceived them to be things, really distinct from the Substance of Matter. 16. The Error of some Writers, who because Aristotle affirms, that the Ancient Philosophers did generally conclude the World to have been Made, from thence infer, that they were all Theists, and that Aristotle contradicts himself in representing many of them as Atheists. That the Ancient Atheists did generally $\nu\epsilon\omicron\mu\omicron\tau\omicron\upsilon\mu\epsilon\iota\omicron\upsilon$, assert the World to have been Made, or have had a Beginning; as also some Theists did maintain its Eternity, but in a way of Dependency upon the Deity. That we ought here to distinguish betwixt the System of the World, and the Substance of the Matter, all Atheists asserting the Matter to have been, not only Eternal, but also such Independently upon any other Being. 17. That Plato and others concluded this Materialism or Hylopathian Atheism, to have been at least as old as Homer, who made the Ocean (or fluid Matter) the Father of all the Gods. And that this was indeed the Ancientest of all Atheisms, which verbally acknowledging Gods, yet derived the Original of them all from Night and Chaos. The description of this Atheistick Hypothesis in Aristophanes, That Night and Chaos first laid an Egg, out of which sprung forth Love, which afterwards mingling with Chaos begat Heaven and Earth, Animals and all the Gods. 18. That notwithstanding this, in Aristotle's judgment, Parmenides, Hesiod, with ~~and~~ others, who made Love in like manner,

ner, Senior to all the Gods, were to be exempted out of the number of Atheists; they understanding this Love to be an Active Principle, or Cause of Motion in the Universe, which therefore could be no Egg of the Night, nor Off-spring of Chaos, but something in Order of Nature before Matter. Simmias Rhodius his Wings, a Poem in honour of this Heavenly Love. This not that Love which was the Off-spring of Penia and Poros in Plato. In what rectified sense it may pass for true Theology, that Love is the Supreme Deity and Original of all things. 19. That though Democritus and Leucippus be elsewhere taxed by Aristotle, for this very thing, that they assigned only a Material Cause of the Universe; yet they were not the Persons intended by him in the fore-cited Accusation, but certain Ancienter Philosophers, who also were not Atomists but Hylopathians. 20. That Aristotle's Atheistick Materialists were all the first Ionick Philosophers before Anaxagoras, Thales being the Head of them. But that Thales is acquitted from this Imputation of Atheism by several good Authors (with an Account how he came to be thus differently represented) and therefore that his next Successour Anaximander is rather to be accounted the Prince of this Atheistick Philosophy. 21. A Passage out of Aristotle objected which, at first sight, seems to make Anaximander a Divine Philosopher, and therefore hath led both Modern and Ancient Writers into that mistake. That this Place well considered, proves the contrary, That Anaximander was the Chief of the old Atheistick Philosophers. 22. That it is no wonder, if Anaximander called Senseless Matter the $\tau\acute{o}\beta\acute{o}\nu$, or God, since to all Atheists, that must needs be the the highest Numen; Also how this is said to be Immortal, and to Govern all; with the concurrent Judgment of the Greek Scholiasts upon this Place. 23. A further Account of the Anaximandrian Philosophy, manifesting it to have been purely Atheistick. 24. What ill Judges the Vulgar have been of Theists and Atheists; as also that learned men have commonly supposed fewer Atheists than indeed there were. Anaximander and Democritus Atheists both alike, though Philosophising different ways. That some Passages in Plato respect the Anaximandrian Form of Atheism, rather than the Democritical. 25. Why Democritus and Leucippus new modell'd Atheism into the Atomick Form. 26. That besides the Three Forms of Atheism already mentioned, we sometimes meet with a Fourth, which supposes the Universe though not to be an Animal, yet a kind of Plant or Vegetable, having one Plastick Nature in it, devoid of Understanding and Sense, which disposes and orders the Whole. 27. That this Form of Atheism which makes one Plastick Life to preside over the Whole, is different from the Hylozoick, in that it takes away all Fortuitousness, and subjects all to the Fate of one Plastick Methodical Nature. 28. Though it be possible that some in all ages might have entertained this Atheistick Concept, That things are disposed by one Regular and Methodical but Unknowing Senseless Nature; yet it seems to have been chiefly asserted by certain spurious Heracliticks and Stoicks. And therefore this Form of Atheism, which supposes one Cosmoplastick Nature, may be called Pseudo-zenonian. 29. That, besides the Philosophick Atheists, there have been always Enthusiastick and Fanatical Atheists, though
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in some sense all Atheists may be said also to be both Enthusiasts and Fanaticks, they being led by an *ὁρμή ἀλογον*, or Irrational Impetus. 30. That there cannot easily be any other Form of Atheism, besides those Four already mentioned, because all Atheists are Corporealists, and yet all Corporealists not Atheists, but only such as make the first Principle of all things, not to be Intellectual. 31. A Distribution of Atheisms, producing the former Quaternio, and showing the Difference between them. 32. That they are but Bunglers at Atheism, who talk of Sensitive and Rational Matter; and that the Canting Astrological Atheists are not at all considerable, because not understanding themselves. 33. Another Distribution of Atheisms; That they either derive the Original of things from a Merely Fortuitous Principle, the Unguided Motion of Matter, or else from a Plastick and Methodical, but Senseless Nature. What Atheists denied the Eternity of the World, and what asserted it. 34. That of these Four Forms of Atheism, the Atomick or Democritical, and the Hylozoick or Stratonical are the chief, and that these Two being once confuted, all Atheism will be confuted. 35. These Two Forms of Atheism, being contrary to one another, how we ought in all reason to insist rather upon the Atomick; but that afterwards we shall confute the Hylozoick also, and prove against all Corporealists, that no Cogitation nor Life belongs to Matter. 36. That in the mean time, we shall not neglect any Form of Atheism, but confute them all together, as agreeing in one Principle; as also show, how the old Atomick Atheists did sufficiently overthrow the Foundation of the Hylozoists. 37. Observed here, that the Hylozoists are not condemned merely for asserting a Plastick Life, distinct from the Animal, (which with most other Philosophers we judge highly probable, if taken in a Right Sense) but for grossly misunderstanding it, and attributing the same to Matter. The Plastick Life of Nature largely explained. 38. That though the Confutation of the Atheistick grounds, according to the Laws of Method, ought to have been reserved for the last part of this Discourse, yet we having reason to violate those Laws, crave the Readers Pardon for this Preposterousness. A considerable Observation of Plato's, that it is not only Moral Vitiolity which inclines men to Atheize, but also an Affectation of seeming wiser than the Generality of Mankind; As likewise that the Atheists, making such pretence to Wit, it is a Seasonable undertaking to evince that they fumble in all their Ratiocinations. That we hope to make it appear, that the Atheists are no Conjurers; and that all Forms of Atheism are Non-sense and Impossibility.

I.  E have now represented the Grand Mysteries of Atheism, which may be also called the Mysteries of the Kingdom of Darkness; though indeed some of them are but briefly hinted here, they being again more fully to be insisted on afterward, where we are to give an account of the Atheists Endeavours to Salve the Phenomenon of Cogitation. We have represented the chief Grounds of Atheism in General, as also of that most Notorious Form of Atheism in particular, that is called Atomical: but whereas there hath been already mentioned,

mentioned, another Form of Atheism, called by us *Hylozoical*; the Principles hereof could not possibly be insisted on in this place, where we were to make the most Plausible Plea for Atheism; they being directly contrary to those of the Atomical, so that they would have mutually destroyed each other. For, whereas the *Atomick Atheism* supposes, the Notion or Idea of Body to be nothing but *Extended Resisting Bulk*, and consequently to include no manner of *Life* and *Cogitation* in it; *Hylozoism* on the contrary makes all Body, as such, and therefore every smallest Atom of it, to have *Life* Essentially belonging to it (Natural Perception, and Appetite) though without any *Animal Sense* or *Reflexive Knowledge*, as if *Life*, and *Matter* or *Extended Bulk*, were but two Incomplete and Inadequate Conceptions, of one and the same Substance, called Body. By reason of which *Life* (not *Animal* but only *Plastick*) all parts of *Matter* being supposed able, to form themselves *Artificially* and *Methodically* (though without any Deliberation or Attentive Consideration) to the greatest advantage of their present respective Capabilities, and therefore also sometimes, by Organization to improve themselves further, into *Sense* and *Self-enjoyment* in all Animals, as also to *Universal Reason* and *Reflexive Knowledge* in Men; it is plain that there is no Necessity at all left, either of any *Incorporeal Soul* in Men to make them Rational, or of any *Deity* in the whole Universe to save the *Regularity* thereof. One main difference betwixt these two Forms of Atheism is this, that the *Atomical* supposes all *Life* whatsoever to be *Accidental*, *Generable* and *Corruptible*: But the *Hylozoick*, admits of a certain *Natural* or *Plastick Life*, *Essential* and *Substantial*, *Ingenerable* and *Incarnible*, though attributing the same only to *Matter*, as supposing no other Substance in the World besides it.

II. Now to prevent all Mistakes, we think fit here by way of Caution to suggest; That as every *Atomist* is not therefore necessarily an *Atheist*, so neither must every *Hylozoist* needs be accounted such. For who ever so holds the *Life* of *Matter*, as notwithstanding to assert another kind of Substance also, that is *Immaterial* and *Incorporeal*, is no way obnoxious to that foul Imputation. However we ought not to dissemble, but that there is a great Difference here betwixt these two, *Atomism* and *Hylozoism*, in this regard; That the former of them, namely *Atomism* (as hath been already declared) hath in it self a Natural Cognation and Conjunction with *Incorporeism*, though violently cut off from it by the *Democritick Atheists*; whereas the latter of them, *Hylozoism*, seems to have altogether as close and intimate a Correspondence with *Corporealism*; Because, as hath been already signified, if all *Matter*, as such, have not only such a *Life*, *Perception* and *Self-active Power* in it, as whereby it can Form it self to the best advantage, making this a Sun and that an Earth or Planet, and fabricating the Bodies of Animals most Artificially; but also can improve it self into *Sense* and *Self-enjoyment*; it may as well be thought able to advance it self higher, into all the Acts of *Reason* and *Understanding* in Men: so that there will be no need either of an *Incorporeal Immortal Soul* in Men, or a *Deity* in the Universe. Nor indeed is it easily conceivable, how any should be induced to admit
such

such a Monstrous Paradox as this is, That every Atom of Dust or other Senseless Matter, is Wiser than the greatest Politician and the most acute Philosopher that ever was; as having an Infallible Omniscience of all its own *Capabilities* and *Congruities*; were it not by reason of some strong Prepossession, against Incorporal Substance and a Deity, there being nothing so Extravagant and Outragiously Wild, which a Mind once infected with Atheistical Sortisbness and Disbelief, will not rather greedily swallow down, than admit a Deity, which to such is the highest of all Paradoxes imaginable, and the most affrightful Bug-bear. Notwithstanding all which, it may not be denied, but that it is possible for one, who really entertains the belief of a Deity and a Rational Soul Immortal, to be perswaded, first, that the Sensitive Soul, in men as well as Brutes, is merely Corporeal; and then that there is a *Material Plastick Life* in the Seeds of all Plants and Animals, whereby they do Artificially form themselves; and from thence afterward to descend also further, to Hylozoism, that all matter, as such, hath a kind of *Natural*, though not *Animal Life* in it; in consideration whereof, we ought not to Censure every *Hylozoist*, professing to hold a Deity and a Rational Soul Immortal, for a mere Disguised Atheist, or Counterfeit Histrionical Theist.

III. But though every *Hylozoist* be not therefore necessarily an *Atheist*, yet whosoever is an *Hylozoist* and *Corporealist* both together, he that both holds the *Life of Matter* in the Sence before declared, and also that there is no other Substance in the World besides Body and Matter, cannot be excused from the Imputation of Atheism, for Two Reasons. First, because though he derive the Original of all Things, not from what is perfectly Dead and Stupid, as the *Atomick Atheist* doth, but from that which hath a kind of Life or Perception in it, nay an *Infallible Omniscience*, of whatsoever it self can Do or Suffer, or of all its own Capabilities and Congruities, which seems to bear some Semblance of a Deity; yet all this being only in the way of *Natural* and not *Animal Perception*, is indeed nothing but a Dull and Drowsie, *Plastick* and *Spermatick Life*, devoid of all *Consciousness* and *Self-enjoyment*. The *Hylozoists Nature*, is a piece of very Mysterious Non-sence, a thing perfectly Wise, without any Knowledge or Consciousness of it self; Whereas a Deity, according to the true Notion of it, is such a Perfect Understanding Being, as with full Consciousness and Self-enjoyment, is completely Happy. Secondly, because the *Hylozoick Corporealist*, supposing all Matter, as such, to have Life in it, must needs make Infinite of those Lives, (forasmuch as every Atom of Matter has a Life of its own) Coordinate and Independent on one another, and consequently, as many Independent first Principles, no one Common Life or Mind ruling over the Whole. Whereas, to assert a God, is to derive all things ἀπ' ἑνός τινος, from some one Principle, or to suppose one Perfect Living and Understanding Being, to be the Original of all things, and the Architect of the whole Universe.

Thus we see that the *Hylozoick Corporealist* is really an *Atheist*, though carrying more the Semblance and Disguise of a Theist, than other

other Atheists, in that he attributes a kind of Life to Matter. For indeed every Atheist must of necessity cast some of the Incommunicable Properties of the Deity, more or less, upon that which is not God, namely Matter: and they who do not attribute Life to it, yet must needs bestow upon it Necessary Self-existence, and make it the First Principle of all things, which are the Peculiarities of the Deity. The *Numen* which the Hylozoick Corporealist pays all his Devotions to, is a certain blind *Shce-god* or *Goddes*, called *Nature* or the *Life of Matter*; which is a very great Mystery, a thing that is Perfectly Wise, and Infallibly Omniscient, without any Knowledge or Consciousness at all. Something like to that *ἡ τοῦ παντὸς αἰτία* (in * *Plato*) *ἡ τοῦ διῶντος παλὺς ὁ νοῦς ἐστίν*, that vulgar Enigm or Riddle of Boys, concerning an Eunuch striking a Bat; *A Man and not a Man, Seeing and not Seeing, did Strike and not Strike, with a Stone and not a Stone, a Bird and not a Bird, &c.* The DiffERENCE being only this; that this was a thing Intelligible, but humourously expressed, whereas the other seems to be perfect Non-sence, being nothing but a misunderstanding of the Plastick Power, as shall be shewed afterwards.

* *De Exp. l. 3.*

IV. Now the First and Chief Assertour of this Hylozoick Atheism was, as we conceive, *Strato Lampiscenus*, commonly called also *Physicus*, that had been once an Auditor of *Theophrastus* and a famous Peripatetic, but afterwards degenerated from a Genuine Peripatetic, into a new-formed kind of Atheist. For *Velleius*, an Epicurean Atheist in *Cicero*, reckoning up all the several sorts of Theists, which had been in former times, gives such a Character of this *Strato*, as whereby he makes him to be a strange kind of *Atheistical Theist*, or *Divine Atheist*, if we may use such a contradictory Expression; his words are these, * *Nec audiendus Strato, qui Physicus appellatur, qui omnem Vim Divinam in Natura sitam esse censes, quæ Causas gignendi, augendi minnendive habeat, sed careat omni sensu*; Neither is *Strato*, commonly called the Naturalist or Physiologist, to be heard, who places all Divinity in Nature, as having within it self the Causes of all Generations, Corruptions and Augmentations, but without any manner of Sense. *Strato's* Deity therefore was a certain Living and Active, but Senseless Nature. He did not fetch the Original of all things, as the Democritick and Epicurean Atheists, from a mere Fortuitous Motion of Atoms, by means whereof he bore some slight Semblance of a Theist, but yet he was a down-right Atheist for all that, his God being no other than such a Life of Nature in Matter, as was both devoid of Sense and Consciousness, and also multiplied together with the several parts of it. He is also in like manner described by *Seneca* in *St. Augustine**, as a kind of Mongrel thing, betwixt an Atheist and a Theist; *Ego seram aut Platonem, aut Peripateticum Stratonem, quorum alter Deum sine Corpore fecit, alter sine Animo*; Shall I endure either *Plato*, or the Peripatetic *Strato*, whereas the one made God to be without a Body, the other without a Mind? In which words *Seneca* taxes these two Philosophers, as guilty of two contrary Extremes; *Plato*, because he made God to be a pure Mind or a perfectly Incorporeal Being; and *Strato*, because he made him to be a Body without

* *De Nat. Dei* l. 1.* *De Civ. Dei* l. 6. c. 10.

without a Mind, he acknowledging no other Deity than a certain Stupid and Plastick Life, in all the several parts of Matter, without Sense. Wherefore this seems to be the only reason, why *Strato* was thus sometimes reckoned amongst the Theists, though he were indeed an Atheist, because he dissented from that only form of Atheism, then so vulgarly received, the Democritick and Epicurean, attributing a kind of Life to Nature and Matter.

V. And that *Strato* was thus an Atheist, but of a different kind from *Democritus*, may further appear from this Passage of *Cicero's**,
Strato Lampfacenus negat operâ Deorum se uti ad fabricandum Mundum, quæcunque sint docet omnia esse Effecta Natura, nec ut ille, qui asperis, & levibus, & hamatis uncinatisque Corporibus Concreta hæc esse dicat, interjecto Inani; Somnia censet hæc esse Democriti, non docentis sed optantis: *Strato* denies that he makes any use of a God, for the fabricating of the World, or the saving the Phenomena thereof; teaching all things to have been made by Nature; but yet not in such a manner as he who affirmed them to be all Concreted out of certain rough and smooth, hooky and crooked Atoms, he judging these things to be nothing but the mere Dreams and Dotages of *Democritus*, not teaching but wishing. Here we see that *Strato* denied the World to be made by a Deity or perfect Understanding Nature, as well as *Democritus*, and yet that he dissented from *Democritus* notwithstanding, holding another kind of Nature, as the Original of things, than he did, who gave no account of any Active Principle and Cause of Motion, nor of the Regularity that is in Things. *Democritus* his Nature was nothing but the Fortuitous Motion of Matter, but *Strato's* Nature was an Inward Plastick Life in the several Parts of Matter, whereby they could Artificially frame themselves to the best advantage, according to their several Capabilities, without any Conscious or Reflexive Knowledge. Quicquid aut sit aut fiat, (says the same Authour) Naturalibus fieri, aut saltum esse docet ponderibus & motibus: *Strato* teaches whatsoever is, or is made, to be made by certain inward Natural Forces and Activities.

VI. Furthermore it is to be observed, that though *Strato* thus attributed a certain kind of Life to Matter, yet he did by no means allow of any one Common Life, whether Sentient and Rational, or Plastick and Spermatick only, as Ruling over the whole mass of Matter and Corporeal Universe; which is a thing in part affirmed by *Plutarch**, and may in part be gathered from these words of his;
 ὅτι καὶ οὐκ αὐτὸν τὸ ζῶον ἐστὶν πᾶσι, τὸ δὲ καὶ φύσις ἐπιδείκνται καὶ τῆς φύσεως ἀρχὴ καὶ ἀντιθέσθαι τὸ αὐτὸν πᾶσι, ὅτι οὐκ ἐστὶν πᾶσι πᾶσι ἐκαστὸν
Strato affirmeth that the World is no Animal (or God) but that what is Natural in every thing, follows something Fortuitous antecedent, Chance first beginning, and Nature acting consequently thereupon. The full sense whereof seems to be this, that though *Strato* did not derive the Original of all Mundane things from mere Fortuitous Mechanism, as *Democritus* before him had done, but supposed a Life and Natural Perception in the Matter, that was directive of it, yet not acknowledging any one Common Life, whether Animal or Plastick, as governing

ing and swaying the whole, but only supposing the several Parts of Matter, to have so many several Plastick Lives of their own, he must needs attribute something to *Fortune*, and make the Mundane System to depend upon a certain Mixture of *Chance* and *Plastick* or *Orderly Nature* both together, and consequently must be an Hylozoist. Thus we see, that these are two Schemes of Atheism, very different from one another; that which fetches the Original of all things from the mere *Fortuitous* and *Unguided Motion* of Matter, without any *Vital* or *Directive Principle*; and that which derives it from a certain Mixture of *Chance* and the *Life of Matter* both together, it supposing a *Plastick Life*, not in the whole Universe, as one thing, but in all the several Parts of Matter by themselves; the first of which is the *Atomick and Democritick Atheism*, the second the *Hylozoick and Stratonick*.

VII. It may perhaps be suspected by some, that the famous *Hippocrates*, who lived long before *Strato*, was an Assertour of the *Hylozoick Atheism*, because of such Passages in him as these, ἀπαίδειτος ἢ φύσις ἐκ τῆς αἰῆς * μαθεῖται τὰ νοῦα πῶς. *Nature is Unlearned or Untaught, but it learneth from it self what things it ought to do: And again, ἀναίρεται ἢ φύσις αὐτῇ ἑαυτῇ τὰς ἐπεὶδους ἢ ἐκ διανοίας. Nature findeth out ways to it self, not by Ratiocination.* But there is nothing more affirmed here concerning Nature by *Hippocrates*, than what might be affirmed likewise of the *Aristotelick* and *Platonick Nature*, which is supposed to act for Ends, though without Consultation and Ratiocination. And I must confess, it seems to me no way misbecoming of a Theist, to acknowledge such a Nature or Principle in the Universe, as may act according to *Rule* and *Method* for the *Sake of Ends*, and in order to the *Best*, though it self do not understand the reason of what it doth; this being still supposed to act dependently upon a higher Intellectual Principle, and to have been first set a work and employed by it, it being otherwise Non-sence. But to assert any such *Plastick Nature*, as is Independent upon any higher Intellectual Principle, and so it self the first and highest Principle of Activity in the Universe, this indeed must needs be, either that *Hylozoick Atheism*, already spoken of, or else another different Form of Atheism, which shall afterwards be described. But though *Hippocrates* were a *Corporealist*, yet we conceive he ought not, to lie under the suspicion of either of those two Atheisms; forasmuch as himself plainly asserts a higher Intellectual Principle, than such a *Plastick Nature*, in the Universe, namely an *Heracлитick Corporeal God*, or *Understanding Fire*, *Immortal*, pervading the whole World, in these words; οὐκ ἐστὶν μοι ὁ καλλώμενος θεῶν, ἀθάνατον τι εἶναι, καὶ νοῦν πάντα, καὶ εἶρεν, καὶ αἶσθησεν, καὶ εἰδέναι πάντα τὰ ὄντα καὶ τὰ μέλλοντα ἵσταναι. *It seems to me, that that which is called Heat or Fire, is Immortal, and Omniscient, and that it sees, hears, and knows all things, not only such as are present, but also future.* Wherefore we conclude, that *Hippocrates* was neither an *Hylozoick* nor *Democritick Atheist*, but an *Heracлитick Corporeal Theist*.

In Sophist.

Xib. 105

p. 28. Ed. Sw.

VIII. Possibly it may be thought also, that *Plato* in his *Sophist* intends this *Hylozoick Atheism*, where he declares it as the Opinion of many, τὴν φύσιν πάντα γινῆναι, ἀπὸ τινος αἰτίας αὐτομάτης, καὶ ἀνὰ δια-
 νείας φύσεως. That Nature generates all Things from a certain Spontaneous Principle, without any Reason and Understanding. But here the word αὐτομάτης may be as well rendred Fortuitous, as Spontaneous; however there is no necessity, that this should be understood of an Artificial or Methodical Unknowing Nature. It is true indeed that *Plato* himself seems to acknowledge a certain *Plastick* or *Methodical* Nature in the Universe, Subordinate to the Deity, or that perfect Mind which is the supreme Governour of all things; as may be gathered from these words of his, τὴν φύσιν μετὰ λόγου καὶ σὺν λόγῳ καὶ ἰσῶς τὰ πάντα διακοσμεῖν. That Nature does rationally (or orderly) together with Reason and Mind, govern the whole Universe. Where he supposes a certain Regular Nature to be a Partial and Subordinate Cause of things under the Divine Intellect. And it is very probable that *Aristotle* derived that whole Doctrine of his concerning a Regular and Artificial Nature which acts for Ends, from the Platonick School. But as for any such Form of Atheism, as should suppose a *Plastick* or *Regular*, but senseless Nature either in the whole World, or the several parts of Matter by themselves, to be the highest Principle of all things, we do not conceive that there is any Intimation of it to be found any where in *Plato*. For in his *De Legibus*, where he professedly disputes against *Atheism*, he states the Doctrine of it after this manner, τὰ μὲν μέγιστα καὶ κάλλιστα ἀπορροῦνται φύσιν καὶ τύχην, τὰ δὲ μικροτέρα τέχνην. That Nature and Chance produced all the first, greatest and most excellent things, but that the smaller things were produced by Humane Art. The plain meaning whereof is this, that the First Original of things, and the frame of the whole Universe, proceeded from a mere Fortuitous Nature, or the Motion of Matter unguided by any Art or Method. And thus it is further explained in the following words, πρῶτα καὶ ὕδωρ καὶ γῆ καὶ αἴρ. φύσιν πάντα ὄντα καὶ τύχῃ φασί. τέχνη δὲ ἔσθ' ὅτιν, &c. That the first Elements, Fire, water, Air and Earth, were all made by Nature and Chance, without any Art or Method, and then, that the bodies of the Sun, Moon and Stars, and the whole Heavens, were afterward made out of those Elements, as devoid of all manner of Life, and only fortuitously moved and mingled together; and lastly, that the whole Mundane System, together with the orderly Seasons of the year, as also Plants, Animals and Men did arise after the same manner, from the mere Fortuitous Motion of senseless and stupid Matter. In the very same manner does *Plato* state this Controversie again, betwixt Theists and Atheists, in his *Philebus*, πότερον ἢ πρότερον, τὰ ἐμπειρία, καὶ τόθι τι καλὸν μέντοι ὄντος, ἢ ἄπρῳτον ὄντος τὴν αἰδέαν καὶ αὐτὴν δύναμιν, καὶ τὰ ὅσα ἐκτελεῖται; ἢ τὴν αἰδέαν, καθάπερ οἱ πρότερον ἡμῶν ἔλεγον, ἢν καὶ φράσιν τινα δογματικὴν συντάξασαν διακοσμεῖν; Whether shall we say, O Protarchus, that this whole Universe is dispensed and ordered, by a mere Irrational, Temerarious and Fortuitous Principle, and so as it happens; or contrariwise, (as our fore-fathers have instructed us) that Mind, and a certain Wonderful Wisdom, did at first frame, and does still govern all things?

Where.

Wherefore we conclude that *Plato* took no notice of any other Form of Atheism, as then set on foot, than such as derives all things from a mere Fortuitous Principle, from Nature and Chance, that is the unguided Motion of Matter, without any Plastic Artificialness or Methodicalness, either in the whole Universe, or the parts of it. But because this kind of Atheism, which derives all things from a mere Fortuitous Nature, had been managed two manner of ways; by *Democritus* in the way of Atoms, and by *Anaximander* and others in the way of Forms and Qualities; (of which we are to speak in the next place) therefore the Atheism which *Plato* opposes, was either the *Democritick* or the *Anaximandrian Atheism*; or else (which is most probable) both of them together:

I X. It is hardly imaginable that there should be no Philosophick Atheists in the world before *Democritus* and *Leucippus*. *Plato* long since concluded, that there have been Atheists, more or less, in every Age, when he bespeaks his young Atheist after this manner, Οὐ σὶ μόνον ἀλλ' ἔσσι φίλοι πρῶτον καὶ πατρὶν ταύτῃ δόξαν ὅτι θεῶν ἔσονται, γίνονται καὶ αἰεὶ πλάθουσιν ἐκείνους ταύτῃ τὴν ἰδέαν ἔχοντας. The full sense whereof seems to be this; Neither you (my Son) nor your friends (*Democritus*, *Leucippus* and *Protagoras*) are the first who have entertained this Opinion concerning the Gods, but there have been always some more or less, sick of this Atheistical Disease. Wherefore we shall now make a diligent search and enquiry, to see if we can find any other Philosophers who Atheized before *Democritus* and *Leucippus*, as also what Form of Atheism they entertained.

Aristotle in his *Metaphysics*, speaking of the Quaternio of Causes, affirms that many of those who first Philosophized, assigned only a Material Cause of the whole Mundane System, without either Intending or Efficient Cause. The reason whereof he intimates to have been this, because they asserted Matter to be the only Substance, and that whatsoever else was in the World, besides the substance or bulk of Matter, were all nothing else but πάθη, different Passions and Affections, Accidents and Qualities of Matter that were all Generated out of it, and Corruptible again into it, the Substance of Matter always remaining the same, neither Generated nor Corrupted, but from Eternity unmade; *Aristotle's* words are * these: τῶν πρώτων φιλοσοφούντων, οἱ πλεῖστοι τὰς ἀπὸ ὕλης ἀπὸ μόνου οὐδένου ἀρχὰς εἶναι πάντων, ἐξ ὧ καὶ ἔστιν ἅπαντα τὰ ὄντα, καὶ ἐξ ὧ γίνονται πρῶτον, καὶ εἰς ὧ φέρεται πλεονάζειν, καὶ ἡμῶς ὅσας ὑπερβολὰς, τὰς δὲ πᾶσαν μεταβάλλουσιν, τὲτο σκεῖται, καὶ ταύτῃ τῇ οὐσίᾳ τὴν ἀρχὴν φασιν εἶναι. Most of those who first philosophized, took notice of no other Principle of things in the Universe, than what is to be referred to the Material Causes; for that out of which all things are, and out of which they are first made, and into which they are all at last corrupted and resolved, the Substance always remaining the same, and being changed only in its Passions and Qualities; This they concluded to be the first Original and Principle of all things.

Arist. Meta.
L. 1. c. 3.

X. But the meaning of these old *Material Philosophers* will be better understood, by those Exceptions which *Aristotle* makes against them, which are Two: First, that because they acknowledged no other Substance besides Matter, that might be an Active Principle in the Universe, it was not possible for them to give any account of the Original of Motion and Action. Εἰ γὰρ ὅτι μέλει παλαιά φερεῖ καὶ γένεσις ἐκ τινος, ὥς ἐνός ἢ καὶ πλεόντων ὄντων, διὰ τί τὸ τοιοῦτον, καὶ τί τὸ αὐτῶν; ὃ γὰρ δὴ τὸ γὰρ ὑποκειμένης αὐτῇ πούτῃ μεταβάλλει ἑαυτήν. Λέγου ὅ οὖν, ἔτι τὸ ξύλον, ἔτι τὸ χαλκός αὐτῶν τῷ μεταβάλλειν ἰκανόν. Ἐστὶ ποῦ καὶ τὸ μὲν ξύλον κλίειν, ὃ ὁ χαλκός ἀνθεμάττα, ὡς ἔπρεπε, τί δὲ μεταβολῆς αὐτῶν. τὸ δὲ τὸ τοιοῦτον, ὅτι τὸ τὴν ἐπὶ τῶν ζήτων ἀρχή, ὥς ἐστὶν ἡμῶν φαλμύριον, οὗτοι ἡσυχὰς τὸ καύσασθαι. Though all Generation be made never so much out of something as the Matter, yet the question still is, by what means this cometh to pass, and what is the Active Cause which produceth it? because the Subject-matter cannot change it self; As for example, neither Timber, nor Brass, is the cause that either of them are changed; for Timber alone does not make a Bed, nor Brass a Statue, but there must be something else as the Cause of the Change; and to enquire after this is to enquire after another Principle, besides Matter, which we would call that from whence Motion springs. In which words *Aristotle* intimates that these old *Material Philosophers* shuffled in, Motion and Action into the World unaccountably, or without a Cause; so far as much as they acknowledged no other Principle of Things besides Passive Matter, which could never move, change or alter it self.

Meta. L. 1. c. 3.

XI. And *Aristotle's* second Exception against these old *Material Philosophers* is this; that since there could be no Intending Causality in Senseless and Stupid Matter, which they made to be the only Principle of all things, they were not able to assign τῷ εὖ καλῶς αἰτίαν; any Cause of Well and Fit, and so could give no account of the Regular and Orderly Frame of this Mundane System; τῷ εὖ καλῶς τὰ μὲν ἔχειν, τὰ δὲ γίνεσθαι τῷ ὄντι, ἵσως ἔτι γινῆ, ἔτ' ἄλλα τῷ τῶστω ἀδύνη, ἐνός αὐτῶν ἔσται. ἔδ' αὐτῶν αὐτομάτως, καὶ τύχῃ τῶστω ἑπαιρέσθαι περὶ γὰρ καλῶς ἔχειν. That things partly are so well in the World, and partly are made so well, cannot be imputed either to Earth or Water, or any other senseless Body; much less is it reasonable to attribute so noble and Excellent an Effect as this, to mere Chance or Fortune. Where *Aristotle* again intimates, that as these *Material Philosophers* shuffled in Motion into the world without a Cause, so likewise they must needs suppose this Motion to be altogether Fortuitous and Unguided and thereby in a manner make Fortune, which is nothing but the absence or defect of an Intending Cause, to supply the room both of the Active and Intending Cause, that is, Efficient and Final. Whereupon *Aristotle* subjoins a Commendation of *Anaxagoras*, as the first of the Ionick Philosophers, who introduced Mind or Intellect for a Principle in the Universe; that in this respect, he alone seemed to be sober and in his wits, comparatively with those others that went before him, who talked so idly and Atheistically. For *Anaxagoras* his Principle was such, saith *Aristotle*, as was ἅμα τῷ καλῶς αἰτία, καὶ ταύτην οὖν ἡ κίνησις ὑπαρχει, at once a cause of Motion and also of Well and

Fit 3

Fit ; of all the Regularity, Aptitude, Pulchritude and Order that is in the whole Universe. And thus it seems *Anaxagoras* himself had determined : 'Αναξαγόρας τὸ αἶτιον τὸ καλὸς καὶ ὀρθὸς τῶν πάντων, *Anaxagoras saith that Mind is the only Cause of Right and Well* ; this being proper to *Mind* to aim at Ends and Good, and to order one thing Fitly for the sake of another. Whence it was that *Anaxagoras* concluded Good also, as well as *Mind*, to have been a Principle of the Universe, 'Αναξαγόρας ἀς κινῶν τὸ αἶμα διὰ ἀεχμῶν ὅν νῶς κινῶν, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἑνὸς τινος, ὡς ἔπαυεν, *Anaxagoras makes Good a Principle, as that which moves* ; For though *Mind* move Matter, yet it moves it for the sake of something, and being it self, as it were, first moved by Good : So that Good is also a Principle. And we note this the rather, to show how well these three Philosophers, *Aristotle*, *Plato* and *Anaxagoras*, agreed all together, in this excellent Truth, That *Mind* and *Good* are the First Principle of all things in the Universe.

*Arist. de An.
Lib. I. c. 2.*

*Arist. de An.
Lib. I. c. 10.*

XII. And now we think it is sufficiently evident, that these old *Materialists* in *Aristotle*, whoever they were, were downright *Atheists*, not so much, because they made all Substance to be Body or Matter, for *Heracitus* first, and after him *Zeno*, did the like, deriving the Original of all things from Fire, as well as *Anaximenes* did from Air, and *Thales* is supposed by *Aristotle* to have done from Water, and that with some little more seeming plausibility, since Fire being a more Subtle and Moveable Body than any other, was therefore thought by some of those Ancients to be ἀσυνεστατότατον, the most Incorporeal of all Bodies, as Earth was for that cause rejected by all those Corporeal Philosophers, from being a Principle, by reason of the grossness of its parts. But *Heracitus* and *Zeno*, notwithstanding this, are not accounted *Atheists*, because they supposed their *Fiery Matter*, to have not only *Life*, but also a perfect *Understanding* Originally belonging to it, as also the whole World to be an Animal : Whereas those *Materialists* of *Aristotle*, made *Senseless* and *Stupid Matter*, devoid of all *Understanding* and *Life*, to be the first Principle and Root of all things. For when they supposed, *Life* and *Understanding*, as well as all other Differences of Things, to be nothing but mere *Passions* and *Accidents* of Matter, *Generable* out of it, and *Corruptible* again into it, and indeed to be produced, but in a Secondary way, from the Fortuitous Commixture of those first Elementary Qualities, Heat and Cold, Moist and Dry, Thick and Thin, they plainly implied the Substance of Matter in it self to be devoid of all *Life* and *Understanding*. Now if this be not *Atheism*, to derive the Original of all things, even of *Life* and *Mind* it self, from *Dead* and *Stupid Matter*, *Fortuitously Moved*, then there can be no such thing at all.

XIII. Moreover, *Aristotle's* *Materialists* concluded every thing besides the Substance of Matter, (which is in it self indifferent to all things,) and consequently all particular and determinate Beings, to be *Generable* and *Corruptible*. Which is a thing that *Plato* takes notice of as an *Atheistick* Principle, expressing it in these words ;
 ἡ δὲ μὴ ὅτι ἀθάνατος ἀείη, ἀλλ' ὅτι γίνεσθαι, that *Nothing ever is, but every thing*

Lib. 14. 4. 6.

thing is Made and Generated. Forasmuch as it plainly follows from hence, that not only all Animals and the Souls of men, but also if there were any Gods, which some of those Materialists would not stick, at least verbally, to acknowledge, (meaning thereby certain Understanding Beings superiour to men) these likewise must needs have been all Generated, and consequently be Corruptible. Now to say that there is no other God, than such as was Made and Generated, and which may be again Unmade, Corrupted and Die, or that there was once no God at all till he was made out of the Matter, and that there may be none again, this is all one as to deny the thing it self. For a Native and Mortal God is a pure Contradiction. Therefore whereas Aristotle in his Metaphysics, tells us of certain Theologers, οἱ οὐκ οὐκὸς πρῶτα γενόμενοι, such as did Generate all things (even the Gods themselves) out of Night and Chaos, we must needs pronounce of such Theologers as these, who were Theogonists, and Generated all the Gods (without exception) out of Senseless and Stupid Matter, that they were but a kind of Atheistical Theologers or Theological Atheists. For though they did admit of certain Beings, to which they attributed the Name of Gods, yet according to the true Notion of God, they really acknowledged none at all, (i. e. no Understanding Nature as the Original of things) but Night and Chaos, Senseless and Stupid Matter, Fortuitously Moved, was to them the highest of all Numens. So that this Theology of theirs, was a thing wholly founded in Atheistical Non-sence.

XIV. And now we think it seasonable, here to observe, how vast a difference there was betwixt these old Materialists in Aristotle, and those other Philosophers, mentioned before in the first Chapter, who determined, οὐδὲν ἐστὶν γινώσκον ἐστὶν ἀφαιρούμενον ἢ οὐκ ὂναι That no Real Entity at all was Generated or Corrupted, for this reason, because Nothing could be made out of Nothing. These were chiefly the Philosophers of the Italic or Pythagorick Succession, and their design in it was not, as Aristotle was pleased somewhere to affirm, ἀντιθεῖν νόμον τῷ γένεσσι, to contradict common sense and experience, in denying all Natural Generations and Alterations; but only to interpret Nature rightly in them, and that in way of opposition to those Atheistical Materialists, after this manner; That in all the Mutations of Nature, Generations and Alterations, there was neither any new Substance Made, which was not before, nor any Entity really distinct from the Preexisting Substances, but only that Substance which was before, diversly Modified; and so Nothing Produced in Generations, but new Modifications, Mixtures, and Separations of preexistent Substances.

Now this Doctrine of theirs drove at these Two things; First, the taking away of such Qualities and Forms of Body, as were vulgarly conceived to be things really distinct from the Substance of extended Bulk, and all its Modifications of more or less Magnitude, Figure, Site, Motion or Rest: Because, if there were any such things as these, produced in the Natural Generations and Alterations of Bodies, there would then be some Real Entity Made οὐκ οὐκὸς ἀπὸ τοῦ οὐκ ὂναι ἢ

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πενταχέστος, out of Nothing Inexistent or Preexistent. Wherefore they concluded, that these supposed Forms and Qualities of Bodies were really nothing else, but only the different Modifications of Pre-existent Matter, in respect of Magnitude, Figure, Site and Motion or Rest, or different Concretions and Secretions, which are no Entities really distinct from the Substance, but only cause different *Phasmata*, *Phancies* and *Apparitions* in us.

The Second thing which this Doctrine aimed at, was the establishing the *Incorporeity* and *Ingenerability* of all *Souls*. For since Life, Cogitation, Sense and Understanding, could not be resolved into those Modifications of Matter, Magnitude, Figure, Site and Motion, or into Mechanism and Phancie, but must needs be Entities really distinct from Extended Bulk, or Dead and Stupid Matter; they concluded, that therefore *Souls* could not be Generated out of Matter, because this would be the Production of some Real Entity out of Nothing Inexisting or Preexisting; but that they must needs be another kind of Substance Incorporeal, which could no more be Generated or Corrupted, than the Substance of Matter it self; and therefore must either Preexist in Nature, before Generations, or else be divinely Created and Infused, in them.

It hath been already proved in the First Chapter, that the Upshot of that Pythagorick Doctrine, That Nothing could be Generated out of Nothing preexisting, amounted to those Two things mentioned, viz. the Asserting of the *Incorporeity* and *Ingenerability* of *Souls*, and the Rejecting of those *Phantastick Entities of Forms and Real Qualities of Bodies*, and resolving all Corporeal *Phenomena*, into *Figures or Atoms*, and the different *Apparitions or Phancies* caused by them; but the latter of these, may be further confirmed from this passage of *Aristotle's*, where after he had declared that *Democritus* and *Leucippus* made the *Soul and Fire*, to consist of round *Atoms or Figures*, like those αἰ τῷ ἀέρι εἴματα, those *Ramenta* that appear in the Air when the Sun-beams are transmitted through Crannies; he adds οὕτως δὲ τὸ πνεῦμα πύραργον λεγόμενον, τὴν αὐτὴν ἔχει δάμναν, ἔρασαν γὰρ τινος αὐτῆς; ἥρκεν ἔσθαι τοὶ αἰ τῷ ἀέρι εἴματα, οἱ δὲ, τὰ ταῦτα κινεῖν. And that which is said amongst the Pythagoreans, seems to have the same sense, for some of them affirm, that the *Soul* is those very εἴματα, *Ramenta or Atoms*; but others of them, that it is That which Moves them; which latter doubtless were the genuine Pythagoreans. However, it is plain from hence, that the old Pythagoreans Physiologized by εἴματα, as well as *Democritus*; that is, *Figures and Atoms*, and not Qualities and Forms.

But *Aristotle's Materialists*, on the contrary, taking it for granted that Matter or Extended Bulk is the only Substance, and that the Qualities and Forms of Bodies, are Entities really distinct from those Modifications of Magnitude, Figure, Site, Motion or Rest; and finding also by experience, that these were continually Generated and Corrupted, as likewise that Life, Sense and Understanding were produced in the Bodies of such Animals, where it had not been before, and

and again extinguished at the Death or Corruption of them, concluded, that the *Souls* of all Animals, as well as those other *Qualities* and *Forms* of Bodies, were *Generated* out of the Matter, and *Corrupted* again into it, and consequently that every thing that is in the whole World, besides the Substance of Matter, was *Made* or *Generated*, and might be again *Corrupted*.

L. 3. c. 14

Of this Atheistick Doctrine, *Aristotle* speaks elsewhere, as in his Book *de Cælo*, εἰς γὰρ τῆς οὐ φασιν, ὅτι ἀγέννητον εἶναι τὴν πραγματείαν, ἀλλὰ πάντα γίνεσθαι μέλιν, μὴ οἱ οὐκ ἴδοντες, ἔτι δὲ καὶ τῶν ἄλλων, οἱ πρῶτοι φυσιολογησάντες οἱ δὲ τὰ μὲν ἅλλα πάντα γίνεσθαι τι φασί, καὶ ἔτι, εἶναι δὲ παλαιὸν ὅτι. ἢ δὲ τι μόνον ὑπομένει, ἐξ ὧν ταῦτα πάντα μεταχρηματίζονται πείσαν. There are some who affirm, that Nothing is Ingenerable, but that all things are Made; as *Hesiod* especially, and also among the rest they, who First Physiologized, whose meaning was, that all other things are Made (or Generated) and did Flow, none of them having any Stability; only that there was one thing (namely Matter) which always remained, out of which all those other things were transformed and Metamorphiz'd. Though as to *Hesiod*, *Aristotle* afterwards speaks differently. So likewise in his *Physicks*, after he had declared that some of the Ancients made Air, some Water, and some other Matter, the Principle of all things; he adds, * τῶτε καὶ τοσαῦτα φασὶν εἶναι τὴν αἰώνιον οὐσίαν τὰ δὲ ἅλλα πάντα πάλιν τότε, καὶ ἐξ ἧς, καὶ διακρίσεως καὶ τότε μὲν ὄντων εἶναι αἰδίων. τὰ δὲ ἅλλα γίνεσθαι καὶ φερεσθαι ἀπώρουτος. This they affirmed to be all the Substance or Essence that was; but all other things; the Passions, Affections and Dispositions of it; and that this therefore was Eternal, as being capable of no Change, but all other things, Infinitely Generated and Corrupted.

L. 2. c. 1.

XV. But these Materialists being sometimes assaulted by the other Italic Philosophers, in the manner before declared, That no Real Entities, distinct from the Modifications of any Substance, could be Generated or Corrupted, because Nothing could come from Nothing nor go to Nothing; they would not seem plainly to Contradict that Theorem, but only endeavoured to interpret it into a compliance with their own Hypothesis, and distinguish concerning the Sense of it in this manner; That it ought to be understood, only of the Substance of Matter and Nothing else, viz. That no Matter could be Made or Corrupted, but that all other things whatsoever, not only Forms and Qualities of Bodies, but also Souls; Life, Sense and Understanding, though really different from Magnitude, Figure, Site and Motion, yet ought to be accounted only the πάλιν, the Passions and Accidents of this Matter, and therefore might be generated out of it and Corrupted again into it, and that without the Production or Destruction of any real Entity, Matter being the only thing that is accounted such. All this we learn from these words of *Aristotle*, καὶ διὰ τὸτο, ὅτι γίνεσθαι ὅτι οὐσίαν, ὅτι ἀπώρουτος, ὡς τὸ τοσαύτης φύσεως αἰὲν αὐτοζωμῆς. ὥστε δὲ τὸ σωκράτη φασὶν ὅτι γίνεσθαι ἀπλῶς, ὅταν γίνεσθαι καλὸς ἢ μουσικός, ὅτι ἀπώρουτος, ὅταν ἀποβῇ ταύτας τὰς ἕξας, διὰ τὸ ὑπομένειν τὸ ὑποκείμενον, τὸ σωκράτη αὐτὴν, ὅπως ὅτι τῶν ἄλλων ὅτιν. αὐτὸ γὰρ ὅτι τα φέουσιν, ἢ μίαν, ἢ πλείους μῆας, ἐξ ὧν γίνεσθαι τὰ ἅλλα αὐτοζωμῆς ἐκείνης.

Metaph. L. 1.
c. 3.

The

The fence whereof is this; *And therefore as to that Axiom of some Philosophers, That Nothing is either Generated or Destroyed, these Materialists admit it to be true in respect of the Substance of matter only, which is always preserved the same, As, say they, We do not say that Socrates is simply or absolutely Made, when he is made either Handsom or Musical, or that he is Destroyed, when he loseth those Dispositions, because the Subject Socrates still remains the same; so neither are we to say that any thing else is absolutely either Generated or Corrupted, because the Substance or Matter of every thing always Continues. For there must needs be some certain Nature, from which all other things are Generated, that still remaining one and the same.*

We have noted this Passage of *Aristotle's* the rather, because this is just the very Doctrine of Atheists at this day. That the Substance of Matter or Extended Bulk is the only Real Entity, and therefore the only Unmade thing, that is neither Generable nor Creatable, but Necessarily Existent from Eternity; But whatever else is in the World, as Life and Animality, Soul and Mind, being all but Accidents and Affections of this Matter (as if therefore they had no Real Entity at all in them) are Generable out of Nothing and Corruptible into Nothing, so long as the Matter in which they are, still remains the same. The Result of which is no less than this, That there can be no other Gods or God, than such as was at first Made or Generated out of Senseless Matter, and may be Corrupted again into it. And here indeed lies the *Grand Mystery of Atheism*, that every thing besides the Substance of Matter is Made or Generated, and may be again Unmade or Corrupted.

However *Anaxagoras*, though an Ionick Philosopher, and therefore, as shall be declared afterward, Successor to those Atheistick Materialists, was at length so far Convinced by that Pythagorick Doctrine, That no Entity could be naturally Generated out of Nothing, as that he departed from his Predecessors herein, and did for this reason acknowledge Mind and Soul, that is, all Cogitative Being to be a Substance really distinct from Matter, neither Generable out of it nor Corruptible into it; as also that the Forms and Qualities of Bodies (which he could not yet otherwise conceive of than as things really distinct from those Modifications of Magnitude, Figure, Site and Motion) must for the same cause pre-exist before Generations in certain *Similar Atoms*, and remain after Corruptions, being only Secreted and Concentrated in them. By means whereof he introduced a certain *Spurious Atomism* of his own; For whereas the Genuine Atomists before his time had supposed *ὅλως ἀνομοίως*, *Dissimilar Atoms* devoid of all Forms and Qualities to be the Principles of all Bodies, *Anaxagoras* substituted in the room of them his *ἑταρομοίαινα*, his *Similar Atoms*, endued from Eternity with all Manner of Forms and Qualities Incorruptibly.

XVI. We have made it manifest that those *Material Philosophers*, described by *Aristotle*, were absolute *Atheists*, not merely because they made Body to be the only Substance, though that be a thing which *Aristotle* himself justly reprehends them for also: in these

Metaph. l. 1. 6. 7. these words of his, ὅσοι μὲν ἔν ἐντε τὸ πᾶν καὶ μίαν εἶναι τὰ φύσι, ἐξ ὧν τιχῶσι, καὶ ταύτων σωματικῶν, καὶ μεγέθους ἔχουσιν, ὅλον ὅτι πολλὰ χάς ἀμαζήαντος, ὅτι γὰρ σωματικῶν τὰ στοιχεῖα τιχῶσι μόνον, τῶνδε ἀσωματικῶν ἔντων καὶ ἀσωματικῶν. *They who suppose the World to be one uniform thing, and acknowledge only one nature as the matter, and this Corporeal or indued with Magnitude, it is evident that they erre many ways, and particularly in this, that they set down only the Elements of Bodies, and not of Incorporeal things, though there be also things Incorporeal.* I say, we have not concluded them Atheists, merely for this reason, because they denied Incorporeal Substance, but because they deduced all things whatsoever from Dead and Stupid Matter, and made every thing in the World, besides the bare Substance of Matter, devoid of all Quality, Generable and Corruptible.

L. 1. c. 10. Now we shall take notice of an Objection, made by some late Writers, against this Aristotelick Accusation of the old Philosophers, founded upon a passage of Aristotle's own, who elsewhere in his Book *De Cælo*, speaking of the Heaven or World, plainly affirms, γινώμενοι μὲν ἔν ἀπαντες εἶναι φασιν, that all the Philosophers before himself, did assert the World to have been Made, or have had a Beginning. From whence these Writers infer, that therefore they must needs be all Theists, and hold the Divine Creation of the World, and consequently, that Aristotle contradicts himself, in representing many of them as Atheists, acknowledging only one Material Principle of the whole Universe, without any Intending or Efficient Cause. But we cannot but pronounce this to be a great Error in these Writers, to conclude all those who held the World to have been Made, therefore to have been Theists, whereas it is certain on the contrary, that all the First and most Ancient Atheists did (in Aristotle's language) κοσμοποιεῖν ἢ γινώσκειν τὸ κόσμον, *Make or Generate the World*, that is, suppose it not to have been from Eternity, but to have had a Temporary Beginning; as likewise that it was Corruptible, and would sometime or other, have an End again. The sense of which Atheistick Philosophers is represented by *Lucretius* in this manner:

*Et quoniam docui, Mundi Mortalia Tempora
Esse, Quod Nativo consistere Corpore Cælum,
Et quæcunque in eo sunt, fierique, necesse
Esse ea Dissolvi.*

And there seems to be indeed a Necessity, in reason, that they who derive all things from a Fortuitous Principle, and hold every thing besides the Substance of Matter to have been Generated, should suppose the World to have been Generated likewise, as also to be Corruptible. Wherefore it may well be reckoned for one of the Vulgar Errors; That all Atheists held the Eternity of the World.

Moreover, when Aristotle subjoins immediately after, ὡλλὰ γινώμενοι, οἱ μὲν αἰδίου, οἱ δὲ φασιν, that though the Ancient Philosophers all held the World to have been Made, yet notwithstanding, they were divided in this, that some of them supposed for all that, that it would continue

time to Eternity such as it is, others, that it would be Corrupted again; the former of these, who conceived the World to be *γενόμενον*, but *αἰδαν*, Made, but Eternal, were none of them Atheists, but all Theists. Such as *Plato*, whom *Aristotle* seems particularly to perstringe for this, who in his *Timæus* introduceth the Supreme Deity bespeaking those Inferiour Gods, the Sun, Moon and Stars (supposed by that Philosopher to be Animated) after this manner; *ἃ δὲ ἐμὲ γενόμενα, ἄλυστα, ἐμῶν θύοντες τὸ μὲν εἶναι πάντων, αὐτῶν τῶν μὲν καλῶς ἀρριωσθὲν ἐχόντων, λυέναι ἔχουσιν, καὶ δὲ ἃ ἐγὼ ἐπέσθην γενέσθαι, ἀθάνατον μὲν ἢ ἐν, ἀλλ' αὐτοὶ τὸ παμπαν εἶναι μὲν οὐκ ἀνδύσονται, γὰρ, ἐὰν τολήσῃσι θανάτου μοίρας, ἢ ἐμὲς βούλομαι, μέλλουσιν εἶναι ὅτε μὲν ἐγὼ κεραιώτερος λαχόντες* Those things which are made by me are Indissoluble by my will, and though every thing which is compounded, be in its own nature dissolvable, yet it is not the part of one that is good, to will the dissolution or destruction of any thing, that was once well made. Wherefore though you are not absolutely Immortal, nor altogether Indissoluble, yet notwithstanding, you shall not be dissolved, nor ever die. My will being a stronger Band to hold you together, than any thing else can be to loosen you. Philo and other Theists followed *Plato* in this, asserting that though the world was Made, yet it would never be Corrupted, but have a Post-eternity. Whereas all the Ancient Atheists, namely those who derived the Original of things from Nature and Fortune, did at once deny both Eternities to the World; Past and Future. Though we cannot say that none but Atheists did this, for *Empedocles* and *Heraclitus*, and afterward the Stoicks, did not only suppose the World likewise Generated, and to be again Corrupted, but also that this had been, and would be done over and over again, in Infinite vicissitudes.

Furthermore, as the World's Eternity was generally opposed by all the Ancient Atheists, so it was maintained also by some Theists, and that not only *Aristotle*, but also before him, by *Ocellus Lucanus* at least, though *Aristotle* thought not fit to take any notice of him; as likewise the latter Platonists universally went that way, yet so, as that they always supposed the World to have as much depended upon the Deity, as if it had been once Created out of Nothing by it.

To conclude therefore; neither they who asserted the world's Generation and Temporary Beginning, were all Theists; nor they who maintained its Eternity, all Atheists; but before *Aristotle's* time, the Atheists universally, and most of the Theists, did both alike conclude the World to have been Made; the difference between them lying in this, that the one affirmed the World to have been Made by God, the other by the Fortuitous Motion of Matter.

Wherefore if we would put another difference betwixt the Theists and Atheists here, as to this particular, we must distinguish betwixt the System of the World and the Substance of the Matter: For the Ancient Atheists, though they generally denied the Eternity of the World, yet they supposed the Substance of the Matter, not only to have been Eternal, but also Self-existent and Independent upon any other Being; they making it the first Principle and Original of all things

things, and consequently the only *Númen*. Whereas the Genuine Theists, though many of them maintained the Worlds Eternity, yet they all concluded, both the Form and Substance of it, to have always depended upon the Deity, as the Light doth upon the Sun. The Stoicks with some others being here excepted.

XVII. *Aristotle* tells us, some were of opinion, that this Atheistick Philosophy, which derives all things from *senseless* and *stupid Matter*, in the way of *Forms* and *Qualities*, was of great Antiquity, and as old as any Records of Time amongst the Greeks; and not only so, but also that the Ancient *Theologers* themselves entertained it; *οἱ δὲ τίς αἱ τῶν παλαιῶν, καὶ πολλὰ πρὶν ἢ νῦν γινώσκας, καὶ πρὸ τῶν φιλοσόφων, ὅτι οἴονται ὅτι τὸ φύσας διχλαβῶν. ὡς αὖτε τι δὲ καὶ τὸν ἐκείνου τὸ γινώσκας παλαιῶν, καὶ τὸ ἐκείνου τὸν ἴδιον, τὸν καλῶς μέντω ὡς αὐτῶν. Στόμα τῶν ποταμῶν. τιμώτατος μὲν γὰρ τὸ πρῶτον ἐκείνου ὅτι τὸ τιμώτατος ἐστίν. There are some who conceive that even the most ancient of all, and the most remote from this present Generation; and they also who first Theologized, did Physiologize after this manner; forasmuch as they made the Ocean and Tethys to have been the Original of Generation; and for this cause the Oath of the Gods is said to be by water (called by the Poets Styx) as being that from which they all derived their Original. For an Oath ought to be by that which is most Honourable; and that which is most Ancient, is most Honourable. In which words it is very probable that *Aristotle* aimed at *Plato*; however it is certain that *Plato* in his *Theatetus*, affirms this Atheistick Doctrine to have been very ancient, ὅτι πάντα ἕκαστα ἐξ ὧν τι καὶ κίνησις, that all things were the off-spring of Flux and Motion, that is, that all things were Made and Generated out of Matter; and that he chargeth *Homer* with it, in deriving the Original of the Gods themselves in like manner, from the Ocean, (or Floating Matter) in this Verse of his,*

Ὡκεανὸν τι θεῶν γένον, καὶ μητέρα τινῶν.

*The Father of all Gods, the Ocean is,
Tethys their Mother.*

Wherefore these indeed seem to have been the ancientest of all Atheists, who though they acknowledged certain Beings superiour to men, which they called by the Name of Gods, did notwithstanding really deny a God, according to the true Notion of him, deriving the Original of all things whatsoever in the Universe, from the Ocean, that is, *Fluid Matter*, or, which is all one, from *Night* and *Chaos*; and supposing all their Gods to have been Made and Generated, and consequently to be Mortal and Corruptible. Of which *Atheistick Theology*, *Aristophanes* gives us the description, in his *Aves*, after this manner: *That at first was Nothing but Night and Chaos, which laying an Egg, from thence was produced Love, that mingling again with Chaos, begot Heaven, and Earth, and Animals, and all the Gods.*

χάος ὡς καὶ νύξ. ἔρεβος τε μέλαν πρῶτη, καὶ τέτατος δαίμων.
 γῆ δ', αἶθρ', αἶψ' ἀέρ, αἶψ' ἕρως ἐστίν. ἐρέβος δ' οὐκ ἀπέεργον κόλποις
 τίκτει· πρῶτιστον ὑπὸνέμων νύξ ἢ μελαινόπτερος ἔσθι.
 ἔξ ἢ ἀσπερρομήτους ὤρεσι, ἔλασεν ἕως ὁ πᾶσι δαίμων.
 στίλβων νῆστι πτερόεντι χρυσάῳ, αἰὼς ἀνιμάσκει δ' ἴνασι.
 οὕτως ἢ χάρι πτερόεντι μυχὸς νυκτός, καὶ τέτατος δαίμων,
 ἐπὶ πᾶσι γένος ἡμάρτων, καὶ πρῶτον ἀνέμαχον ἐς φῶς,
 Πέτρεον δ' ὡς ἐν γένος αἰσανάτων, πρὶν ἕως συνίμμεν ἀπαιῖαι.

*First all was Chaos, one confused Heap,
 Darkness enwrap the disagreeing Deep,
 In a mixt croud, the Jumbled Elements were,
 Nor Earth, nor Air, nor Heaven did appear;
 Till on this horrid vast Abyss of things,
 Teeming Night spreading o'er her sole-black Wings,
 Laid the first Egg; whence, after times due course,
 Issu'd forth Love (the World's Prolifick Source)
 Glist'ring with golden Wings; which fluttering o'er
 Dark Chaos, gendred all the numerous store
 Of Animals and Gods, &c.*

And whereas the Poet there makes the Birds to have been begotten between *Love* and *Chaos* before all the *Gods*; though one might think this to have been done Jocularly by him, merely to humour his Plot; yet *Salmafius* conceives, and not without some reason, that it was really a piece of the old *Atheistick Cabala*, which therefore seems to have run thus. That *Chaos* or *Matter* confusedly moved, being the first Original of all; Things did from thence rise up gradually, from lesser to greater Perfection. First Inanimate things as the Elements, Heaven, Earth and Seas, then Brute-animals, afterwards Men, and last of all the Gods. As if not only the Substance of Matter, and those Inanimate Bodies of the Elements, Fire, Water, Air and Earth, were, as *Aristotle* somewhere speaks, according to the fence of those Atheistick Theologers, * *De Gen. C. Cor. Lib. 2. c. 6.* *πρῶτ' ἐρεβος. τῷ θεῷ, τοῖς καὶ ταῦτα, First in order of Nature before God, as being themselves also Gods, but also Brute-animals at least, if not men too.* And this is the *Atheistick Creation* of the World, Gods and all, out of Senseless and Stupid Matter, or Dark *Chaos*, as the only *Original Numen*; the perfectly Inverted order of the Universe.

XVIII. But though this *Hypothesis* be purely Atheistical, that makes *Love*, which is supposed to be the Original Deity, to have it self sprung at first from an *Egg* of the *Night*; and consequently that all *Deity* was the *Creature* or *Off-spring* of *Matter* and *Chaos*, or Dark *Fortuitous Nature*; yet *Aristotle* somewhere conceives that not only *Parmenides*, but also *Hesiod*, and some others, who did in like manner make *Love* the Supreme Deity, and derive all things from *Love* and *Chaos*, were to be exempted out of the number of those Atheistick Materialists before described; so far as they seemed to understand by *Love*, an *Active Principle*, and *Cause of Motion* in the Universe; which there-

fore could not spring from an Egg of the Night, nor be the Creature of Matter, but must needs be something Independent on it, and in order of Nature before it, ὑποκρίσσει δ' αὖ τις Ἡσιόδου πρῶτον, ζητήσας τί τοῖσιν, καὶ ἂν τις ἄλλος, ἔρωτα ἢ ἑπιθυμίαν, οὐ τοῖς ὅσιν ἔθηκεν ὡς ἀρχὴν, οὐκ ἢ Παρυμίδης. Καὶ γὰρ ὅτος κατασκευάζει τὴν τῷ πάντος γένεσιν

πρώτισιν μὲν (φύσιν) ἔρωτα θεῶν ῥητίστατο πάντων.

Ἡσιόδου ὅ,

πάντων μὲν πρώτισιν χάος γένετ'· ὠτὰρ ἔπειτα
γαῖ' ἀφ' ἑωσπερος, —
ἥδ' ἔρος, ὃς πάντας μετακρήνῃ ἀθανάτοισιν.

ὡς δὲ οὐ τοῖς ὅσιν ὑπάρχον τινα αἰτίαν, ὥς καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἡ συνίξις τὰ πράγματα· τότε μὲν ὅτι πᾶς καὶ διανοῦμαι ὅτι τῷ τις πρῶτος, ἔξω κείνῃ ἔσται· One would suspect that Hesiod, and if there be any other who made Love or Desire, a Principle of things in the Universe, aimed at this very thing, (namely, the setting of another Active Principle besides Matter :) For Parmenides, describing the Generation of the Universe, makes Love to be the Senior of all the Gods, and Hesiod, after he had mentioned Chaos, introduced Love, as the supreme Deity. As intimating herein, that besides Matter, there ought to be another Cause or Principle, that should be the Original of Motion and Activity, and also hold and conjoin all things together. But how these two Principles are to be ordered, and which of them was to be placed first, whether Love or Chaos, may be judged of afterwards. In which latter words Aristotle seems to intimate, that Love, as taken for an Active Principle, was not to be supposed to spring from Chaos, but rather to be in order of Nature before it; and therefore by this Love of theirs must needs be meant the Deity. And indeed Simplicius Rhodius in his Wings, a Hymn made in Honour of this Love, that is Senior to all the Gods, and a Principle in the Universe, tells us plainly, that it is not Cupid, Venuses soft and effeminate Son, but another kind of Love

οὐτὶ γὰρ Κύπριδος καὶ
Ἰουπείτας δ' αὐτῆς ἔρος καλεῖται.
οὐτὶ γὰρ ἔκστα βιάζει, ὅστις δὲ παύει.
γαῖα, θαλάσσης τε μυχαί, θεῶν τε καὶ δέος μοι εἶναι.
τῶν δ' ἔχον ἀκροφυσί μιν ἐγγύθεν σκάνθηρον, ἀπερὶ δὲ τί σφιν χέμεται;

I'm not that Wanton Boy,
The Sea-froath Goddess's only Joy.
Pure Heavenly Love I hight, and my
Soft Magick Charms, not Iron Bands, fast tie
Heaven, Earth and Sea. The Gods themselves do readily
Stoop to my Laws. The whole World danceth to my Harmony.

Moreover, this cannot be that Love neither, which is described in Plato's *Symposium* (as some learned men have conceived) that was begotten between Penia and Pors, this being not a
Divine

Divine but *Democritick* thing (as the Philosopher there declares) no *God* but a *Dæmon* only, or of a Middle Nature. For it is nothing but *εἰδωλῶν*, or the *Love of Pulchritude*, as such, which though rightly used, may perhaps Wing and Inspire the Mind, to Noble and Generous Attempts, and beget a scornful disdain in it, of Mean, Dirty, and Sordid things; yet it is capable of being abused also, and then it will strike downward into Brutishness and Sensuality. But at best it is an Affection, belonging only to Imperfect and Parturient Beings; and therefore could not be the First Principle of all things. Wherefore we see no very great reason, but that in a Rectified and Qualified sense, this may pass for true Theology; That *Love* is the *Supreme Deity* and *Original* of all things; namely, if by it be meant, Eternal, Self-originated, Intellectual Love, or Essential and Substantial Goodness, that having an Infinite overflowing Fulness and Fecundity, dispenses it self Uninvadously, according to the best Wisdom, Sweetly Governs all, without any Force or Violence (all things being Naturally subject to its Authority, and readily obeying its Laws) and reconciles the whole World into Harmony. For the Scripture telling us, that *God is Love*, seems to warrant thus much to us, that *Love* in some rightly Qualified sense, is *God*.

XIX. But we are to omit the Fabulous Age, and to descend to the Philosophical, to enquire there, who they were among the professed Philosophers, who Atheized in that manner, before described. It is true indeed, that *Aristotle* in other Places, accuses *Democritus* and *Leucippus* of the very same thing, that is, of assigning only a *Material Cause* of the Universe, and giving no account of the *Original of Motion*; but yet it is certain that these were not the Persons intended by him here; Those which he speaks of, being τῶν πρῶτων φιλοσοφούντων, some of the first and most ancient Philosophers of all. Moreover it appears by his Description of them, that they were such as did not Philosophize in the way of *Atoms*, but resolved all things whatsoever in the Universe, into *ύλη*, and πᾶσι τῇ ύλει, *Matter*, and the *Passions* or *Affections*, *Qualities* and *Forms* of *Matter*; so that they were not Atomical, but Hylopathian Philosophers. These two, the old Materialists and the Democriticks, did both alike derive all things from Dead and Stupid Matter, fortuitously Moved; and the Difference between them was only this, that the Democriticks manag'd this business in the way of *Atoms*, the other in that more vulgar way of *Qualities* and *Forms*: So that indeed, this is really but one and the same Atheistick Hypothesis, in two several Schemes. And as one of them is called the *Atomick Atheism*, so the other, for Distinctions sake, may be called the *Hylopathian*.

XX. Now *Aristotle* tells us plainly, that these *Hylopathian Atheists* of his, were all the first Philosophers of the *Ionick Order* and Succession, before *Anaxagoras*. Whereof *Thales* being the Head, he is contemporaneously thereunto by *Aristotle*, made to be ἀρχηγὸς τῆς φιλοσοφίας, the Prince and Leader of this kind of Atheistical Philosophy, he deriving all things whatsoever, as *Homer* had done before him, from Water, and acknowledging no other Principle but the Fluid Matter.

having declared that several of the Ancient Physiologers, made *ἄπειρον* or Infinite to be the Principle of all things, he subjoyns these words, *ἐν καὶ ταύτῃ λέγουμεν, ὅτι ταύτης ἀρχῇ, ἢ αὐτῇ τῇ ἄλλῃ ἐναι δεῖναι. καὶ ἀρχὴν ἅπαντα, καὶ πάντα κυβερνᾶν, ὥς φασιν ὅσοι μὴ πυνθῶσι ὅτι τὸ ἄπειρον ἀλλὰς αἰτίας, ὅν τὸν, ἢ φέλου. καὶ τὴν ἐναι τὸ θεῶν, αἰσθητὸν ἢ δὲ ἀιδόλητον, ὥς φησὶν ὁ Ἀναξίμανδρος, καὶ οἱ πολλοὶ τῇ φυσιολόγῳ.* Therefore there seems to be no Principle of this Infinite; but this to be the Principle of other things, and to Contain all things and Govern all things, as they all say who do not make besides Infinite, any other Cause, such as Mind, or Friendship, and that this is the only real Numen or God in the World, it is being Immortal and Incorruptible, as Anaximander affirms, and most of the Physiologers. From which Place some Late Writers have confidently concluded, that Anaximander, with those other Physiologers, there mentioned, did by Infinite, understand God, according to the True Notion of him, or an Infinite Mind, the Efficient Cause of the Universe, and not Senseless and Stupid Matter; since this could not be said to be Immortal and to Govern all things; and consequently, that Aristotle grossly contradicts himself, in making all those Ionick Philosophers before Anaxagoras, to have been Mere Materialists or Atheists. And it is possible, that Clement Alexandrinus also, might from this very Passage of Aristotle's, not sufficiently considered, have been induced to rank Anaximander, amongst the Divine Philosophers, as he doth in his Protreptick to the Greeks; where after he had condemned certain of the old Philosophers, as Atheistick Corporealists, he subjoyns these words * *τῇ ἄλλῃ φιλοσόφων, ὅσοι τὰ στοιχεῖα ἡσθεύοντες, ἐπολυπλεγμένους τι ὑψιλότῳ, καὶ ἀετῆστερον, οἱ μὲν αὐτῇ τὸ ἄπειρον καθομνύουσιν, ὡς Ἀναξίμανδρος ὁ μιλῆσιος ἦν, καὶ Ἀναξαγόρης ὁ κλαζομένιος, καὶ ὁ Ἀθηναῖος Ἀρχέλαος.* But of the other Philosophers, who transcending all the Elements, searched after some higher and more excellent thing, some of them praised Infinite, amongst which was Anaximander the Mileſian, Anaxagoras the Clazomenian, and the Athenian Archelaus. As if these Three had all alike acknowledged an Incorporeal Deity, and made an Infinite Mind, distinct from Matter, the First Original of all things.

But that forcited Passage of Aristotle's alone, well consider'd, will it self afford a sufficient Confutation of this Opinion; where Anaximander, with those other Physiologers, is plainly opposed to Anaxagoras, who besides Infinite Senseless Matter, or similar Atoms, made Mind to be a Principle of the Universe, as also to Empedocles, who made a Plastick Life and Nature, called Friendship, another Principle of the Corporeal World; from whence it plainly follows, that Anaximander and the rest, supposed not Infinite Mind, but Infinite Matter, without either Mind or Plastick Nature, to have been the only Original of all things, and therefore the Only Deity or Numen.

Moreover, Democritus being linked in the Context with Anaximander, as making both of them alike, τὸ ἄπειρον, or Infinite, to be the First Principle of all; it might as well be inferred from this Place, that Democritus was a Genuine Theist, as Anaximander. But as De-

moeritus his only Principle, was *Infinite Atoms*, without any thing of *Mind* or *Plastick Nature*; so likewise was *Anaximander's*, an *Infinity* of *Senseless* and *Stupid Matter*; and therefore they were both of them *Atheists* alike, though *Anaximander*, in the cited words, had the Honour (if it may be so called) to be only named, as being the most ancient of all those *Atheistical Physiologers*, and the Ringleader of them.

XXII. Neither ought it at all to seem strange, that *Anaximander*, and those other *Atheistical Materialists* should call *Infinite Matter*, devoid of all *Understanding* and *Life*, the *τὸ Δεῖον*, the *Desty* or *Numen*, since to all those who deny a God, (according to the true Notion of him) whatsoever else they substitute in his room, by making it the *First Principle* of all things, though it be *Senseless* and *Stupid Matter*, yet this must needs be accounted the *Only Numen*, and *Divinest* thing of all.

Nor is it to be wondered at neither, that this *Infinite*, being understood of *Matter*, should be said to be, not only *Incorruptible*, but also *Immortal*, these two being often used as *Synonymous*, and *Equivalent Expressions*. For thus in *Lucretius*, the Corruption of all *Inanimate Bodies* is called *Death*,

————— *Mors ejus quod fuit ante;*

And again,

*Quando aliud ex alio reficit Natura, nec ullam
Rem Gigni patitur, nisi Morte adjutam alienâ.*

In like manner *Mortal* is used by him for *Corruptible*,

*Nam siquid Mortale à cunctis partibus effet,
Ex oculis res quæque repente crepta periret.*

And this kind of Language was very familiar with *Heraclitus*, as appears from these Passages of his, *νεκρὸς δάκρυος, ἀλεα γένεας· ἢ ἀλεα δάκρυος, ὕδατι γένεας* The *Death of Fire*, is *Generation to Air*; and the *Death of Air*, is *Generation to Water*, that is, the *Corruption* of them. And again, *ἀεὶ γένεον δάκρυος, ὕδαρ γένεον ὕδατι ἢ δάκρυος, γῆν γένεον*. It is *Death to Vapour or Air*, to be made *Water*; and *Death to Water*, to be made *Earth*. In which *Heraclitus* did but imitate *Orpheus*, as appears from this Verse of his, cited by *Clement Alexand.*

Ἔσθ' ὕδαρ ἀεὶ, δάκρυος δ' ὕδατ' ἀμείβεται.

Besides which, there are many Examples of this use of the word *ἀδάκρυος*, in other Greek Writers, and some in *Aristotle* himself, who speaking of the Heavens, attributes *ἀδάκρυος* and *ἀδιδρύος* to them,

as one and the same thing: as also affirms, that the Ancients therefore made Heaven to be the Seat of the Deity, ὡς οὐρα μένον αἰώνιον, as being only Immortal, that is Incorruptible.

Indeed that other Expression, at first sight, would stagger one more, where it is said of this ἀπείρου, or Infinite, that it doth not only Contain, but also Govern all things; but *Simplicius* tells us, that this is to be understood likewise of Matter, and that no more was meant by it, than that all things were derived from it, and depended on it, as the First Principle; ὁ δὲ λόγος τοῖς τούτοις ὡς τῇ κοινῇ ἀρχῇ, ἀλλ' ἐκ τῆς ὅλης φύσεως, ὡς ἡ ἀρχὴ ἔχει καὶ κυβερνᾷ τὰς δυνάμεις. τὸ μὲν γὰρ ὡς ἀρχὴ ὑπάρχει τῶ ὅλῳ αἶνι, ὡς διὰ πάντων χωρεῖν, τὸ δὲ κυβερνᾷ ὡς τῇ τῶ ὅλου ἐπιτηδεύοντι αὐτῷ, καὶ ὑπ' αὐτῷ γινώσκοντι. These Philosophers speak only of natural Principles, and not of Supernatural; and though they say, that this Infinite of theirs, does both Contain and Govern all things, yet this is not at all to be wondered at; forasmuch as Containing belongs to the Material Cause, as that which goes through all things, and likewise Governing, as that from which all things, according to a certain aptitude of it, are made. *Philoponus* (who was a Christian) represents Aristotle's sense in this whole place more fully, after this manner. Those of the ancient Physiologists who had no respect to any Active Efficient Cause, as Anaxagoras had to Mind, and Empedocles to Friendship and Contention, supposed Matter to be the only Cause of all things, and that it was Infinite in Magnitude, Ingenerable and Incorruptible, esteeming it to be a certain Divine thing, which did Govern all, or preside over the Compages of the Universe, and to be Immortal, that is, Undestroyable. This Anaximenes said to be Air, Thales to be Water, but Anaximander, a certain Middle thing; some one thing, and some another. Καὶ ἄλλα διακρίνει φησι, ὡς τῇ καθ' ἑμῶς ἀρχῇ τὸς πρώτους μὴ ἐπισταύσας τῇ ἰσχυρίᾳ καὶ ὅλον δυνάμει, ἐν τῇ συστάσει, ὥς ἂν ὑπάρδαν ἕκαστος, αἰτῶν τοῖς ἄλλοις τι εἶναι, τὸτο δὲ οὐκ ἐκόν ὑποποιεῖν. And Aristotle in this Passage, tells us, that it is no wonder, if they who did not attend to the Active Cause, that presides over the Universe, did look upon some one of the Elements (that which each of them thought to be the Cause of all other things) as God. But as they considering only the Material Principle, conceived that to be the Cause of all things; so Anaxagoras supposed Mind to be the Principle of all things, and Empedocles Friendship and Contention.

XXIII. But to make it further appear, that Anaximander's Philosophy was purely Atheistical; we think it convenient to show what account is given of it by other Writers. *Plutarch* in his *Placita Philosophorum*, does at once briefly represent the Anaximandrian Philosophy; and Censure it after this manner. Ἀναξίμανδρος εἶς φησι, καὶ ὅλον τῶ ἀρχῷ εἶναι τὸ ἀπείρου, ὅα γὰρ τότε πάντα γίνεσθαι, καὶ ὡς τὸτο πάντα φέρεσθαι, διὸ καὶ γινώσκει ἀπείρους κόσμους, καὶ πάντα φέρεσθαι λέγει ὡς διὰ τὸ ἀπείρου εἶναι, ἵνα μὴ ἐλλείπει ἢ γένεσις ἢ φθορά. ἀμαρτάνει δὲ ὅτι, τῶ μὲν ὅλῳ ἀποφανεῖσθαι, τὸ δὲ πᾶν αἰτῶν ἀναεῖν, τὸ δὲ ἀπείρου εἶναι ὅλον, καὶ ὅλον εἶναι τὸ δυνάμει ἢ ὅλον εἶναι ἀτέλεστον, ἵαν μὴ τὸ πᾶν ὑπάρδαι. Anaximander the Milesian affirms, Infinite to be the First Principle. And that all things are Generated out of it, and Corrupted again into it, and therefore

therefore that Infinite Worlds, are successively thus Generated and Corrupted. And he gives the reason why it is Infinite, that so there might be never any Fail of Generations. But he erreth in this, that assigning only a Material Cause, he takes away the Active Principle of things. For Anaximander's Infinite, is nothing else but matter; but Matter can produce nothing, unless there be also an Active Cause. Where he shews also, how Anaximenes followed Anaximander herein, in assigning only a Material Cause of the Universe, without any Efficient; though he differed from him, in making the First Matter to be Air, and deriving all things from thence, by Rarefaction and Condensation. Thus, we see, it is plain, that Anaximander's Infinite, was no Infinite Mind, which is the true Deity, but only Infinite Matter, devoid of any Life or Active Power. Eusebius is more particular in giving an account of Anaximander's Cosmopœia. τὸ ἀπερὶ φάναι τὴν πᾶσαν αἰτίαν ἔχει τὴν πᾶντος γενέσθαι καὶ φθορᾶς, ἐξ ἧς τὰς τῶν ἀπαραλείδων, καὶ καὶ λατὰς ἀπείρας ἀπέχουσιν ὅσας κόσμους φασὶ τὸ ὅτι τῷ αἰθέρι, γένεσθαι καὶ φθορᾶς, καὶ τὴν γένεσιν τῶνδε τῶν κόσμων ἀπαραλείδων, καὶ τὰς ὅτις τέτα φλογὸς σφαίρας, ἀποφύονται τὰς αἰθέρας ὡς τὰ δένδρα φλοιᾶς. ὥς τῆς ἀπαραλείδων, καὶ ὥς τῆς ἀπαραλείδων κόκκων, ὑποφύονται τῶν ἡλίου, καὶ τῶν σελήνης, καὶ τῶν ἀστέρων. Anaximander affirms, Infinite (Matter) to be the only Cause of the Generation and Corruption of all things. And that the Heavens, and Infinite Worlds, were made out of it, by way of Secretion or Segregation. Also that those Generative Principles of Heat and Cold, that were contained in it from Eternity, being Segregated, when this World was made, a certain Sphere of Flame or Fire, did first arise and encompass the Air, which surrounds this Earth, (as a Bark doth a Tree) which being afterwards broken, and divided into smaller Spherical Bodies, constituted the Sun and Moon and all the Stars. Which Anaximandrian Cosmopœia, was briefly hinted by Aristotle in these words, εἰ δὲ ὅτι τῷ ἰνὸς, αἰσθῆς τὰς ἀντιθέτας, ἀπερὶ ἔσαν, ὡς ἂν Ἀναξίμανδρος φασὶ. Some Philosophers Generate the World, by the Secretion and Segregation of inconsistent Contraries, as Anaximander speaks. And elsewhere in his Metaphysics, he takes notice of ἡ ἀναμίξις τῶν μίγματος, Anaximander's Mixture of things. Whence we conclude, that Anaximander's Infinite, was nothing else but an Infinite Chaos of Matter, in which were either Actually, or Potentially, contained all manner of Qualities; by the Fortuitous Secretion and Segregation of which, he supposed Infinite Worlds to be successively Generated and Corrupted. So that we may now easily guess, whence Lencippus and Democritus had their Infinite Worlds, and perceive how near a kin, these two Atheistical Hypotheses were. But it will not be a-miss to take notice also of that Particular Conceit, which Anaximander had, concerning the First Original of Brute Animals, and Man-kind. Of the Former Plutarch gives us this account; Ἀναξίμανδρος αἰνέει γενέσθαι τὰ πρῶτα ζῷα, φλοιᾶς ἀπὸ χύμας αἰσθῆς δισσι, περὶ βαπτοῦς ἢ ἰσχυίας, ἀποκαταναί τὴν ἐνέργειαν, καὶ ἀπερὶ γένεσθαι τῶν φλοιᾶς, ἐπ' ὅλῃν χρόνον μετακλῖναι. That the First Animals were generated in Moisture, and encompass'd about with certain Thorny Barks, by which they were guarded and defended, which after further growth, coming to be more Dry and Cracking, they issued forth, but lived only a short time after. And as for the first Original of Men, Eusebius represents

Eu. Præp.
Lib. 1. p. 15.
Ed. Sijb.

Phys. L. 1. c. 4.

L. 14. c. 4.

Plu. Pl. 1. 5. c. 19.

represents his Sence, thus : 'Εξ ἀμοιβῶν ζῶον ὁ ἄνθρωπος ἰγνύσθαι, ὡς E. P. 11.
 τὰ τὰ μὲν ἄλλα δὲ ἐκ τῶν τεχνῶν ἰσχυροὶ μένουσιν ὃν ἂν θάσσῃ πολυχρόνως
 ἀεῖσθαι τιμωμένοις, δὲ δὲ κατ' ἀρχῆς ὡς ἄπο τῶν τούτων ὅτι διασωθῆναι.
 Men were at first generated in the Bellies of other Animals, forasmuch
 as all other Animals, after they are brought forth, are quickly able to
 feed and nourish themselves, but Man alone needs to be nursed up a long
 time; and therefore could not be preserved at first, in any other way. But
 Plutarch expresseth this something more particularly. 'Αναξίμανδρος symp. lib. 7,
 ὡς ἰχθύων ἰγνύσθαι τὸ πρῶτον ἀνθρώπου ἀποσπείσθαι, καὶ τραφέσθαι καὶ γυναιξὶ
 ἰκαρὸς ἑαυτοῖς ὑποδύν, ὡς ἐκ τῶν τούτων τεχνῶν καὶ γῆς λαλῆσαι. Anaximander
 concludes that Men were at first Generated in the Bellies of Fishes, and
 being there nourished, till they grew strong, and were able to shift for
 themselves, they were afterward cast out upon Dry Land. Lastly, Ana-
 ximander's Theology, is thus both represented to us, and censured, by
 Velleius the Epicurean Philosopher in Cicero: *Anaximandri opinio est* De Nat. D.
Nativos esse Deos, longis Intervallis Orientes Occidentisque, cōsque in- Lib. 1.
numerabiles esse Mundos, sed nos Deum nisi Sempiternum intelligere quī
possumus? Anaximander's Opinion is, that the Gods are Native, rising
 and vanishing again, in long Periods of times; and that these Gods
 are Innumerable Worlds; but how can we conceive that to be a God,
 which is not Eternal? We learn from hence, that Anaximander did
 indeed so far comply with Vulgar Opinion, as that he retained
 the Name of Gods, but however that he really denied the Existence
 of the thing it self, even according to the judgment of this Epicu-
 rean Philosopher. Forasmuch as all his Gods were Native and Mortal,
 and indeed nothing else, but those Innumerable Worlds, which
 he supposed in certain Periods of Time, to be successively Genera-
 ted and Destroyed. Wherefore it is plain, that Anaximander's only
 Real Numen, that is, his First Principle, that was Ingenerable and Incor-
 ruptible, was nothing but Infinite Matter; devoid of all Under-
 standing and Life, by the Fortuitous Secretion of whose inexistant
 Qualities and Parts, he supposed, First, the Elements of Earth, Water,
 Air and Fire, and then, the Bodies of the Sun, Moon and Stars, and both
 Bodies and Souls of men and other Animals, and lastly, Innumerable
 or Infinite such Worlds as these, as so many Secondary and Native
 Gods, (that were also Mortal) to have been Generated, according to
 that Atheistical Hypothesis described in Plato.

X X I V: It is certain that the Vulgar in all Ages have been very
 ill Judges of Theists and Atheists, they having condemned many
 hearty Theists, as guilty of Atheism, merely because they dissented
 from them, in some of their Superstitious Rites and Opinions. As
 for example; *Anaxagoras* the Clazomenian, though he was the first
 of all the Ionick Philosophers, (unless *Thales* ought to be excepted)
 who made an Infinite Mind to be a Principle, that is, asserted a Dei-
 ty, according to the true Notion of it, yet he was notwithstanding,
 generally cried down for an Atheist, merely because he affirmed the
 Sun to be *μὲν δ' ἐστὶν διάπυρρον*, a Mass of Fire, or a Fiery Globe, and the
 Moon to be an Earth, that is, because he denied them to be Animated
 and endued with Understanding Souls, and consequently to be Gods. Pl. Apol. Sur.
 So likewise *Socrates* was both accused, and condemned, for Atheisti-
 cal

himself cannot be justly Taxed for an Atheist, this Form of Atheism ought rather, as we conceive, to be denominatèd from *Anaximander*, and callèd the *Anaximandrian Atheism*.

XXV. Now the Reasons why *Democritus* and *Leucippus* New-modelled Atheism, from the *Anaximandrian* and *Hylopathian*, into the *Atomick Form*, seem to have been chiefly these; First, because, they being well instructed in that Atomick way of Physiologizing, were really convinced, that it was not only more Ingenious, but also more agreeable to Truth; the other by Real Qualities and Forms, seeming a thing Unintelligible. Secondly, because they foresaw, as *Lucretius* intimates, that the Production of Forms and Qualities out of Nothing, and the Corruption of them again into Nothing, would prepare an Easie way, for mens Belief of a *Divine Creation* and *Annihilation*. And lastly, because, as we have already suggested, they plainly perceived, that these *Forms* and *Qualities* of *Matter* were of a doubtful Nature, and therefore, as they were sometimes made a shelter for Atheism, so they might also prove, on the contrary, an *Asylum* for Corporeal Theism; in that it might possibly be supposed, that either the *Matter* of the whole World, or else the more Subtle and Fiery Part of it, was Originally endued with an Understanding Form or Quality, and consequently the Whole an *Animal* or *God*. Wherefore they took another more Effectual Course, to secure their Atheism, and exclude all Possibility of a Corporeal God, by deriving the Original of all things from Atoms, devoid of all Forms and Qualities, and having nothing in them, but Magnitude, Figure, Size and Motion, as the First Principles; it following unavoidably from thence, that *Life* and *Understanding*, as well as those other Qualities, could be only *Accidental* and *Secondary* Results from certain Fortuitous *Concretions* and *Contextures* of *Atoms*; so that the World could be made by no Previous Counsel or Understanding, and therefore by no Deity.

XXVI. We have here represented, Three several Forms of Atheism, the *Anaximandrian*, the *Democritical* and the *Stratonical*. But there is yet another Form of Atheism, different from them all, to be taken notice of, which is such, as supposes one kind of *Plagick* and *Spermatick*, *Methodical* and *Artificial* Nature, but without any Sense or Conscious Understanding, to preside over the whole World, and dispose and conserve all things, in that Regular Frame in which they are. Such a Form of Atheism as this, is hinted to us in that doubtful Passage of *Seneca's*; *Sive Animal est Mundus*, (for so it ought to be read, and not *Anima*) *sive Corpus Naturæ Gubernante, ut Arbores, ut* see Quæst. 13. 518. 391 *Sata; Whether the whole World be an Animal (i. e. endued with one Sentient and Rational Life) or whether it be only a Body Governed, by (a certain Plagick and Methodical, but Senseless) Nature, as Trees, and other Plants or Vegetables.* In which words are two several Hypotheses, of the Mundane System, Sceptically proposèd, by one who was a Corporealist, and took it for granted that all was Body. First, that the whole World, though having nothing but Body in it, yet was not withstanding an *Animal*, as our Humane Bodies are, endued with one *Sentient*,

ent or Rational Life and Nature, one Soul or Mind, governing and ordering the Whole. Which Corporeal Cosmo-zoism we do not reckon amongst the Forms of Atheism, but rather account it for a kind of Spurious Theism, or Theism disguised in a Paganick Dress, and not without a Complication of many false apprehensions, concerning the Deity, in it. The Second is, that the whole World is no Animal, but as it were, one Huge Plant or Vegetable, a Body endued with one Plastick or Spermatick Nature, branching out the whole, Orderly and Methodically, but without any Understanding or Sense. And this must needs be accounted a Form of Atheism, because it does not derive the Original of things in the Universe, from any clearly Intellectual Principle or Conscious Nature.

XXVII. Now this Form of Atheism which supposes the Whole World (there being nothing but Body in it) not to be an Animal, but only a Great Plant or Vegetable, having one Spermatick Form, or Plastick Nature, which without any Conscious Reason or Understanding, orders the whole, though it have some nearer Correspondence with that Hylozoick Form of Atheism before described, in that it does not suppose Nature to be a mere Fortuitous, but a kind of Artificial thing; yet it differs from it in this, that the Hylozoick supposing all Matter, as such, to have Life, Essentially belonging to it, must therefore needs attribute to every part of Matter (or at least every Particular Totum, that is one by Continuity) a Distinct Plastick Life of its own, but acknowledge no one Common Life, as ruling over the whole Corporeal Universe, and consequently impute the Original of all things (as hath been already observed) to a certain Mixture of Chance, and Plastick or Methodical Nature, both together. Whereas the Cosmo-plastick Atheism, quite excludes Fortune or Chance, subjecting all things to the Regular and Orderly Fate, of one Plastick or Plantal Nature, ruling over the Whole. Thus that Philosopher before mentioned concludes, that whether the World were an Animal (in the Stoical sense) or whether it were a mere Plant or Vegetable, *Ab initio ejus usque ad exitum, quicquid facere, quicquid pati debeat, inclusum est. Ut in Semine, omnis futuri ratio hominis comprehensa est. Et Legem Barba & Canorum, nondum natus Infans habet. Totum enim Corporis, & sequentis ætatis, in parvo occultoque, Lineamenta sunt. Sic Origo Mundi, non magis Solem & Lunam, & Vices Syderum, & Animalium Ortus, quàm quibus mutarentur Terrena, continuit. In his fuit Inundatio, quæ non secus quàm Hyems, quàm Æstas, Lege Mundi venit. Whatsoever, from the beginning to the end of it, it can either Do or Suffer, it was all at first included in the Nature of the whole; As in the Seed is contained the Whole Delineation of the Future man, and the Embryo or Unborn infant, hath already in it, the Law of a Beard and Gray Hairs. The Lineaments of the whole Body, and of its following age, being there described as it were in a little and obscure Compendium. In like manner, the Original and First Rudiments of the World, contained in them, not only the Sun and Moon, the Courses of the Stars, and the Generations of Animals, but also the Vicissitudes of all Terrestrial things. And every Deluge or Inundation of Water, comes to pass no less, by the Law of the World (its Spermatick or Plastick Nature) than Winter and Summer doth.*

XXVIII. We

XXVIII. We do not deny it to be possible, but that some in all Ages might have entertained such an Atheistical Conceit as this, That the Original of this whole Mundane System was from one *Artificial, Orderly and Methodical*, but *Senseless Nature* lodged in the Matter; but we cannot trace the footsteps of this Doctrine any where so much as among the Stoicks, to which Sect *Seneca*, who speaks so waveringly and uncertainly in this point, (Whether the World were an *Animal* or a *Plant*) belonged. And indeed diverse learned men have suspected, that even the *Zenonian* and *Heraclitick* Duty it self, was no other than such a *Plastick Nature* or *Spermatick Principle* in the Universe, as in the *Seeds of Vegetables and Animals*, doth frame their respective Bodies, *Orderly and Artificially*. Nor can it be denied, but that there hath been just cause given for such a suspicion; forasmuch as the best of the *Stoicks*, sometimes confounding *God* with *Nature*, seemed to make him nothing but an *Artificial Fire, Orderly and Methodically proceeding to Generation*. And it was Familiar with them, as *Laertius* tells us, to call *God* *σπερματικὸν λόγον τῆς κόσμου*, the *Spermatick Reason* or *Form of the World*. Nevertheless, because *Zeno* and others of the chief Stoical Doctors, did also many times assert, that there was *λογὸς νοεστὶ καὶ νοητῷ*, a *Rational and Intellectual Nature* (and therefore not a *Plastick Principle* only) in the *Matter* of the Universe; as likewise that the whole World was an *Animal*, and not a mere *Plant*: Therefore we incline rather, to excuse the generality of the first and most ancient Stoicks from the imputation of Atheism, and to account this Form of Atheism which we now speak of, to be but a certain Degeneracy from the right *Heraclitick* and *Zenonian* *Cabala*, which seemed to contain these two things in it; First, that there was an *Animalist, Sentient and Intellectual Nature*, or a *Conscious Soul and Mind*, that presided over the whole World, though lodged immediately in the *Fiery Matter* of it: Secondly, that this *Sentient and Intellectual Nature*, or *Corporeal Soul and Mind* of the Universe, did contain also under it, or within it, as the inferior part of it, a certain *Plastick Nature* or *Spermatick Principle* which was properly the *Fate of all things*. For thus *Heraclitus* defined *Fate* *λόγον τῶν διὰ τῆς οὐρίας τῆς παντὸς δυνάμεως, ἢ πύλης τοῦ κόσμου σπέρματος*. ἢ τῆς παντὸς γένεως; *A certain Reason passing through the Substance of the whole World, or an Ethereal Body, that was the Seed of the Generation of the Universe*. And *Zeno's* first Principle, as it is said to be an *Intellectual Nature*, so it is also said, to have contained in it *παντὸς τῶν σπερματικῶν λόγων καὶ ὅς ἐστι καὶ αὐτὸς ὁμοειδὲς γένεσιν*, *All the Spermatick Reasons and forms, by which every thing is done according to Fate*. However, though this seem to have been the genuine Doctrine, both of *Heraclitus* and *Zeno*; yet others of their Followers afterwards, divided these two things from one another, and taking only the latter of them, made the *Plastick* or *Spermatick Nature*, devoid of all *Animality* or *Conscious Intellectuality*, to be the highest Principle in the Universe. Thus *Laertius* tells us, that *Boethius*, an eminent and famous Stoical Doctor did plainly deny the World to be an *Animal*, that is, to have any *Sentient, Conscious or Intellectual Nature* presiding over it, and consequently must needs make it to be but *Corpus Naturæ gubernante, ut Arbore, ut Sata, A Body govern-*

ed by a *Plaflick* or *Vegetative Nature*, as *Trees*, *Plants* and *Herbs*. And as it is poſſible that other *Stoicks* and *Hercliticks*, might have done the like before *Boethius*, ſo it is very probable that he had after him many Followers; amongſt which, as *Plinius Secundus* may be reckoned for one, ſo *Seneca* himſelf was not without a doubtful Tincture of this *Atheiſm*, as hath been already ſhewed. Wherefore this Form of *Atheiſm*, which ſuppoſes one *Plaflick* or *Spermatick Nature*, one *Plantal* or *Vegetative Life* in the whole World, as the *Higheſt Principle*, may, for diſtinction ſake, be called the *Pſendo-Stoical* or *Stoical Atheiſm*.

XXIX. Beſides theſe *Philophick Atheiſts*, whoſe ſeveral Forms we have now deſcribed, it cannot be doubted, but that there have been in all Ages many other *Atheiſts* that have not at all *Philophized*, nor pretended to maintain any particular *Atheiſtick System* or *Hypotheſis*, in a way of *Reason*, but were only led by a certain dull and ſottiſh, though confident, *Diſbelief* of whatſoever they could not either See or Feel: Which kind of *Atheiſts* may therefore well be accounted *Enthuſiaſtical* or *Fanatical Atheiſts*. Though it be true in the meantime, that even all manner of *Atheiſts* whatſoever, and thoſe of them who moſt of all pretend to *Reason* and *Philophy*, may in ſome ſence be juſtly ſtiled alſo both *Enthuſiaſts* and *Fanaticks*. Forasmuch as they are not led or carried on, into this way of *Atheizing*, by any clear Dictates of their *Reason* or *Underſtanding*, but only by an *ὁρμη ἀλογος*, a certain *Blind* and *Irrational Impetus*, they being as it were *Inſpired* to it, by that lower *Earthly Life* and *Nature*, which is called in the Scripture-oracles τὸ πνεῦμα τῆς κόσμου, the *Spirit of the World*, or a *Mundane Spirit*, and is oppoſed to the τὸ πνεῦμα τοῦ Θεοῦ, the *Spirit that is of God*. For when the Apoſtle ſpeaks after this manner, *We have not received the Spirit of the World, but the Spirit that is of God*, he ſeems to intimate thus much unto us; That as ſome men were Led and *Inſpired* by a *Divine Spirit*, ſo others again are *Inſpired* by a *Mundane Spirit*, by which is meant the *Earthly Life*. Now the former of theſe Two, are not to be accounted *Enthuſiaſts*, as the word is now commonly taken in a Bad ſence, becauſe the *Spirit of God* is no *Irrational thing*, but either the very ſelf ſame thing with *Reason*, or elſe ſuch a thing as *Ariſtotle* (as it were *Vaticinating* concerning it) ſomewhere calls λόγος τι κρείττερον, a certain *Better and Diviner thing than Reason*, and *Plotinus* εἰς αὐτὸν λόγος, the *Root of Reason*. But on the contrary, the *Mundane Spirit*, or *Earthly Life*, is *Irrational* *Sottiſhneſs*; and they who are *Atheiſtically Inſpired* by it (how abhorrent ſoever they may otherwiſe ſeem to be from *Enthuſiaſm* and *Revelations*) are notwithstanding really no better, than a kind of *Bewitched Enthuſiaſts* and *Blind Spirituati*, that are wholly ridden and acted by a dark, narrow and captivated Principle of *Life*, and, to uſe their own Language, *In-blown* by it, and by it hereſt, even in *Speculative things*, of all *Free Reason* and *Underſtanding*. Nay they are *Fanaticks* too, however that word ſeem to have a more peculiar reſpect to ſomething of a Deity: All *Atheiſts* being that *Blind Goddeſs*, *Natures Fanaticks*.

XXX. We have deſcribed four ſeveral Forms of *Atheiſm*; *First*,
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the *Hylopathian* or *Anaximandrian*, that derives all things from Dead and Stupid Matter in the way of *Qualities and Forms*, Generable and Corruptible : Secondly, the *Atomical* or *Democritical*, which doth the same thing in the way of *Atoms and Figures* : Thirdly, the *Cosmoplastic* or *Stoical Atheism*, which supposes one *Plastick* and *Metaphysical* but *Senseless Nature*, to preside over the whole Corporeal Universe : And lastly, the *Hylozoick* or *Stratonical*, that attributes to all Matter, as such, a certain *Living and Energetick Nature*, but devoid of all *Animality, Sense and Consciousness*. And as we do not meet with any other *Forms or Schemes of Atheism*, besides these *Four*, so we conceive that there cannot easily be any other excogitated or devised : and that upon these two following Considerations. First, because all *Atheists* are mere *Corporealists*, that is, acknowledge no other *Substance* besides *Body or Matter*. For as there was never any yet known, who asserting *Incorporeal Substance*, did deny a *Deity* ; so neither can there be any reason, why he that admits the former should exclude the latter. Again, the same Dull and Earthly Disbelief or confounded Sottishness of Mind, which makes men deny a *God*, must needs incline them to deny all *Incorporeal Substance* also. Wherefore as the Physicians speak of a certain *Disease or Madness*, called *Hydrophobia*, the *Symptom of those that have been bitten by a mad Dog*, which makes them have a monstrous Antipathy to Water ; so all Atheists are possessed with a certain kind of *Madness*, that may be called *Pneumatophobia*, that makes them have an irrational but desperate Abhorrence from *Spirits or Incorporeal Substances*, they being acted also, at the same time, with an *Hylomania*, whereby they *Madly dote upon Matter*, and *Devoutly worship it*, as the only *Numen*.

The Second Consideration is this, because as there are no Atheists but such as are mere *Corporealists*, so all *Corporealists* are not to be accounted Atheists neither : Those of them, who notwithstanding they make all things to be Matter, yet suppose an Intellectual Nature in that Matter, to preside over the Corporeal Universe, being in Reason and Charity to be exempted out of that number. And there have been always some, who though so strongly captivated under the power of gross Imagination, as that an Incorporeal God seemed to them, to be nothing but a *God of Words* (as some of them call it) a mere Empty Sound or Contradictious Expression, Something and Nothing put together ; yet notwithstanding, they have been possessed with a firm belief and persuasion of a *Deity*, or that the System of the Universe depends upon one Perfect Understanding Being as the Head of it ; and thereupon have concluded that *ὁὐκ ἔστιν ἔχουσα*, a certain kind of *Body or Matter, is God*. The grossest and most sottish of all which Corporeal Theists, seem to be those, who contend that God is only one particular Piece of Organized Matter, of Humane Form and Bigness, which endued with Perfect Reason and Understanding, exerciseth an Universal Dominion over all the rest. Which *Hypothesis*, however it hath been entertained by some of the Christian Profession, both in former and later times, yet it hath seemed very ridiculous, even to many of those Heathen Philosophers themselves, who were mere Corporealists, such as the *Stoicks*, who exploded it with a kind of Indig-

nation, contending earnestly *μὴ εἶναι διὰν αἰθερώπευστον*, That *God* (though Corporeal) yet must not be conceived to be of any Humane Shape. And *Xenophanes*, an Ancient Philosophick Poet, expresseth the Childishness of this Conceit after this manner;

ἄλλ' εἴτι χεῖρας ὕ' ἔχει βοῖς ἢ λέοντες,
 * ἢ γράσσει χεῖρεσσι, καὶ ἔργα πᾶν ἀνθρώπων,
 καὶ καὶ θεῶν ἰδίας ἔργεσσιν, καὶ σώματ' ἵππων
 τοιαῦθ' οἶν περ καὶ αὐτῷ θένμας ἔχον ὁμοῖον.

if Oxen, Lions, Horses and Asse, had all of them a Sense of a Deity, and were able to Limn and Paint, there is no question to be made, but that each of these several Animals would paint God according to their respective Form & Likeness, and contend that he was of that shape & no other. But that other Corporeal Theism, seems to be of the two, rather more Generous and Gentile, which supposes the whole World to be one Animal, and God to be a certain Subtle and Ethereal, but Intellectual Matter, pervading it as a Soul; which was the Doctrine of others before the Stoicks, τὸ πῦρ εἶναι ὑπεράκρουν ἱππασσὸς τε ὁ μετὰ πύργου καὶ ὁ ἑρφήτος Ἡρακλείτης, Hippasus of Metapontus and Heraclitus the Ephesian supposed the Fiery and Ethereal Matter of the World to be God. However, neither these Heracliticks and Stoicks, nor yet the other Anthropomorphites, are by us condemned for downright Atheists, but rather look'd upon as a sort of Ignorant, Childish and Unskillful Theists.

Wherefore we see that *Atheists* are now reduced into a narrow Compass, since none are concluded to be *Atheists*, but such as are mere *Corporealists*, and all *Corporealists* must not be condemned for *Atheists* neither, but only those of them who assert, that there is no Conscious Intellectual Nature, presiding over the whole Universe. For this is that which the *Adepti* in *Atheism*, of what Form soever, all agree in, That the first Principle of the Universe, is no Animalish, Sentient and Conscious Nature, but that all Animality, Sense and Consciousness, is a Secondary, Derivative and Accidental thing, Generable and Corruptible, arising out of particular Concretions of Matter organized and dissolved together with them.

XXXI. Now if the First Principle and Original of all things in the Universe, be thus supposed to be Body or Matter, devoid of all Animality, Sense and Consciousness, then it must of necessity be either perfectly Dead and Stupid, and without all manner of Life, or else endued with such a kind of Life only, as is by some called *Plastick*, *Spermatical* and *Vegetative*, by others the *Life of Nature*, or *Natural Perception*. And those Atheists who derive all things from Dead and Stupid Matter, must also needs do this, either in the way of *Qualities and Forms*, and these are the *Anaximandrian Atheists*; or else in the way of *Atoms and Figures*, which are the *Democritical*. But those who make Matter endued with a *Plastick Life*, to be the first Original of all things, must needs suppose either *One such Plastick and Spermatick Life* only, in the whole Mass of Matter or Corporeal Universe, which are the *Stoical Atheists*; or else *all Matter* as such to have

have *Life* and an *Energetick Nature* belonging to it (though without any *Animal Sense* or *Self-perception*) and consequently all the Particular Parts of *Matter*, and every *Totum* by Continuity, to have a distinct *Plastick Life* of its own, which are the *Stratonick Atheists*. Wherefore there does not seem to be any room now left, for any other *Form of Atheism*, besides these *Four*, to thrust in.

And we think fit here again to inculcate, what hath been already intimated, That one Grand *Difference* amongst these several *Forms of Atheism* is this, That some of them attributing no *Life* at all to *Matter*, as such, nor indeed acknowledging any *Plastick Life* of Nature, distinct from the *Animal*, and supposing every thing whatsoever is in the world, besides *ὕλη ἁπλοῦς*, the bare Substance of *Matter* considered as devoid of all Qualities, (that is, mere *extended Bulk*) to be *Generated* and *Corrupted*, consequently resolve, that all manner of *Life* whatsoever is *Generable* and *Corruptible*, or educible out of *Nothing* and reducible to *Nothing* again, and these are the *Anaximandrian* and *Democritick Atheisms*. But the other, which are the *Stoical* and *Stratonick*, do on the contrary suppose some *Life* to be *Fundamental* and *Original*, *Essential* and *Substantial*, *Ingenerable* and *Incorruptible*, as being a *First Principle* of things. Nevertheless, this not to be any *Animal*, *Conscious* and *Self-perceptive Life*, but a *Plastick Life* of Nature only; all *Atheists* still agreeing in those Two forementioned Things; First, that there is no other *Substance* in the World besides *Body*; Secondly, that all *Animal Life*, *Sense* and *Self-perception*, *Conscious Understanding* and *Personality* are *Generated* and *Corrupted*, successively *Educed* out of *Nothing* and *Reduced* into *Nothing* again.

XXXII. Indeed we are not ignorant, that some, who seem to be Well-wishers to *Atheism*, have talk'd sometimes of *Sensitive* and *Rational Matter*, as having a mind to suppose, Three several sorts of *Matter* in the Universe, Specifically different from one another, that were Originally such, and Self-existent from Eternity; namely *Senseless*, *Sensitive* and *Rational*: As if the *Mundane System* might be conceived to arise, from a certain Jumble of these Three several sorts of *Matter*; as it were scuffling together in the Dark, without a God, and so producing Brute Animals and Men. But as this is a mere Precarious *Hypothesis*, there being no imaginable accompt to be given, how there should come to be such an Essential Difference betwixt *Matters*, or why this Piece of *Matter* should be *Sensitive*; and that *Rational*, when another is altogether *Senseless*; so the Suggestors of it are but mere *Novices in Atheism*, and a kind of Bungling Well-wishers to it. First, because, according to this *Hypothesis*, no *Life* would be Produced or Destroyed in the successive *Generations* and *Corruptions* of Animals, but only *Concreted* and *Secreted* in them; and consequently all humane *Personalities* must be *Eternal* and *Incorruptible*: Which is all one, as to affect the *Præ* and *Post-existence* of all Souls, from Eternity to Eternity, a thing that all Genuine and Thorow-pae'd *Atheists* are in a manner as abhorrent from, as they are from the Deity itself. And Secondly, because there can be no imaginable Reason given by them, Why there might not be as well, a certain *Divine Mat-*

ter perfectly Intellectual and Self-existent from Eternity, as a *Sensitive* and *Rational Matter*. And therefore such an *Hypothesis* as this, can never serve the turn of Atheists. But all those that are Masters of the *Craft of Atheism*, and thorowly Catechized or Initiated in the *Dark Mysteries* thereof, (as hath been already inculcated) do perfectly agree in this, That all *Animal, Sentient and Conscious Life*, all *Souls and Minds*, and consequently all humane *Personalities*, are *Generated out of Matter*, and *Corrupted again* into it, or rather *Educed out of Nothing* and *Reduced into Nothing* again.

We understand also that there are certain *Canting Astrological Atheists*, who would deduce all things from the *Occult Qualities and Influences* of the Stars, according to their different *Conjunctions, Oppositions and Aspects*, in a certain blind and unaccountable manner. But these being Persons devoid of all manner of Sense, who neither so much as pretend to give an Account of these Stars, whether they be Animals or not, as also whence they derive their Original, (which if they did undertake to do *Atheistically*, they must needs resolve themselves at length into one or other of those *Hypotheses* already proposed) therefore, as we conceive, they deserve not the least Consideration. But we think fit here to observe, that such Devotees to the heavenly Bodies, as look upon all the other Stars as petty Deities, but the Sun as the *Supreme Deity* and *Monarch* of the Universe, in the mean time conceiving it also to be *Perfectly Intellectual*, (which is in a manner the same with the *Cleanthean Hypothesis*) are not so much to be accounted *Atheists*, as *Spurious, Paganical and Idolatrous Theists*. And upon all these Considerations we conclude again, that there is no other *Philosophick Form of Atheism*, that can easily be devised, besides these *Four* mentioned, the *Anaximandrian*, the *Democritical*, the *Stoical* and the *Stratonical*.

XXIII. Amongst which Forms of Atheism, there is yet another *Difference* to be observed, and accordingly another *Distribution* to be made of them. It being first premised, that all these forementioned Sorts of Atheists (if they will speak consistently and agreeably to their own Principles) must needs suppose all things to be one way or other *Necessary*. For though *Epicurus* introduced *Contingent Liberty*, yet it is well known, that he therein plainly contradicted his own Principles. And this indeed, was the First and Principal thing intended by us, in this whole Undertaking, to confute that *False Hypothesis* of the *Stundane System*, which makes all *Actions and Events Necessary upon Atheistick Grounds*, but especially in the *Mechanick way*. Wherefore in the next place we must observe, that though the Principles of all Atheists introduce *Necessity*, yet the *Necessity* of these *Atheists* is not one and the same, but of two different kinds; some of them supposing a *Necessity of Dead and Stupid Matter*, which is that which is commonly meant by *ὁλικὴ ἀνάγκη*, or *Material Necessity*, and is also called by *Aristotle*, an *Absolute Necessity* of things: Others the *Necessity* of a *Plastick Life*, which the same *Aristotle* calls an *Hypothetical Necessity*. For the *Anaximandrian* and *Democritick Atheists* do both of them assert a *Material and Absolute Necessity* of all things; one in the way of

Qualities;

Qualities, and the other of *Motion and Mechanism*: But the *Stoical* and *Stratonical Atheists* assert a *Plastical* and *Hypothetical Necessity* of things only.

Now one grand Difference betwixt these two Sorts of Atheisms and their Necessities lies in this, That the Former, though they make all things *Necessary*, yet they suppose them also to be *Fortuitous*; there being no Inconsistency between these Two. And the Sense of both the *Anaximandrian* and *Democritick Atheisms* seems to be thus described by *Plato*, πῶτα καὶ τὸ ἅν ἑξ ἀνάγκης συνεκείσθαι, *All things were mingled together by Necessity according to Fortune*. For that Nature from whence these Atheists derived all things, is at once both *Necessary* and *Fortuitous*. But the *Plastick Atheisms* suppose such a *Necessary Nature*, for the *First Principle* of things, as is not metely *Fortuitous*, but *Regular, Orderly* and *Methodical*; the *Stoical* excluding all *Chance* and *Fortune* universally, because they subject all things to *One Plastick Nature* ruling over the whole Universe, but the *Stratonical* doing it in part only, because they derive things, from a *Mixture* of *Chance* and *Plastick Nature* both together.

And thus we see that there is a Double Notion of *Nature* amongst Atheists, as well as Theists; which we cannot better express than in the words of *Balbus* the *Stoick*, personated by *Cicero*: *Alii Naturam censent esse Vim quandam sine Ratione, cientem motus in corporibus necessarios*; *Alii autem Vim participem Ordinis, tanquam Viâ progredientem. Cujus Solertiam, nulla Ars, nulla Mânus, nemo Opifex, consequi potest imitando*; *Seminis enim Vim esse tantam, ut id quamquam perexiguum, namque sit Materiam, quâ aliâ angerique possit, ita fingat & efficiat, in suo quidque genere, partim ut per stirpes alantur suæ, partim ut movere etiam possint, & ex se similia sui generare*. Some by Nature mean a certain Force without Reason and Order, exciting Necessary Motions in Bodies; but others understand by it, such a Force as participating of Order, proceeds as it were Methodically. Whose exquisiteness, no Art, no Hand, no Opificer can reach to by Imitation. For the Force of Seed is such, that though the Bulk of it be very small, yet if it get convenient Matter for its nourishment and increase, it so Forms and Frames things in their several kinds, as that they can partly through their Stocks and Trunks be nourished, and partly Move themselves also, and Generate their like. And again; *Sunt qui omnia Naturæ Nomine appellant, ut Epicurus*; *Sed nos, cum dicimus Naturâ constare administrariq; Mundum, non ita dicimus, ut Glebam, aut Fragmentum Lapidis, aut aliquid ejusmodi, nulla coherendi Naturâ; Sed ut Arborem, ut Animalia, in quibus nulla Temeritas, sed Ordo apparet & Artis quædam Similitudo*. There are some who call all things by the name of Nature, as *Epicurus*: But we, when we say that the World is administered by Nature, do not mean such a Nature as is in Clods of Earth and Pieces of Stone; but such as is in a Tree or Animal, in whose Constitution there is no Temerity, but Order and Similitude of Art. Now according to these Two different Notions of Nature, the Four forementioned Forms of Atheismi may be again Dichotomized after this manner; into such as derive all things from a mere *Fortuitous* and *Temerarious Nature*, devoid of all Order

De Nat. De.
l. 2.

and Methodicalness; and such as deduce the Original of things from a certain *Orderly, Regular and Artificial*, though *Senseless* Nature in Matter. The former of which are the *Anaximandrian* and *Democritick Atheisms*, the latter the *Stoical* and *Stratonical*.

It hath been already observed, that those Atheisms that derive all things from a mere Fortuitous Principle, as also suppose every thing besides *ὕλη ἀπύλητος*, the bare Substance of Matter or Extended Bulk, to be Generated and Corrupted; though they asserted the Eternity of Matter, yet they could not, agreeably to their own Hypothesis, maintain the Eternity and Incorruptibility of the World. And accordingly hereunto, both the *Anaximandrian* and *Democritick Atheists* did conclude the World to be *γενόμενον ἐκ φθοράς*, such as was at first Made and should be again Corrupted. And upon this account, Lucretius concerns himself highly herein, to prove both the Novity of the World, and also its Future Dissolution and Extinction, that

Totum Nativum Mortali Corpore constat.

But instead of the World's Eternity, these Two sorts of Atheists, introduced another Paradox, namely an *ἀπείρα κόσμων*, an Infinity of Worlds, and that not only Successive, in that space which this World of ours is conceived now to occupy, in respect of the Infinity of Past and Future Time, but also a Contemporary Infinity of Coexistent Worlds, at all times throughout Endless and Unbounded Space.

However it is certain, that some Persons Atheistically inclined, have been always apt to run out another way, and to suppose that the Frame of things, and System of the World, ever was from Eternity, and ever will be to Eternity, such as now it is, dispensed by a certain *Orderly and Regular*, but yet *Senseless and Unknowing Nature*. And it is Propheesied in Scripture, that such Atheists as these should especially abound in these latter days of ours; *There shall come in the last days* (*ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις*) *Atheistical Scoffers, walking after their own Lusts and saying, Where is the promise of his Coming? For since the Fathers fell asleep all things continue as they were from the beginning of the Creation.* Which latter words are spoken only according to the received Hypothesis of the Jews, the meaning of these Atheists being quite otherwise, that there was neither Creation nor Beginning of the World; but that things had continued, such as now they are, from all Eternity. As appears also from what the Apostle there adds by way of Confutation, That they were wilfully Ignorant of this, that by the word of God the Heavens were of old, and the Earth standing out of the Water and in the Water; and that as the World that then was, overflowing with Water perished, so the Heavens & Earth which now are, by the same word are kept in store, and reserved unto Fire against the day of Judgment & Perdition of Ungodly men. And it is evident, that some of these Atheists at this very day, march in the garb of Enthusiastical Religionists, acknowledging no more a God than a Christ without them, and Allegorizing the day of Judgment and future Conflagration, into a kind of seemingly *Mystical*, but really *Atheistical Non-sence*. These, if they did Philosophize, would resolve themselves into one or other of those Two Hypotheses before mentioned

mentioned; either that of *One Plastick Orderly and Methodical*, but *Senseless Nature*, ruling over the whole Universe; or else that of the *Life of Matter*, making one or other of these two *Natures* to be their only *God or Numen*. It being sufficiently agreeable to the Principles of both these *Atheistick Hypotheses* (and no others) to maintain the Worlds both *Ante* and *Post-Eternity*; yet so as that the latter of them, namely the *Hylozoists*, admitting a certain Mixture of *Chance* together with the *Life of Matter*, would suppose, that though the main Strokes of things, might be preserved the same, and some kind of constant Regularity always kept up in the World, yet that the whole *Mundane System* did not in all respects continue the same, from *Eternity to Eternity*, without any *Variation*. But as *Strabo* tells us Strab. l. 11 that *Strato Physicus* maintained, the *Euxine Sea* at first to have had no Outlet by *Byzantium* into the *Mediterranean*, but that by the continual running in of Rivers into it, causing it to overflow, there was in length of time a passage opened by the *Propontis* and *Hellepont*. As also that the *Mediterranean Sea* forced open that passage of the *Herculean straits*, being a continual *Isthmus* or neck of Land before; that many parts of the present Continent were heretofore Sea, as also much of the present Ocean habitable Land: So it cannot be doubted, but that the same *Strato* did likewise suppose such kind of *Alternations* and *Vicissitudes* as these, in all the greater parts of the *Mundane System*.

But the *Stoical Atheists*, who made the whole World to be dispensed by one *Orderly and Plastick Nature*, might very well, and agreeably to their own *Hypothesis*, maintain, besides the *Worlds Eternity*, one *Constant and Invariable Course* or *Tenor* of things in it, as *Plinius Secundus* doth, who, if he were any thing, seems to have been one of these *Atheists*; *Atundum & hoc quod nomine alio Cælum appellare libuit, (cujus circumflexu reguntur cuncta) Numen esse, credi par est, Eternum, Immenſum, neque Genitum neque Interiturum*——— *Idem rerum Naturæ Opus, & rerum ipsa Natura*; The World, and that which by another name is called the Heavens, by whose *Circumgyration* all things are governed, ought to be believed to be a *Numen*, *Eternal*, *Immenſe*, such as was never Made, and shall never be Destroyed. Where by the way, it may be again observed, that those *Atheists* who denied a *God* according to the *True Notion* of him, as a *Conscious, Understanding Being*, presiding over the whole World, did notwithstanding look upon either the World it self, or else a mere *Senseless Plastick Nature* in it, as a kind of *Numen* or *Deity*, they supposing it to be *Ingenerable* and *Incorruptible*. Which same *Pliny*, as upon the grounds of the *Stoical Atheism*, he maintained against the *Anaximandrians* and *Democriticks* the *Worlds Eternity* and *Incorruptibility*; so did he likewise in way of *Opposition* to that *ἀπειρα ὡς ἄπειρα*, that *Infinity of Worlds* of theirs, assert that there was but *One World*, and that *Finite*. In like manner we read concerning that Famous *Stoick Boethius*, whom *Lactantius* affirms, to have denied the World to be an *Animal* (which according to the language and sence of those times was all one as to deny a *God*) that he also maintained, contrary to the received Doctrine of the *Stoicks*, the *Worlds Ante-Eternity* and *Incorruptibility*, *Philó* in his Treatise *ὅτι ἀφθαρτός ὁ κόσμος*, or the *Incorruptibility of the World* testifying the same of him. Nevertheless

Nevertheless it seems, that some of these Stoical Atheists did also agree with the Generality of the other Stoical Theists, in supposing a successive *Infinity of Worlds* Generated and Corrupted, by reason of intervening *Periodical Conflagrations*; though all dispensed by such a *Stupid and Senseless Nature* as governs *Plants and Trees*. For thus much we gather from those words of *Seneca* before cited, where describing this *Atheistical Hypothesis*, he tells us, that though the World were a *Plant*, that is, governed by a *Vegetative or Plastick Nature*, without any *Animality*, yet notwithstanding, *ab initio ejus usque ad exitum*, &c. it had both a Beginning and will have an End, and from its Beginning to its End, all was dispensed by a kind of *Regular Law*, even its successive *Conflagrations* too, as well as those *Inundations or Deluges* which have sometimes hapned. Which yet they understood after such a manner, as that in these several *Revolutions and Successive Circuits* or Periods of Worlds, all things should be ἀπεγλ-λαῖα, exactly alike, to what had been Infinitely before, and should be again Infinitely afterwards. Of which more elsewhere.

XX XIV. This *Quadripartite Atheism* which we have now represented, is the *Kingdom of Darknes Divided*, or Labouring with an *Intestine Seditious War* in its own Bowels, and thereby destroying it self. Inasmuch that we might well save our selves the labour of any further Confutation of Atheism, merely by committing these several *Forms of Atheism* together, and dashing them one against another, they opposing and contradicting each other, no less than they do *Theism* it self. For first, those two Pairs of *Atheisms*, on the one hand the *Anaximandrian* and *Democritick*, on the other the *Stoical* and *Stratonical*, do absolutely destroy each other; the Former of them supposing the First Principle of all things to be *Stupid Matter* devoid of all manner of Life, and contending that all Life as well as other Qualities is *Generable and Corruptible*, or a mere Accidental thing, and looking upon the *Plastick Life* of Nature as a Figment or Phantastick Capritio, a thing almost as formidable and altogether as impossible as a Deity; the other on the contrary, founding all upon this Principle, That there is a *Life and Natural Perception* Essential to Matter, *Ingenerable and Incorruptible*, and contending it to be utterly impossible to give any account of the *Phænomena* of the World, the *Original of Motion*, the *Orderly Frame and Disposition of things*, and the *Nature of Animals*, without this *Fundamental Life of Nature*.

Again, the Single *Atheisms* belonging to each of these several Pairs, quarrel as much also between themselves. For the *Democritick Atheism* explodes the *Anaximandrian Qualities and Forms*, demonstrating that the Natural Production of such *Entities out of Nothing*, and the *Corruption* of them again into *Nothing*, is of the two, rather more impossible, than a *Divine Creation and Annihilation*. And on the other side, the *Anaximandrian Atheist* plainly discovers, that when the *Democriticks and Atomicks* have spent all their Fury against these *Qualities and Forms*, and done what they can to salve the *Phænomena of Nature*, without them another way, themselves do notwithstanding like

like drunken men reel and stagger back again into them, and are unavoidably necessitated at last, to take up their Sanctuary in them.

In like manner the *Stoical* and *Stratonical* Atheists, may as effectually undo and confute each other; the Former of them urging against the Latter, That besides that Prodigious Absurdity, of making every Atom of Senseless Matter *Infallibly Wise* or *Omniscient*, without any *Consciousness*, there can be no reason at all given by the *Hylozoists*, why the Matter of the whole Universe, might not as well *Conspire* and *Confederate* together into *One*, as all the single Atoms that compound the Body of any Animal or Man, or why one Conscious Life might not as well result from the *Totum* of the former, as of the latter; by which means the *whole World* would become an *Animal* or *God*. Again, the Latter contending, that the *Stoical* or *Cosmo-plastick* *Atheist* can pretend no reason, why the whole World might not have one *Sentient* and *Rational*, as well as one *Plastick* *Soul* in it, that is, as well be an *Animal* as a *Plant*. Moreover, that the Sensitive Souls of Brute Animals, and the Rational Souls of Men, could never possibly emerge out of one *Single*, *Plastick* and *Vegetative Soul* in the whole Universe. And lastly, that it is altogether as impossible, that the whole World should have *Life* in it, and yet none of its Parts have any *Life* of their own, as that the whole World should be *White* or *Black*, and yet no part of it have any *Whiteness* or *Blackness* at all in it. And therefore that the *Stoical* *Atheists*, as well as the *Stoical* *Theists*, do both alike deny *Incorporeal Substance* but in words only, whilst they really admit the thing it self; because *One* and the same *Life*, ruling over all the distant parts of the Corporeal Universe, must needs be an *Incorporeal Substance*, it being all in the Whole, and all acting upon every part, and yet none of it in any part by it self; for then it would be many and not one. From all which it may be concluded, That Atheism is a certain strange kind of *Monster*, with *Four Heads*, that are all of them perpetually biting, tearing and devouring one another.

Now though these several Forms of Atheism do mutually destroy each other, and none of them be really Considerable or Formidable in it self, as to any strength of Reason which it hath; yet as they are compared together among themselves; so some of them may be more considerable than the rest. For first, as the *Qualities* and *Forms* of the *Anaximandrian* *Atheist*, supposed to be really distinct from the Substances, are things unintelligible in themselves; so he cannot, with any colour or pretence of Reason, maintain the Natural Production of them out of *Nothing*, and the *Reduction* of them again into *Nothing*, and yet withstand a *Divine Creation* and *Annihilation*, as an Impossibility. Moreover the *Anaximandrian* *Atheism*, is as it were swallowed up into the *Democritick*, and further improved in it, this latter carrying on the same Design, with more seeming Artifice, greater Plausibility of Wit, and a more pompous Show of Something where indeed there is *Nothing*. Upon which account, it hath for many Ages past beaten the *Anaximandrian*

drian Atheism, in a manner quite off the Stage, and reigned there alone. So that the *Democritick* or *Atomick Atheism*, seems to be much more considerable of the Two, than the *Anaximandrian* or *Hylopathian*.

Again; as for the two other Forms of Atheism, if there were any *Life* at all in *Matter*, as the First and Immediate Recipient of it, then in reason this must needs be supposed to be after the same manner in it, that all other Corporeal Qualities are in Bodies; so as to be *Divisible* together with it, and some of it be in every part of the *Matter*; which is according to the *Hypothesis* of the *Hylozoists*: Whereas on the contrary the *Stoical Atheists* supposing one *Life* only in the whole *Mass* of *Matter*, after such a manner, as that none of the parts of it by themselves should have any *Life* of their own, do thereby no less than the *Stoical Theists*, make this *Life* of theirs to be no Corporeal *Quality* or *Form*, but an *Incorporeal Substance*; which is to contradict their own *Hypothesis*. From whence we may conclude, that the *Cosmoplastick* or *Stoical Atheism*, is of the two, less considerable than the *Hylozoick* or *Stratonical*.

Wherefore amongst these *Four Forms of Atheism*, that have been propounded, these Two, the *Atomick* or *Democritical*, and the *Hylozoick* or *Stratonical* are the Chief. The former of which, namely the *Democritick Atheism*, admitting a true Notion of *Body*, that (according to the Doctrine of the first and most Ancient Atomists) it is nothing but *Resisting Bulk*, devoid of all manner of *Life*; yet because it takes for granted, that there is no other *Substance* in the World besides *Body*, does therefore conclude, that all *Life* and *Understanding* in Animals and Men, is *Generated* out of *Dead* and *Stupid Matter*, though not as *Qualities* and *Forms* (which is the *Anaximandrian way*) but as resulting from the *Contextures* of *Atoms*, or some peculiar Composition of *Magnitudes*, *Figures*, *Sizes* and *Motions*, and consequently that they are themselves really nothing else but *Local Motion* and *Mechanism*: Which is a thing, that sometime since, was very Pertinently and Judiciously both observed and perstringed, by the Learned Author of the *Exercitatio Epistolica*, now a Reverend Bishop. But the latter, namely the *Hylozoick*, though truly acknowledging on the contrary, that *Life*, *Cogitation* and *Understanding* are *Entities* really distinct from *Local Motion* and *Mechanism*, and that therefore they cannot be *Generated* out of *Dead* and *Stupid Matter*, but must needs be somewhere in the World, *Originally*, *Essentially*, and *Fundamentally*; yet because they take it also for granted, that there is no other *Substance* besides *Matter*, do thereupon adulterate the *Notion* of *Matter* or *Body*, blending and confounding it with *Life*, as making them but two *Inadequate Conceptions of Substance*, and concluding that all *Matter* and *Substance* as such, hath *Life* and *Perception* or *Understanding* *Natural* and *Inconsciously*, *Essentially* belonging to it; and that *Sense* and *Conscious Reason* or *Understanding* in Animals arises only from the *Accidental Modification* of this *Fundamental Life* of *Matter* by *Organization*.

We conclude therefore, that if these Two Atheistick Hypotheses, which are found to be the most Considerable, be once Confuted, the Reality of all Atheism will be *ipso facto* Confuted. There being indeed nothing more requisite, to a thorough Confutation of *Atheism*, than the proving of these Two things; First, that *Life* and *Understanding* are not Essential to Matter as such; and Secondly, that they can never possibly rise out of any *Mixture* or *Modification* of *Dead* and *Stupid Matter* whatsoever. The reason of which Assertion is, because all Atheists, as was before observed, are mere Corporealists, of which there can be but these Two Sorts; Either such as make *Life* to be Essential to Matter, and therefore to be Ingenerable and Incorruptible; or else such as suppose *Life* and Every thing besides *ὕλη ἀπλή*, the Bare Substance of Matter, or Extended Bulk to be merely Accidental, Generable or Corruptible, as rising out of some Mixture or Modification of it. And as the Proving of those Two Things will overthrow all Atheism, so it will likewise lay a clear Foundation, for the demonstrating of a Deity distinct from the Corporeal World.

XXXV. Now that *Life* and *Perception* or *Understanding*, should be Essential to Matter as such, or that all Senseless Matter should be Perfectly and Infallibly wise (though without Conscioufness) as to all its own Congruities and Capabilities, which is the Doctrine of the *Hylozoists*; This I say, is an Hypothesis so Prodigiously Paradoxical, and so Outragiously Wild, as that very few men ever could have Atheistick Faith enough, to swallow it down and digest it. Wherefore this *Hylozoick Atheism* hath been very obscure ever since its first Emerſion, and hath found so few Fautors and Abettors, that it hath look'd like a forlorn and deserted thing. Neither indeed are there any Publick Monuments at all extant, in which it is avowedly Maintained, Stated and Reduced into any System. Infomuch that we should not have taken any notice of it at this time, as a Particular Form of *Atheism*, nor have Conjured it up out of its Grave, had we not Understood, that *Strato's Ghost* had begun to walk of late, and that among some Well-wishers to *Atheism*, despairing in a manner of the *Atomick Form*, this *Hylozoick Hypothesis*, began already to be look'd upon, as the Rising Sun of *Atheism*,—*Et tanquam Spes altera Troje*, it seeming to smile upon them, and flatter them at a distance, with some fairer hopes of supporting that Ruinous and Desperate Cause.

Whereas on the Contrary, that other *Atomick Atheism*, as it insists upon a True Notion of *Body*, that it is nothing but *Resisting Bulk*; by which means we, joyning issue thereupon, shall be fairly conducted on to a clear Decision of this present Controversie, as likewise to the disintangling of many other points of Philosophy; so it is that which hath filled the World with the Noise of it, for Two Thousand years past; that concerning which several Volumes have been formerly written, in which it hath been stated and brought into a kind of System; and which hath of late obtained a Resurrection amongst us, together with the *Atomick Physiology*, and been recommended to

the World anew, under a Specious Shew of Wit and profound Philosophy.

Wherefore as we could not here insist upon both these Forms of Atheism together, because that would have been to confound the Language of Atheists, and to have made them like the Cadmean Offspring, to do immediate Execution upon themselves; so we were in all reason obliged to make our First and Principal Assault upon the *Atomick Atheism*, as being the only considerable, upon this account, because it is that alone which publickly confronts the World, and like that proud *Uncircumcised Philistine*, openly *defies the Hosts of the Living God*. Intending nevertheless in the Close of this whole Discourse, (that is, the Last Book) where we are to determine the *Right Intellectual System of the Universe*, and to assert an *Incorporeal Deity*, to demonstrate, That *Life, Cogitation and Understanding* do not Essentially belong to *Matter*, and all *Substance* as such, but are the *Peculiar Attributes and Characteristicks of Substance Incorporeal*.

XXXVI. However since we have now started these Several Forms of Atheism, we shall not in the mean time neglect any of them neither. For in the Answer to the *Second Atheistick Ground*, we shall Confute them all together at once, as agreeing in this One Fundamental Principle, *That the Original of all things in the Universe is Senseless Matter, or Matter devoid of all Animality or Conscious Life*. In the Reply to the *Fourth Atheistick Argumentation*, we shall briefly hint the Grounds of Reason, from which Incorporeal Substance is Demonstrated. In the Examination of the *Fifth*, we shall confute the *Anaximandrian Atheism* there propounded, which is as it were, the *First Sciography*, and *Rude Delineation of Atheism*. And in the Confutation of the *Sixth*, we shall shew, how the ancient *Atomick Atheists*, did preventively overthrow the Foundation of *Hylozoism*. Besides all which, in order to a Fuller and more Thorough Confutation, both of the *Cosmo-plastick* and *Hylozoick Atheisms*, we shall in this very place take occasion to insist largely upon the *Plastick Life of Nature*, giving in the First Place, a True Account of it; and then afterwards shewing, how grossly it is misunderstood, and the Pretence of it abused by the Asserters of both these Atheistick Hypotheses. The Heads of which Larger Digression, because they could not be so conveniently inserted in the Contents of the Chapter, shall be represented to the Readers View, at the End of it.

XXXVII. For we think fit here to observe, that neither the *Cosmo-plastick* or *Stoical*, nor the *Hylozoick* or *Stratonical Atheists* are therefore condemned by us, because they suppose such a thing, as a *Plastick Nature, or Life distinct from the Animal*; albeit this be not only exploded, as an Absolute Non-entity, by the *Atomick Atheists*, who might possibly be afraid of it, as that which approached too near to a Deity, or else would hazard the introducing of it; but also utterly discarded by some *Professed Theists* of later times; who might notwithstanding have an Undiscerned Tang of the *Mechanick Atheism*

Atheism, hanging about them, in that their so confident rejecting of all *Final* and *Intending Causality* in Nature, and admitting of no other *Causes* of things, as *Philosophical*, save the *Material* and *Mechanical* only. This being really to banish all *Mental*, and consequently *Divine Causality*, quite out of the World; and to make the whole World to be nothing else, but a mere *Heap* of *Dust*, *Fortuitously* agitated, or a *Dead Calaverous* thing, that hath no *Signatures* of *Mind* and *Understanding*, *Counsel* and *Wisdom* at all upon it; nor indeed any other *Vitality* acting in it, than only the *Production* of a certain *Quantity* of *Local Motion* and the *Conservation* of it according to some *General Laws*; which things the *Democritick Atheists* take for granted, would all be as they are, though there were no God. And thus **Aristotle* ^{*Di. Ca. I. 24} describes this kind of Philosophy, That it made the whole World to consist, *ὅτι συνέταται μέντοι, καὶ συνίσταται τάχιστα μὲν ἐξ ὁρίων, ἀπὸ γὰρ ὃ πλείονος, ὁ μὲν οὖν κόσμος ὅλος, καὶ τὰ μέρη αὐτοῦ, ἀπὸ τῶν στοιχείων, καὶ τῶν ἀπὸ τῶν στοιχείων* ^{c. 12.} *of nothing but Bodies and Atoms* (that is, *Atoms* or *Small Particles* of *Matter*) *only ranged and disposed together into such an order, but altogether Dead and Inanimate.*

2. For unless there be such a thing admitted as a *Plastick Nature*, that acts *ἑκ τῆς φύσεως*, *for the sake of something*, and in order to *Ends*, Regularly, Artificially and Methodically, it seems that one or other of these Two Things must be concluded, That Either in the Efformation and Organization of the Bodies of Animals, as well as the other Phenomena, every thing comes to pass *Fortuitously*, and happens to be as it is, without the Guidance and Direction of any *Mind* or *Understanding*; Or else, that God himself doth all *Immediately*, and as it were with his own Hands, Form the Body of every Gnat and Fly, Insect and Mite, as of other Animals in Generations, all whose Members have so much of Contrivance in them, that *Galen* professed he could never enough admire that Artifice which was in the Leg of a Fly, (and yet he would have admired the Wisdom of Nature more, had he been but acquainted with the Use of Microscopes.) I say, upon supposition of no *Plastick Nature*, one or other of these Two things must be concluded; because it is not conceived by any, that the things of Nature are all thus administered, with such exact Regularity and Constancy every where, merely by the Wisdom, Providence and Efficiency, of those Inferior Spirits, *Demons* or *Angels*. As also, though it be true that the Works of Nature are dispensed by a *Divine Law* and *Command*, yet this is not to be understood in a *Vulgar Sense*, as if they were all effected by the mere Force of a *Verbal Law* or *Outward Command*, because *Inanimate* things are not *Commandable* nor *Governable* by such a *Law*; and therefore besides the *Divine Will* and *Pleasure*, there must needs be some other *Immediate Agent* and *Executioner* provided, for the producing of every Effect; since not so much as a *Stone* or other *Heavy Body*, could at any time fall downward, merely by the Force of a *Verbal Law*, without any other *Efficient Cause*; but either God himself must immediately impel it, or else there must be some other subordinate Cause in Nature for that Motion. Wherefore the *Divine Law* and *Command*, by which the things of Nature are administered, must be conceived to be the Real Appointment of some *Energetick*, *Effectual* and *Operative Cause* for the Production of every Effect.

3. Now to assert the Former of these Two things, that all the Effects of Nature come to pass by *Material* and *Mechanical Necessity*, or the mere *Fortuitous Motion* of *Matter*, without any Guidance or Direction, is a thing no less Irrational than it is Impious and Atheistical. Not only because it is utterly Unconceivable and Impossible, that such Infinite Regularity and Artificialness, as is every where throughout the whole World, should constantly result out of the *Fortuitous Motion of Matter*, but also because there are many such Particular *Phænomena* in Nature, as do plainly transcend the Powers of *Mechanism*, of which therefore no Sufficient Mechanical Reasons can be devised, as the *Motion of Respiration* in Animals; as there are also other *Phænomena* that are perfectly Cross to the *Laws of Mechanism*; as for Example, that of the *Distant Poles* of the *Equator* and *Ecliptick*, which we shall insist upon afterward. Of both which kinds, there have been other Instances proposed, by my Learned Friend Dr. More in his *Enchiridion Metaphysicum*, and very ingeniously improved by him to this very purpose, namely to Evince that there is something in Nature besides Mechanism, and consequently Substance Incorporeal.

Moreover those Theists, who Philosophize after this manner, by resolving all the Corporeal *Phænomena* into *Fortuitous Mechanism*, or the *Necessary and Unguided Motion of Matter*, make God to be nothing else in the World, but an Idle Spectator of the Various Results of the *Fortuitous* and *Necessary Motions* of Bodies; and render his Wisdom altogether Useless and Insignificant, as being a thing wholly Inclosed and shut up within his own breast, and not at all acting abroad upon any thing without him.

De patr. Ant.
l. 1, c. 1.

Furthermore all such *Mechanists* as these, whether *Theists* or *Atheists*, do, according to that Judicious Censure passed by *Aristotle* long since upon *Democritus*, but substitute as it were χεῖρα ξυλίστω τέλειος, a *Carpenters* or *Artificers Wooden Hand*, moved by *Strings* and *Wires*, in stead of a *Living Hand*. They make a kind of Dead and Wooden World, as it were a Carved Statue, that hath nothing neither *Vital* nor *Magical* at all in it. Whereas to those who are Considerative, it will plainly appear, that there is a *Mixture of Life* or *Plastick Nature* together with *Mechanism*, which runs through the whole Corporeal Universe.

And whereas it is pretended, not only that all Corporeal *Phænomena* may be sufficiently salved *Mechanically*, without any *Final, Intending* and *Directive Causality*, but also that all other Reasons of things in Nature, besides the *Material* and *Mechanical*, are altogether Unphilosophical, the same *Aristotle* ingeniously exposes the Ridiculousness of this Pretence after this manner; telling us, That it is just as if a Carpenter, Joyner or Carver should give this account, as the only Satisfaction, of any Artificial Fabrick or Piece of Carved Imagery, ὅτι ἰμπεριέχουσιν τὰ ὄργανα τὸ μὲν κοῦλον ἔγινετο, τὸ δὲ ὀπίπτεον, that because the *Instruments, Axes and Hatchets, Plains and Chisfels*, happened to fall

fall so and so upon the Timber, cutting it here and there, that therefore it was hollow in one place, and plain in another, and the like, and by that means the whole came to be of such a Form. For is it not altogether as Absurd and Ridiculous, for men to undertake to give an account of the Formation and Organization of the Bodies of Animals, by mere Fortuitous Mechanism, without any Final or Intending Causality, as why there was an Heart here and Brains there, and why the Heart had so many and such different Valves in the Entrance and Outlet of its Ventricles, and why all the other Organick Parts, Veins and Arteries, Nerves and Muscles, Bones and Cartilages, with the Joints and Members, were of such a Form? Because forsooth, the Fluid Matter of the Seed happened to move so and so, in several places, and thereby to cause all those Differences, which are also divers in different Animals; all being the Necessary Result of a certain Quantity of Motion at first indifferently impressed, upon the small Particles of the Matter of this Universe turned round in a Vortex. But as the same Aristotle adds, no Carpenter or Artificer is so simple, as to give such an Account as this, and think it satisfactory, but he will rather declare, that himself directed the Motion of the Instruments, after such a manner, and in order to such Ends: * *ῥέλτιον δὲ τίνας, ἢ ὅτι ἰκανοὶ ἔσσι αὐτῶν, τὸ τοσούτοι εἶναι, ὅτι ἐμπροσθεν τοῦ ὀργάνου, &c. ἀλλὰ διότι τῷ πλοῦντι ἐπιήσεται τοιοῦτον, καὶ τίνας ἐνεκα, ἐξ ὧν αὐτῶν, ὅπως τοιοῦτον ἢ τοιοῦτον ἐστὶ τὰν μαρτῶν γίνονται.* A Carpenter would give a better account than so, for he would not think it sufficient to say, that the Fabrick came to be of such a form, because the Instruments happened to fall so and so, but he will tell you that it was because himself made such strokes, and that he directed the Instruments and determined their motion after such a manner, to this End that he might make the Whole a Fabrick fit and useful for such purposes. And this is to assign the Final Cause. And certainly there is scarcely any man in his Wits, that will not acknowledge the Reason of the different Valves in the Heart, from the apparent Usefulness of them, according to those particular Structures of theirs, to be more Satisfactory, than any which can be brought from mere Fortuitous Mechanism, or the Unguided Motion of the Seminal Matter.

4. And as for the Latter Part of the Disjunction, That every thing in Nature should be done Immediately by God himself; this, as according to Vulgar Apprehension, it would render Divine Providence Operose, Sollicitous and Distractious, and thereby make the Belief of it to be entertained with greater difficulty, and give advantage to Atheists; so in the Judgment of the Writer *De Munda*, it is not so Decorous in respect of God neither, that he should αὐταρχῶν ἄπικναι, let his own Hand, as it were, to every Work, and immediately do all the Meaneft and Triflingest things himself Drudglingly, without making use of any Inferior and Subordinate Instruments. * *εἰ ὅτι ἄριστοι ἢ αὐτὸν δοκεῖν ζελεῖν αὐταρχῶν ἄπικναι, καὶ διατελεῖν ἃ βάλαντο, καὶ ἐφεσπόμενοι δι-
οσιέν, πολὺ μᾶλλον ἀπειρίας ἂν ἔη τοῖς θεοῖς. Σεμνότερον ἢ καὶ περὶ πείρασιν
τὴν δ' ὕψους αὐτῶν, διὰ τῶν σύμπαντος κόσμου δικαιοσύνην, ἢ λίαν τι καθεῖν καὶ σκληρίως, &c.* If it were not congruous in respect of the State & Majesty of Xerxes the Great King of Persia that he should condescend to do all the meaneft Offices him-
self;

self; much less can this be thought decorous in respect of God. But it seems far more August, and becoming of the Divine Majesty, that a certain Power and Vertue, derived from him, and passing through the Universe, should move the Sun and Moon, and be the Immediate Cause of those lower things done here upon Earth.

Moreover it seems not so agreeable to Reason neither, that Nature as a Distinct thing from the Deity, should be quite Superfluous or made to Signifie Nothing, God himself doing all things Immediately and Miraculously; from whence it would follow also, that they are all done either *Forcibly* and *Violently*, or else *Artificially* only, and none of them by any *Inward Principle* of their own.

Lastly; This Opinion is further Confuted, by that Slow and Gradual Process that is in the Generations of things, which would seem to be but a Vain and Idle Pomp, or a Trifling Formality, if the Agent were Omnipotent: as also by those ἀμαρτήματα (as Aristotle calls them) those Errors and Bungles which are committed, when the Matter is Inept and Contumacious; which argue the Agent not to be Irresistible, and that Nature is such a thing, as is not altogether incapable (as well as *Humane Art*) of being sometimes frustrated and disappointed, by the Indisposition of Matter. Whereas an Omnipotent Agent, as it could dispatch its work in a Moment, so it would always do it *Infallibly* and *Irresistibly*; no *Ineptitude* or *Stubbornness* of Matter, being ever able to hinder such a one, or make him Bungle or Fumble in any thing.

5. Wherefore since neither all things are produced Fortuitously, or by the Unguided Mechanism of Matter, nor God himself may reasonably be thought to do all things Immediately and Miraculously; it may well be concluded, that there is a *Plastick Nature* under him, which as an Inferior and Subordinate Instrument, doth Rudely and Execute that Part of his Providence, which consists in the Regular and Orderly Motion of Matter: yet so as that there is also besides this, a Higher Providence to be acknowledged, which presiding over it, doth often supply the Defects of it, and sometimes Overrule it; so far as this *Plastick Nature* cannot act *Effectively* nor with *Discretion*. And by this means the Wisdom of God will not be shut up nor concluded wholly within his own Breast, but will display it self abroad, and print its Stamps and Signatures every where throughout the World; so that God, as *Plato* (after *Orpheus*) speaks, will be not only the *Beginning* and *End*, but also the *Middle* of all things, they being as much to be ascribed to his Causality, as if himself had done them all Immediately, without the concurrent Instrumentality of any Subordinate Natural Cause. Notwithstanding which, in this way it will appear also to Humane Reason, that all things are Disposed and Ordered by the Deity, without any Sollicitous Care or Distractious Providence.

And indeed those Mechanick Theists, who rejecting a Plastick Nature, affect to concern the Deity as little as is possible in Mundane Affairs, either for fear of debasing him and bringing him down to

too mean Offices, or else of subjecting him to Sollicitous Encumberment, and for that Cause would have God to contribute nothing more to the Mundane System and Oeconomy, than only the First Impressing of a certain Quantity of Motion, upon the Matter, and the After-conserving of it, according to some General Laws: These men (I say) seem not very well to understand themselves in this. Forasmuch as they must of necessity, either suppose these their *Laws of Motion* to execute themselves, or else be forced perpetually to concern the Deity in the Immediate Motion of every Atom of Matter throughout the Universe, in order to the Execution and Observation of them. The Former of which being a Thing plainly Absurd and Ridiculous, and the Latter that, which these Philosophers themselves are extremely abhorrent from, we cannot make any other Conclusion than this, That they do but unskillfully and unawares establish that very Thing which in words they oppose; and that their *Laws of Nature* concerning *Motion*, are Really nothing else, but a *Plastick Nature*, acting upon the Matter of the whole Corporeal Universe, both Maintaining the Same Quantity of Motion always in it, and also Dispensing it (by Transferring it out of one Body into another) according to such Laws, Fatally Imprest upon it. Now if there be a *Plastick Nature*, that governs the *Motion of Matter*, every where according to *Laws*, there can be no Reason given, why the same might not also extend further, to the Regular Disposal of that Matter, in the *Formation of Plants and Animals* and other things, in order to that Apt Coherent Frame and Harmony of the whole Universe.

6. And as this *Plastick Nature* is a thing which seems to be in it self most Reasonable, so hath it also had the Suffrage of the best Philosophers in all Ages. For First, it is well known, that *Aristotle* concerns himself in nothing more zealously than this, That Mundane things are not Effected, merely by the *Necessary* and *Unguided Motion of Matter*, or by *Fortuitous Mechanism*, but by such a *Nature* as acts *Regularly* and *Artificially* for *Ends*; yet so as that this *Nature* is not the Highest Principle neither, or the Supreme *Numen*, but Subordinate to a Perfect *Mind* or *Intellect*, he affirming, that $\tau\acute{o}\varsigma \alpha\iota\tau\iota\omicron\nu \kappa\epsilon \phi\acute{o}\nu\varsigma \tau\acute{o}\delta\eta \tau\acute{o} \pi\alpha\nu\tau\acute{o}\varsigma$, That *Mind* together with *Nature* was the Cause of this Universe; and that Heaven and Earth, Plants and Animals were framed by them both; that is, by *Mind* as the Principal and Directive Cause, but by *Nature* as a Subservient or Executive Instrument: and elsewhere joining in like manner *God* and *Nature* both together, as when he concludes, *That God and Nature do nothing in Vain*:

Neither was *Aristotle* the First Broacher or Inventor of this Doctrine, *Plato* before him having plainly asserted the same. For in a Passage already cited, he affirms that *Nature* together with *Reason*, and according to it, orders all things; thereby making *Nature*, as a Distinct thing from the Deity, to be a Subordinate Cause under the Reason and Wisdom of it. And elsewhere he resolves, that there are $\epsilon\upsilon\mu\alpha\rho\iota\tau\acute{o}\varsigma \phi\acute{o}\nu\epsilon\varsigma \alpha\iota\tau\iota\alpha\iota\alpha\varsigma \iota\mu\mu\epsilon\lambda\epsilon\tau\omicron\upsilon\mu\epsilon\nu\epsilon\varsigma \delta\ \delta\epsilon\omicron\varsigma \chi\epsilon\iota\tau\alpha\iota$, Certain Causes of a Wise and Artificial Nature, which the Deity uses as Subservient to it self; as also, that there are $\epsilon\upsilon\mu\alpha\rho\iota\tau\acute{o}\varsigma \delta\epsilon\omicron\varsigma \epsilon\upsilon\mu\alpha\rho\iota\tau\acute{o}\varsigma \delta\epsilon\omicron\varsigma \chi\epsilon\iota\tau\alpha\iota$, Co-causes which God makes use of, or Subordinately Cooperative with himself.

More

Moreover before *Plato*, *Empedocles* Philosophized alfo in the fame manner, when fupposing Two Worlds, the one *Archetypal*, the other *Ex-ty-
pal*, he made φίλια and ἔκκος, *Friendfhip & Difcord*, to be the ἀρχὴ δ' οὐσ-
εῖα, the *Active Principle* and *Immediate Operator* in this Lower World. He not underftanding thereby, as *Platarch* and fome others have con-
ceited, Two Subftantial Principles in the World, the one of *Good*
the other of *Evil*, but only a *Plaflick Nature*, as *Aristotle* in fundry
places intimates: which he called by that name, partly becaufe he ap-
prehended that the Refult and Upfhot of Nature in all Generations
and Corruptions, amounted to nothing more than *Mixtures* and *Separa-
tions*, or *Concretion* and *Secretion* of *Preexiftent things*, and partly be-
caufe this *Plaflick Nature* is that which doth reconcile the *Contrarie-
ties* and *Enmities* of Particular things, and bring them into one *General
Harmony* in the *Whole*. Which latter is a Notion that *Plotinus*, de-
fcribing this very *Seminary Reason* or *Plaflick Nature* of the World,
(though taking it in something a larger fence, than we do in this place)
doth ingenioufly purfue after this manner; αὐτιθές ὁ ἀλλήλοις τὰ μέρη καὶ
πεισῶν ἐνδιᾶ, πόλεμος καὶ μάχης οὐσαν καὶ γίνουσι ἁγνάσταν καὶ ὅπως ἔστιν εἰς
πᾶς; εἰ μὴ ἐν ἐν· γινόμενον γὰρ ἑαυτὰ τοῖς μέρησι πόλεμον, ὅπως ἐν ἔστι καὶ
φίλον, ὥσπερ ἂν εἰ δρεμασθῇ λόγος εἰς, ὁ τῷ δρεμαστος, ἔχων ἐν αὐτῷ πολ-
λὰς μάχας. τὸ μὲν ἂν δρεμα τὰ μακροχρόνια, ὅταν εἰς μίαν ἀρμονίαν, ἅγα σύμ-
φωνον. — ὥς τε μάχῃσι ἂν τις τῇ ἀρμονίᾳ τῇ ὁμαχομένων ἐκείσῃ. *The Semi-
nary Reason* or *Plaflick Nature* of the *Univerfe*, oppofing the *Parts* to
one another and making them feverally *Indigent*, produces by that means
War and *Contention*. And therefore though it be *One*, yet notwithstanding
it confifts of *Different* and *Contrary things*. For there being *Hostility* in
its *Parts*, it is nevertheless *Friendly* and *Agreeable* in the *Whole*; after
the fame manner as in a *Dramatick Poem*, *Clafhings* and *Contentions* are
reconciled into one *Harmony*. And therefore the *Seminary* and *Plaflick
Nature* of the World, may fitly be refembled to the *Harmony* of *Disagree-
ing things*. Which *Plotinick Doctrin*e, may well pafs for a *Com-
mentary* upon *Empedocles*, accordingly as *Simplicius* briefly represents
his fence, Ἐμπεδοκλῆς δ' οὗ κόσμος οὐσίαν, ἣ μὲν ἡνωμένη καὶ ἰοῦσα, τὴ δὲ
διακεχυμένη καὶ αἰσθητὴν, καὶ ὡς τῶτον κόσμον τὴν ἡσυχίαν ὅρα καὶ τὴν διάκρισιν.
*Empedocles makes Two Worlds, the one United and Intelligible, the o-
ther Divided and Sensible; and in this lower Sensible World, he takes no-
tice both of Unity and Difcord.*

In Arist. de Co.
l. 1. c. 10.

It was before observed, that *Heraclitus* likewise did assert a *Regu-
lar* and *Artificial Nature*, as the *Fate of things* in this Lower World;
for his *Reason* paffing thorough the *Subftance* of all things, or *Ethereal
Body*, which was the *Seed* of the *Generation* of the *Univerfe*, was no-
thing but that *Spermatick* or *Plaflick Nature* which we now fpeak of.
And whereas there is an odd *Pallage* of this Philosophers recorded,
κόσμον τοῦδ' ἢ τις θεῶν ἢ ἀνθρώπων ἐποίησεν, *that neither any God nor
Man made this World*, which as it is juftly derided by *Platarch* for its
Simplicity, fo it looks very *Atheiftically* at first fight; yet becaufe *Hera-
clitus* hath not been accepted an *Atheist*, we therefore conceive the
meaning of it to have been this, That the World was not made by any
whatsoever, after fuch a manner as an Artificer makes an Houfe,
by

by Machins and Engins, acting from without upon the Matter, Cumbersomly and Moliminously, but by a certain *Inward Plastick Nature* of its own.

And as *Hippocrates* followed *Heraclitus* in this (as was before declared) so did *Zeno* and the *Stoicks* also, they supposing besides an *Intellectual Nature*, as the *Supreme Architect* and Master-builder of the World, another *Plastick Nature* as the *Immediate Workman* and Operator. Which *Plastick Nature* hath been already described in the words of *Ballus*, as a thing which acts not *Fortuitously* but *Regularly, Orderly* and *Artificially*; and *Laertius* tells * us, it was defined by *Zeno* himself after this manner, *ἡ δὲ φύσις ἐστὶ ἐξ αὐτῆς κινουμένη καὶ σπειρατικὴς λόγος, ἀποτελούσα τι καὶ συνεχὴς τὰ ἐξ αὐτῆς ἐκ ἀερισμένων χρεῖων, καὶ τιμῶν δρᾶσιν ἀπ' οὗσαν ἀπικρίδου.* *Nature is a Habit moved from it self according to Spermatick Reasons or Seminal Principles, perfecting and containing those several things, which in determinate times are produced from it, and acting agreeably to that from which it was secreted.*

* In Vita Zeno;

Lastly, as the *Latter Platonists* and *Peripateticks* have unanimously followed their Masters herein, whose *Vegetative Soul* also is no other than a *Plastick Nature*; so the *Chymists* and *Paracelsians* insist much upon the same thing, and seem rather to have carried the Notion on further, in the Bodies of Animals, where they call it by a new name of their own, the *Archæus*.

Moreover, we cannot but observe here, that as amongst the Ancients, They were generally condemned for down-right Atheists, who acknowledged no other Principle besides Body or Matter, Necessarily and Fortuitously moved, such as *Democritus* and the first Ionicks; so even *Anaxagoras* himself, notwithstanding that he was a professed Theist, and plainly asserted *Mind* to be a Principle, yet because he attributed too much to Material Necessity, admitting neither this *Plastick Nature* nor a *Mundane Soul*, was severely censured, not only by the Vulgar (who unjustly taxed him for an Atheist) but also by *Plato* and *Aristotle*, as a kind of spurious and imperfect Theist, and one who had given great advantage to Atheism. *Aristotle* in his *Metaphysics* thus represents his Philosophy, * *ἀναξαγόρης τι γὰρ μηχανὴν χρεῖται τὸ πρὸς τὴν κοσμοποιίαν, καὶ ὅταν ἀπορήσῃ διὰ τὴν αἰτίαν, ἐξ ἀνάγκης ἐστὶ, τότε ἐκείν αὐτὸν, ἐν ᾧ τοῖς ἄλλοις πάντα μόνον αἰτιῶνται καὶ γινώσκον ἢ οὐκ.* *Anaxagoras useth Mind and Intellect, that is, God, as a Machin in the Cosmopoeia, and when he is at a loss to give an accompt of things by Material Necessity, then and never but then, does he draw in Mind or God to help him out; but otherwise he will rather assign any thing else for a Cause than Mind.* Now if *Aristotle* censure *Anaxagoras* in this manner, though a professed Theist, because he did but seldom make use of a *Mental Cause*, for the salving of the *Phænomena* of the World, and only then when he was at a loss for other *Material* and *Mechanical Causes* (which it seems he sometimes confessed himself to be) what would that Philosopher have thought of those our so confident *Mechanists* of later times, who will never vouchsafe so much

* L. 1. c. 4.

as once to be beholding to God Almighty, for any thing in the Oeconomy of the Corporeal World, after the first Impression of Motion upon the Matter?

Plato likewise in his *Phædo* and elsewhere, condemns this *Anaxagoras* by name, for this very thing, that though he acknowledged *Mind* to be a Cause, yet he seldom made use of it, for salving the *Phænomena*; but in his twelfth *de Legibus*, he perstringeth him Unnamed, as one who though a professed Theist, had notwithstanding given great Encouragement to Atheism, after this manner; * *Ἀγαθὸς ὡς νῦν ἐν ὁ διακλαστικὸς πλὴν ὅτι κατ' ἄρσεν, αὐτοὶ δὲ πάλιν ἀμαρτάνουσιν ψυχῆς φύσεως, ὅτι προσβύττον ἐν σώματι, ἅπαντες ὡς εἰπὼν ἵππος, ἀντίρρι-
ζον πάλιν, τὰ γὰρ ὅτι πρὸ τῆς ἐμμάτων πάντα, αὐτοὺς ἐφάνη, τὰ κατ' ἄρσεν φρεσὶ μὲν, μετὰ ἐναι λίκον, καὶ γὰρ, καὶ πολλὰν ἄλλαν ἀφύγαν σώματα, δια-
νυμνόντων τὴν αἰτίαν παντὸς τοῦ κόσμου, ταῦτ' ἦν τὰ τέτα ἐξήρασμα πολλὰς ἀδύτητας. Some of them who had concluded, that it was Mind that ordered all things in the Heavens, themselves erring concerning the Nature of the Soul, and not making that Older than the Body, have overturned all again; for Heavenly Bodies being supposed by them, to be full of Stones, and Earth, and other Inanimate things (dispensing the Causes of the whole Universe) they did by this means occasion much Atheism and Impiety.*

Furthermore the same *Plato* there tells us, that in those times of his, Astronomers and Physiologers commonly lay under the prejudice and suspicion of Atheism amongst the vulgar, merely for this reason, because they dealt so much in Material Causes, οἱ πολλοὶ διατείνουσι τὰς τὰ τοιαῦτα μελαγχολίας, ἀσπονομία τι καὶ ταῖς μετὰ ταύτης ἀνακαίαις ἄλλαις ἡγίας, ἀλλὰς γίγναται, καθ' ἑαυτοὺς ὡς αἰὲν γινόμενα ἀνάγκαις τὰ περὶ γματ', ἀλλ' ὅτι διαβολαὶ βαλόντος ἀγαθῶν πλεονεχίας. The Vulgar think that they who addit themselves to Astronomy and Physiology, are made Atheists thereby, they seeing as much as is possible how things come to pass by Material Necessities, and being thereby disposed to think them not to be ordered by Mind and Will, for the sake of Good. From whence we may observe, that according to the Natural Apprehensions of Men in all Ages, they who resolve the *Phænomena* of Nature, into Material Necessity, allowing of no Final nor Mental Causality (disposing things in order to Ends) have been strongly suspected for Friends to Atheism.

7. But because some may pretend, that the *Plastick Nature* is all one with an *Occult Quality*, we shall here show how great a Difference there is betwixt these Two. For he that asserts an *Occult Quality*, for the Cause of any *Phænomenon*, does indeed assign no Cause at all of it, but only declare his own Ignorance of the Cause; but he that asserts a *Plastick Nature*, assigns a Determinate and proper Cause, nay the only Intelligible Cause, of that which is the greatest of all *Phænomena* in the World, namely the τὸ εὖ καὶ καλῶς, the Orderly, Regular and Artificial Frame of things in the Universe, whereof the *Mechanick Philosophers*, however pretending to save all *Phænomena* by Matter and Motion, assign no Cause at all. Mind and Understanding

is the only true Cause of Orderly Regularity, and he that asserts a *Plastick Nature*, asserts *Mental Causality* in the World; but the *Fortuitous Mechanists*, who exploding *Final Causes*, will not allow *Mind* and *Understanding* to have any Influence at all upon the Frame of things, can never possibly assign any Cause of this Grand *Phenomenon*, unless *Confusion* may be said to be the Cause of *Order*, and *Fortune* or *Chance* of *Constant Regularity*; and therefore themselves must resolve it into an *Occult Quality*. Nor indeed does there appear any great reason why such men should assert an *Infinite Mind* in the World, since they do not allow it to act any where at all, and therefore must needs make it to be in Vain.

8. Now this *Plastick Nature* being a thing which is not without some Difficulty in the Conception of it, we shall here endeavour to do these Two things concerning it; First, to set down a right Representation thereof, and then afterwards to shew how extremely the Notion of it hath been Mistaken, Perverted and Abused by those *Atheists*, who would make it to be the only *God Almighty*, or *First Principle* of all things.

How the *Plastick Nature* is in general to be conceiv'd, *Aristotle* instructs us in these words, * εἰς ἡν αὖτε τοὶ ξύλον ἐν τῇ μηχανῇ ἐργάζονται ἐν τῇ φύσει ἡ φύσις αὐτῆς. * *Phys. 2. c. 8.* If the *Navpegical Art*, that is the *Art of the Shipwright*, were in the *Timber* it self, *Operatively and Effectually*, it would there act just as *Nature* doth. And the Case is the same for all other Arts; If the *Oecodomicall Art*, which is in the *Mind of the Architect*, were supposed to be transfused into the *Stones, Bricks and Mortar*, there acting upon them in such a manner, as to make them come together of themselves and range themselves into the Form of a complete Edifice, as *Amphion* was said by his *Harp*, to have made the *Stones* move, and place themselves *Orderly* of their own accord, and so to have built the *Walls of Thebes*: Or if the *Musical Art* were conceived to be immediately in the *Instruments and Strings*, animating them as a *Living Soul*, and making them to move exactly according to the *Laws of Harmony*, without any *External Impulse*. These and such like Instances, in *Aristotle's* Judgment, would be fit *Iconisms* or *Representations of the Plastick Nature*, That being *Art* it self acting *Immediately upon the Matter as an inward Principle in it*. To which purpose the same Philosopher adds, that this thing might be further illustrated by an other Instance or Resemblance, μάστιγι δὲ δούλῳ, ὅταν τις ἰατρικῆς αὐτὸς ἐκείνῳ, τέταρτον ἔστιν ὅτι ἐν τῇ φύσει *Nature may be yet more clearly Resembled to the Medicinal Art, when it is employed by the Physician, in curing himself.* So that the meaning of this Philosopher is, that *Nature* is to be conceived as *Art* Acting not from without and at a Distance, but *Immediately upon the thing it self which is Formed by it.* And thus we have the first General Conception of the *Plastick Nature*, That it is *Art* it self, acting immediately on the *Matter*, as an *Inward Principle*.

9. In the next Place we are to observe, that though the *Plastick Nature* be a kind of *Art*, yet there are some Considerable *Preeminences* which

which it hath above *Humane Art*, the First whereof is this; That whereas *Humane Art* cannot act upon the Matter otherwise than from without and at a distance, nor communicate it self to it, but with a great deal of *Tumult* and *Hurliburly*, *Noise* and *Clatter*, it using *Hands* and *Axes*, *Saws* and *Hammers*, and after this manner with much ado, by *Knockings* and *Thrustings*, slowly introducing its *Form* or *Idea* (as for Example of a *Ship* or *Houfe*) into the *Materials*. Nature in the mean time is another kind of *Art*, which *Insinuating* it self *Immediately* into things themselves, and there acting more *Commandingly* upon the Matter as an *Inward Principle*, does its Work *Easily*, *Cleanly* and *Silently*. Nature is *Art* as it were *Incorporated* and *Imbodied* in matter, which doth not act upon it from without *Mechanically*, but from within *Vitally* and *Magically*, ὅτι χεῖρες οὐταῦθα, ὅτι πόδες, ὅτι τι ὄργανον ἐκπαῖδεν ἢ συμφέρει, ὡς δὲ εἰ ἐφ' ἧς ποίει, καὶ ἢ ὡς εἰδὶ ποιεῖ; πάντες πρὸς δόξαν. οὐδ' ἔτι τὸ μηχανάσθαι ἀφελὲν ὡς τὸ φυσικῶς ποίησας. ποῖος γὰρ ὁλισμὸς, ἢ τις μηχανία, &c. Here are no Hands, nor Feet, nor any Instrument, Connote or Adventitious, there being only need of Matter to work upon and to be brought into a certain Form, and Nothing else. For it is manifest that the Operation of Nature is different from Mechanism, it doing not its Work by Trusion or Pulsion, by Knockings or Thrustings, as if it were without that which it wrought upon. But as God is Inward to every thing, so Nature Acts Immediately upon the Matter, as an Inward and Living Soul or Law in it.

Fl. Ep. 3. l. 8.
5. 1.

10. Another Preeminence of Nature above *Humane Art* is this, That whereas *Humane Artists* are often to seek and at a loss, and therefore Consult and Deliberate, as also upon second thoughts mend their former Work; Nature, on the contrary, is never to seek what to do, nor at a stand; and for that Reason also (besides another that will be Suggested afterwards) it doth never Consult nor Deliberate. Indeed *Aristotle* intimates, as if this had been the Grand Objection of the old Atheistick Philosophers against the *Plastick Nature*, That because we do not see Natural Bodies to Consult or Deliberate, therefore there could be Nothing of Art, Counsel or Contrivance in them, * but all came to pass Fortuitously. But he confutes it after this manner: *

* Phys. 2. c. 8.

Ἀποκρίνεται τὸ μὴ οἰεῖσθαι ὅτι τὰ γίνεσθαι, ἐὰν μὴ ἴδωμεν τὸ κατὰ βουλόσθαι μόνον, καὶ τοὺς καὶ τέχνην ὡς βουλόμεναι. It is absurd for Men to think nothing to be done for Ends, if they do not see that which moves to consult, although Art it self doth not Consult. Whence he concludes that Nature may Act Artificially, Orderly and Methodically, for the sake of Ends, though it never Consult or Deliberate. Indeed *Humane Artists* themselves do not Consult properly as they are Artists, but when ever they do it, it is for want of Art, and because they are to seek, their Art being Imperfect and Adventitious: but Art it self or Perfect Art, is never to seek, and therefore doth never Consult or Deliberate. And Nature is this Art, which never hesitates nor studies, as unresolved what to do, but is always readily prompted; nor does it ever repent afterwards of what it hath formerly done, or go about, as it were upon second thoughts, to alter and mend its former Course, but it goes on in one Constant, Unrepenting Tenor, from Generation to Generation, because it is the Stamp or Impress of that Infallibly

Omnisci-

Omniscient Art, of the Divine Understanding, which is the very Law and Rule of what is Simply the Best in every thing.

And thus we have seen the Difference between *Nature* and *Humane Art*; that the Latter is Imperfect Art, acting upon the Matter from without, and at a Distance; but the Former is *Art it self* or *Perfect Art*, acting as an *Inward Principle* in it. Wherefore when Art is said to imitate Nature, the meaning thereof is, that Imperfect *Humane Art* imitates that *Perfect Art of Nature*, which is really no other than the *Divine Art* it self, as before *Aristotle*, *Plato* had declared in his *Sophist*, in these words, τὰ φύσιν λεγόμενα ποιεῖσθαι δὲα τέχνη. *Those things which are said to be done by Nature, are indeed done by Divine Art.*

II. Notwithstanding which, we are to take notice in the next place, that as *Nature* is not the *Deity* it self, but a Thing very remote from it and far below it, so neither is it the *Divine Art*, as it is in it self *Pure* and *Abstract*, but *Concrete* and *Embodied* only; for the *Divine Art* considered in it self, is nothing but *Knowledge*, *Understanding* or *Wisdom* in the Mind of God: Now *Knowledge* and *Understanding*, in its own Nature is *καχρησμεύον τι*, a certain *Separate and Abstract thing*, and of so Subtil and Refined a Nature, as that it is not Capable of being Incorporated with Matter, or Mingled and Blended with it, as the *Soul* of it. And therefore *Aristotle*'s Second Instance, which he propounds as most pertinent to Illustrate this business of Nature by, namely of the *Physicians Art* curing himself, is not so adequate thereunto; because when the Medicinal Art Cures the Physician in whom it is, it doth not there Act as *Nature*, that is, as *Concrete* and *Embodied Art*, but as *Knowledge* and *Understanding* only, which is *Art Naked*, *Abstract* and *Unbodied*; as also it doth its Work *Ambagiously*, by the Physician's Willing and Prescribing to himself, the use of such Medicaments, as do but conduce, by removing of Impediments, to help that which is *Nature* indeed, or the Inward *Archetype* to effect the Cure. Art is defined by *Aristotle*, to be λόγος τῷ ἔργῳ ἄνυκτος ὄντως, *The Reason of the thing without Matter*; and so the *Divine Art* or *Knowledge* in the Mind of God is *Unbodied Reason*; but *Nature* is *Ratio Mersa & Confusa*, *Reason Immersed and Plunged* into Matter, and as it were Fuddled in it, and Confoundd with it. *Nature* is not the *Divine Art Archetypal*, but only *Ectypal*, it is a living Stamp or Signature of the Divine Wisdom, which though it act exactly according to its *Archetype*, yet it doth not at all Comprehend nor Understand the Reason of what it self doth. And the Difference between these two, may be resembled to that between the λόγος ἀδιάθετος, *the Reason of the Mind and Conception*, called *Verbum Mentis*, and the λόγος προφορικός, *The Reason of External Speech*; the Latter of which though it bear a certain Stamp and Impress of the Former upon it, yet it self is nothing but *Articulate Sound*, devoid of all *Understanding* and *Sense*. Or else we may Illustrate this business by another Similitude, comparing the *Divine Art* and *Wisdom* to an *Architect*, but *Nature* to a *Mannary Officer*; the Difference betwixt which two is thus set forth by *Aristotle* pertinently to our purpose; τὸς ἀρχιτέκτονα ὡς τὸν ἀντιπράκτον.

admired that *Wisdom* and *Art* by which the Bodies of Animals are framed, he concludes that one or other of these two things must needs be acknowledged, that either the *Vegetative* or *Plastick Power* of the Soul, by which it Fabricates and Organizes its own body, is more Excellent and Divine than the Rational; Or else, *In Naturæ Operibus neq; Prudentiam nec Intellectum inesse, sed ita solum videri Conceptui nostro, qui secundum Artes nostras & Facultates, seu Exemplaria à nobismetipsis mutata, de rebus Naturæ divinis judicamus; Quasi Principia Naturæ Activæ, effectus suos eo modo producerent, quo nos opera nostra Artificialia solemus: That in the Works of Nature there is neither Prudence nor Understanding, but only it seems so to our Apprehensions, who Judge of these Divine things of Nature, according to our own Arts and Faculties, and Patterns borrowed from our selves; as if the Active Principles of Nature did produce their Effects in the same manner, as we do our Artificial Works.* Wherefore we conclude, agreeably to the Sense of the best Philosophers, both Ancient and Modern, That Nature is such a Thing, as though it act Artificially and for the sake of Ends, yet it doth but Ape and Mimick the Divine Art and Wisdom, it self not Understanding those Ends which it Acts for, nor the Reason of what it doth in order to them; for which Cause also it is not Capable of Consultation or Deliberation, nor can it Act Electively or with Discretion.

13. But because this may seem strange at the first sight, that Nature should be said to Act *ἐν τῷ σκοπῷ*, for the sake of Ends, and Regularly or Artificially, and yet be it self devoid of Knowledge and Understanding, we shall therefore endeavour to persuade the Possibility, and facilitate the Belief of it, by some other Instances; and first by that of *Habits*, particularly those Musical ones, of Singing, Playing upon Instruments, and Dancing. Which *Habits* direct every Motion of the Hand, Voice, and Body, and prompt them readily, without any Deliberation or Studied Consideration, what the next following Note or Motion should be. If you jogg a sleeping Musician, and sing but the first Words of a Song to him, which he had either himself composed, or learnt before, he will presently take it from you, and that perhaps before he is thoroughly awake, going on with it, and singing out the remainder of the whole Song to the End. Thus the Fingers of an exercised Lutenist, and the Legs and whole Body of a skilful Dancer, are directed to move Regularly and Orderly, in a long Train and Series of Motions, by those Artificial Habits in them, which do not themselves at all comprehend those *Laws and Rules of Musick or Harmony*, by which they are governed: So that the same thing may be said of these Habits, which was said before of Nature, That they do not Know, but only Do. And thus we see there is no Reason, why this *Plastick Nature* (which is supposed to move Body Regularly and Artificially) should be thought to be an Absolute Impossibility, since Habits do in like manner, Gradually Evolve themselves, in a long Train or Series of Regular and Artificial Motions, readily prompting the doing of them, without comprehending that Art and Reason by which they are directed. The forementioned Philosopher illustrates the Seminary Reason and Plastick Nature of the Universe, by this

En. 3. l. 2. f. 16.

very Instance : ἡ τῶν τελευτῶν αὐτῆς τεχνικὴ ὡς αὐτὴ ὁ ἀρχαῖος, καὶ ὁ μὲν
 ὅτι ὁ ἀρχαῖος, τῇ αὐτῇ τεχνικῇ ζωῇ ἐκκενταί, καὶ ἡ τεχνὴ αὐτῇ κινεῖ, καὶ ὅτι
 κινεῖ, ὡς ὁ ζωῆς αὐτῆς τιμωρὴς πᾶς ὅρος. *The Energy of Nature is Artifi-
 cial, as when a Dancer moves ; for a Dancer resembles this Artificial
 Life of Nature, forasmuch as Art it self moves him, and so moves him
 as being such a Life in him.* And agreeably to this Conceit, the An-
 cient Mythologists represented the Nature of the Universe, by Pan
 Playing upon a Pipe or Harp, and being in love with the Nymph Echo ;
 as if Nature did, by a kind of Silent Melody, make all the Parts
 of the Universe every where Dance in measure & Proportion, it self
 being as it were in the mean time delighted and ravished with the Re-
 echoing of its own Harmony. *Habits* are said to be an *Adventitious* and
Acquired Nature, and Nature was before defined by the Stoicks to be
 ἡσυχία, or a *Habit* : so that there seems to be no other Difference between
 these two, than this, that whereas the One is *Acquired* by Teaching,
Industry and *Exercise* ; the other, as was expressed by Hippocrates, is
 ἀπαίδευτος καὶ ἡ μαθήσια, *Unlearned* and *Untaught*, and may in some
 sense also be said to be αὐτοβλαβήτος, *Self-taught*, though she be indeed
 always Inwardly Prompted, Secretly Whispered into, and *Inspired*, by
 the *Divine Art* and *Wisdom*.

14. Moreover, that something may Act *Artificially* and for *Ends*,
 without Comprehending the Reason of what it doth, may be further
 evinced from those *Natural Instincts* that are in Animals, which with-
 out Knowledge direct them to Act *Regularly*, in Order both to their
 own Good and the Good of the Universe. As for Example, the Bees
 in Mellification, and in framing their Combs and Hexagonal Cells,
 the Spiders in spinning their Webs, the Birds in building
 their Nests, and many other Animals in such like Actions of theirs,
 which would seem to argue a great Sagacity in them, whereas not-
 withstanding, as Aristotle observes, ὅτι τεχνὴ ὅτι ἐπιστομία ὅτι βουλοσ-
 μενα ποιεῖ. *They do these things, neither by Art nor by Counsel nor by any
 Deliberation of their own, and therefore are not Masters of that
 Wisdom according to which they Act, but only Passive to the Instincts
 and Impresses thereof upon them.* And indeed to affirm, that Brute
 Animals do all these things by a Knowledge of their own, and which
 themselves are Masters of, and that without Deliberation and Con-
 sultation, were to make them to be endued with a most Perfect Intel-
 lect, far transcending that of *Humane Reason* ; whereas it is plain e-
 nough, that Brutes are not above Consultation, but Below it, and that
 these Instincts of Nature in them, are Nothing but a kind of Fate up-
 on them.

15. There is in the next place another Imperfection to be observed
 in the *Plastick Nature*, that as it doth not comprehend the Reason of
 its own Action, so neither is it *Clearly and Expressly Conscious* of what
 it doth ; in which Respect, it doth not only fall short of *Humane Art*,
 but even of that very Manner of Acting which is in Brutes themselves,
 who though they do not Understand the Reason of those Actions, that
 their Natural Instincts lead them to, yet they are generally conceived
 to be Conscious of them, and to do them by *Phancy* ; whereas the
 Plastick

Plastick Nature in the *Formation* of *Plants* and *Animals*, seems to have no *Animal Fancie*, no *Express συναισθησις*, *Con-sense* or *Consciousness* of what it doth. Thus the often Commended Philosopher, ἡ φύσις ἐστὶ φαῖσσιαν ἔχει, ἢ ὃ ἰδόντις φαῖσσιαν μετῆται, φαῖσσιαν δὲ μεταξὺ φύσεως τῆς πρὸς τὸ νοῦν ἢ μὲν ὅτι ἴσους ἀντιληψὶν οὐδὲ σόφισαν ἔχει. *Nature hath not so much as any Fancie in it; As Intelligence and Knowledge is a thing Superiour to Fancie, so Fancie is Superiour to the Impress of Nature, for Nature hath no Apprehension nor Conscious Perception of any thing. In a Word, Nature is a thing that hath no such Self-perception or Self-enjoyment in it, as Animals have.* En. 4. L. 4. 113.

16. Now we are well aware, that this is a Thing which the Narrow Principles of some late Philosophers will not admit of, that there should be any *Action* distinct from *Local Motion* besides *Express Conscious Cogitation*. For they making the first General Heads of all Entity, to be *Extension* and *Cogitation*, or *Extended Being* and *Cogitative*, and then supposing that the Essence of *Cogitation* consists in *Express Consciousness*, must needs by this means exclude such a *Plastick Life* of *Nature*, as we speak of, that is supposed to act without *Animal Fancie* or *Express Consciousness*. Wherefore we conceive that the first Heads of Being ought rather to be expressed thus; *Resisting* or *Antitypous Extension*, and *Life*, (i.e. *Internal Energy* and *Self-activity*); and then again, that *Life* or *Internal Self-activity*, is to be subdivided into such as either acts with express Consciousness and *Synasthesis*, or such as is without it; the Latter of which is this *Plastick Life* of *Nature*: So that there may be an *Action* distinct from *Local Motion*, or a *Vital Energy*, which is not accompanied with that *Fancie*, or *Consciousness*, that is in the *Energies* of the *Animal Life*; that is, there may be a simple *Internal Energy* or *Vital Autokinetic*, which is without that *Duplication*, that is included in the Nature of *συναισθησις*, *Con-sense* and *Consciousness*, which makes a Being to be Present with it self, Attentive to its own Actions, or Animadversive of them, to perceive it self to Do or Suffer, and to have a *Fruition* or *Enjoyment* of it self. And indeed it must be granted, that what moves Matter or determines the Motion of it *Vitally*, must needs do it by some other *Energy* of its own, as it is Reasonable also to conceive, that it self hath some *Vital Sympathy* with that *Matter* which it Acts upon. But we apprehend, that Both these may be without Clear and *Express Consciousness*. Thus the Philosopher, πάντα ζῶντα αἰσθησις, καὶ ἡ σαρξ αἰσθησις δὲ, ὅτι ὡς τὸ πῦρ αἰσθησις, αὐτὸν αἰσθησις αὐτοῦ, καὶ μὴ ἀσυνεπὲς τις παρὰ, κινεῖται τις ἐκ αὐτοῦ. *Every Life is Energetic, even the worst of Lives, and therefore that of Nature. Whose Energie is not like that of Fire, but such an Energie, as though there be no Sense belonging to it, yet it is not Temerarious or Fortuitous, but Orderly & Regular.* En. 3. L. 2. 615.

Wherefore this Controversie whether the *Energy* of the *Plastick Nature*, be *Cogitation*, or no, seems to be but a *Logomachy*, or Contention about Words. For if Clear and *Express Consciousness* be supposed to be included in *Cogitation*, then it must needs be granted that *Cogitation* doth not belong to the *Plastick Life* of *Nature*: but if the Notion of that Word be enlarged so as to comprehend all *Action* distinct from *Local Motion*, and to be of equal *Extent* with *Life*, then the *Energie* of *Nature* is *Cogitation*. O 3 Never

Nevertheless if any one think fit to attribute some Obscure and Imperfect *Sense* or *Perception*, different from that of *Animals*, to the *Energie* of *Nature*, and will therefore call it a kind of *Drowsie*, *Unawakened*, or *Astonish'd Cogitation*, the Philosopher, before mentioned, will not very much gain say it: εἰς βάλνται στίσι τινά ἢ ἀδύσιν αὐτῇ ἠδύνει, πῶς οὐκ ἀνέμενον ἔστι τῶ ἀλλαν τῶ ἀδύσιν ἢ τῶ στίσι, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἔστι τῶ τῶ ὅτι τῶ ἡγεγέρτες προσκρίσει. If any will needs attribute some kind of *Apprehension* or *Sense* to *Nature*, then it must not be such a *Sense* or *Apprehension*, as is in *Animals*, but something that differs as much from it, as the *Sense* or *Cogitation* of one in a profound sleep, differs from that of one who is awake. And since it cannot be denied but that the *Plastick Nature* hath a certain *Dull* and *Obscure Idea* of that which it Stamps and Prints upon Matter, the same Philosopher himself sticks not to call this *Idea* of *Nature*, *Ἰδέα* and *Ἰδέσμα*, a *Spectacle* and *Contemplamen*, as likewise the *Energy* of *Nature* towards it, *Ἐνεργία* ἡσυχία, a *Silent Contemplation*; nay he allows, that *Nature* may be said to be, in some Sence, *φιλοθέαμα*, a *Lover of Spectacles* or *Contemplation*.

En. 3. 1. 8. 5. 3.

17. However, that there may be some *Vital Energy* without *Clear* and *Express* συναίσθησις, *Con-sense* and *Consciousness*, *Animadversion*, *Attention*, or *Self-perception*, seems reasonable upon several accounts. For first, those Philosophers themselves, who make the *Essence* of the *Soul* to consist in *Cogitation*, and again the *Essence* of *Cogitation* in *Clear* and *Express Consciousness*, cannot render it any way probable, that the *Souls* of *Men* in all profound Sleeps, Lethargies and Apoplexies, as also of *Embryo's* in the *Womb*, from their very first arrival thither, are never so much as one moment without *Expressly Conscious Cogitations*; which if they were, according to the *Principles* of their *Philosophy*, they must, *ipso facto*, cease to have any *Being*. Now if the *Souls* of *Men* and *Animals* be at any time without *Consciousness* and *Self-perception*, then it must needs be granted, that *Clear* and *Express Consciousness* is not *Essential* to *Life*. There is some appearance of *Life* and *Vital Sympathy* in certain *Vegetables* and *Plants*, which however called *Sensitive Plants* and *Plant-animals*, cannot well be supposed to have *Animal Sense* and *Fancy*, or *Express Consciousness* in them; although we are not ignorant in the mean time, how some endeavour to save all those *Phænomena Mechanically*. It is certain, that our *Humane Souls* themselves are not always *Conscious*, of whatever they have in them; for even the *Sleeping Geometrician*, hath at that time, all his *Geometrical Theorems* and *Knowledges* some way in him; as also the *Sleeping Musician*, all his *Musical Skill* and *Songs*: and therefore why may it not be possible for the *Soul* to have likewise some *Actual Energie* in it, which it is not *Expressly Conscious* of? We have all *Experience*, of our doing many *Animal Actions Non-attendingly*, which we reflect upon afterwards; as also that we often continue a long *Series* of *Bodily Motions*, by a mere *Virtual Intention* of our *Minds*, and as it were by *Half a Cogitation*. That *Vital Sympathy*, by which our *Soul* is united and tied fast, as it were with a *Knot*, to the *Body*, is a thing that we have no direct *Consciousness* of, but only in its *Effects*. Nor can we tell how we come to be so different-

ly

ly affected in our Souls, from the many different Motions made upon our Bodies. As likewise we are not Conscious to our selves of that Energy, whereby we impress Variety of *Motions* and *Figurations* upon the *Animal Spirits* of our Brain in our *Phantastick Thoughts*. For though the *Geometrician* perceive himself to make Lines, Triangles and Circles in the Dust, with his Finger, yet he is not aware, how he makes all those same Figures, first upon the Corporeal Spirits of his Brain, from whence notwithstanding, as from a Glass, they are reflected to him, *Fancy* being rightly concluded by *Aristotle* to be a *Weak and Obscure Sense*. There is also another more Interior kind of *Plastick Power* in the Soul (if we may so call it) whereby it is Formative of its own Cogitations, which it self is not always Conscious of; as when in Sleep or Dreams, it frames Interlocutory Discourses betwixt it self and other Persons, in a long Series, with Coherent Sense and Apt Connexions, in which oftentimes it seems to be surprized with unexpected Answers and Reparties; though it self were all the while the Poet and Inventor of the whole Fable. Not only our Nictations for the most part when we are awake, but also our Nocturnal Volutations in Sleep, are performed with very little or no Consciousness. Respiration or that Motion of the *Diaphragma* and other Muscles which causes it (there being no sufficient Mechanical accompt given of it) may well be concluded to be always a Vital Motion, though it be not always Animal; since no man can affirm that he is perpetually Conscious to himself, of that Energy of his Soul, which does produce it when he is awake, much less when asleep. And Lastly, the Cartesian Attempts to salve the Motion of the Heart Mechanically, seem to be abundantly confuted, by Autopsy and Experiment, evincing the *Systole* of the Heart to be a *Muscular Constriction*, caused by some Vital Principle, to make which, nothing but a *Pulsifick Corporeal Quality* in the Substance of the Heart it self, is very Unphilosophical and Absurd. Now as we have no voluntary *Imperium* at all, upon the *Systole* and *Diastole* of the Heart, so are we not conscious to our selves of any Energy of our own Soul that causes them, and therefore we may reasonably conclude from hence also, that there is some *Vital Energy*, without *Animal Fancy* or *Synæsthesis*, express *Consciousness* and *Self-perception*.

18. Wherefore the *Plastick Nature* acting neither by *Knowledge* nor by *Animal Fancy*, neither *Electively* nor *Hormetically*, must be concluded to act *Fatally*, *Magically* and *Sympathetically*. And thus that Curious and Diligent Inquirer into Nature, before commended, resolves, *Natura tanquam Fato quodam, seu Mandato secundum Leges operante, movetur*; Nature moveth as it were by a kind of Fate or Command, acting according to Laws. Fate, and the Laws or Commands of the Deity, concerning the Mundane Oeconomy (they being really the same thing) ought not to be looked upon, neither as *Verbal things*, nor as mere *Will* and *Cogitation* in the Mind of God; but as an *Energetical* and *Effectual Principle*, constituted by the Deity, for the bringing of things decreed to pass. The *Aphrodisian Philosopher* with others of the Ancients, have concluded, that *Fate* and *Nature* are but two different Names, for one and the same thing, and that

*Harvey's
Gen. An.*

τις εμαρμύροις καὶ φύσιν, καὶ τὸ κατὰ φύσιν εμαρμύρον, both that which is done *Fatally*, is done *Naturally*, and also whatever is done *Naturally*, is done *Fatally*; but that which we assert in this place is only this, that the *Plastick Nature* may be said to be, the *True and Proper Fate of Matter*, or the *Corporeal World*. Now that which acts not by any *Knowledge* or *Fancy*, *Will* or *Appetite* of its own, but only *Fatally* according to *Laws* and *Impresses* made upon it (but differently in different Cases) may be said also to act *Magically* and *Sympathetically*. ἡ ἀληθὴς μαγία (saith the Philosopher) ἢ ἐν τῇ παντὶ φύσιν καὶ νόμος, *The true Magick is the Friendship and Discord that is in the Universe*; and again *Magick* is said to be founded ἐν τῇ συμπύκνῳ καὶ τῇ ῥῇ διέσπασιν τῆς πολλῆς ποικιλίας πρὸς ἓν ζῶον συντιθέσθαι, *In the Sympathy and Variety of diverse Powers conspiring together into one Animal*. Of which Passages, though the Principal meaning seem to be this, that the ground of *Magical Fascination*, is one *Vital Unitive Principle* in the Universe; yet they imply also, that there is a certain *Vital Energy*, not in the way of *Knowledge* and *Fancy*, *Will* and *Animal Appetite*, but *Fatally Sympathetical* and *Magical*. As indeed that *Mutual Sympathy* which we have constant Experience of, betwixt our *Soul* and our *Body*, (being not a *Material* and *Mechanical*, but *Vital thing*) may be called also *Magical*.

19. From what hath been hitherto declared concerning the *Plastick Nature*, it may appear; That though it be a thing that acts for *Ends Artificially*, and which may be also called the *Divine Art*, and the *Fate of the Corporeal World*; yet for all that it is neither *God* nor *Goddeß*, but a *Low and Imperfect Creature*. Forasmuch as it is not *Master* of that *Reason* and *Wisdom* according to which it acts, nor does it properly *Intend* those *Ends* which it acts for, nor indeed is it *Expressly Conscious* of what it doth; it not *Knowing* but only *Doing*, according to *Commands* & *Laws* impress'd upon it. Neither of which things ought to seem strange or incredible, since *Nature* may as well act *Regularly* and *Artificially*, without any *Knowledge* and *Consciousness* of its own, as *Forms of Letters* compounded together, may Print Coherent *Philosophick Sense*, though they understand nothing at all; and it may also act for the sake of those *Ends*, that are not intended by it self, but some *Higher Being*, as well as the *Saw* or *Hatchet* in the hand of the *Architect* or *Mechanick* doth, τὸ οὐκ ἐπὶ σκοπῷ ἐκείνῳ τὸ πελάειν, ἀλλ' ὡς περὶ λογιζόμενον, ἀλλὰ τὸ περὶ λογιζόμενον ὑπερεῖναι, the *Ax cuts for the sake of something*, though it self does not *ratiocinate*, nor *intend* or *design* any thing, but is only *subservient to that which does so*. It is true, that our *Humane Actions* are not governed by such exact *Reason*, *Art*, and *Wisdom*, nor carried on with such *Constancy*, *Evenness* and *Uniformity*, as the *Actions of Nature* are; notwithstanding which, since we act according to a *Knowledge* of our own, and are *Masters* of that *Wisdom* by which our *Actions* are directed, since we do not act *Fatally* only, but *Electively* and *Intendingly*, with *Consciousness* and *Self-perception*; the *Rational Life* that is in us, ought to be accounted a much *Higher* and more *Noble Perfection*, than that *Plastick Life of Nature*. Nay, this *Plastick Nature*, is so far from being the *First* and *Highest Life*, that it is indeed the *Last* and *Lowest* of all

*Simplific. in A-
rith. Phys. L. 2.*

all *Lives* ; it being really the same thing with the *Vegetative*, which is Inferiour to the *Sensitive*. The difference betwixt *Nature* and *Wisdom* was before observed, that *Wisdom* is the *First* and *Highest* thing, but *Nature* the *Last* and *Lowest* ; this latter being but an Umbratile Imitation of the former. And to this purpose, this *Plastick Nature* is further described by the same Philosopher in these Words, *ἢ τὸν* *ἔτι ὁ λόγος ὡς ἀκέραιος τὸς, ἐστὶ αὐτῶς, ὁ δὲ γὰρ ψυχῆς καθάρσις τὸ ἥθος* *ἡγεμονίας ὁ δαιμόνιος, ἐξ οὗ ἐκλαμπύει ἐξ ἀμφοῖν τὸ ἐξ ψυχῆς, ἐξ ψυχῆς καὶ τὸν διακειμένης γινώσκων τὸ λόγον τῶτον.* *The Spermatick Reason or Plastick Nature, is no pure Mind or perfect Intelleſt, nor any kind of pure Soul neither ; but something which depends upon it, being as it were an Effulgency or Eradiation, from both together, Mind and Soul, or Soul affected according to Mind, generating the same as a Lower kind of Life.* En. 3. l. 2. c. 10.

And though this *Plastick Nature* contain no small part of *Divine Providence* in it, yet since it is a thing that cannot act Eleſtively nor with Discretion, it must needs be granted that there is a *Higher* and *Diviner Providence* than this, which also presides over the *Corporal World* it self, which was a thing likewise insisted upon by that Philosopher, *γίνεται τὰ ἐν τῷ παντὶ ἢ κατὰ σπερματικῶς, ἀλλὰ καὶ λόγος ἐκτελεστικός, καὶ τὸν περιέχει, ἢ καὶ τὸς τῶν σπερματικῶν λόγους, ἢ γὰρ ἐν τοῖς σπερματικοῖς λόγοις οὐκ, ἐξ τῶν γινόμεναι, ἀλλὰ τὸς σπερματικῶς αὐτὸς λόγος.* *The things in the world, are not administered merely by Spermatick Reasons, but by Perileptick (that is, Comprehensive Intellectual Reasons) which are in order of Nature before the other, because in the Spermatick Reasons cannot be contained that which is contrary to them, &c.* Where though this Philosopher may extend his *Spermatick Reasons* further than we do our *Plastick Nature* in this place, (which is only confined to the *Motions of Matter*) yet he concludes, that there is a higher Principle presiding over the Universe than this. So that it is not *Ratio mersa & confusa*, a Reason drowned in Matter, and confounded with it, which is the Supreme Governour of the World, but a Providence perfectly Intellectual, *Abstract* and *Released*. En. 4. l. 4. c. 30.

20. But though the *Plastick Nature* be the *Lowest* of all *Lives*, nevertheless since it is a *Life*, it must needs be *Incorporeal* ; all *Life* being such. For *Body* being nothing but *Antitypous Extension*, or *Resisting Bulk*, nothing but mere *Outside*, *Aliud extra Aliud*, together with *Passive Capability*, hath no *Internal Energy*, *Self-activity*, or *Life* belonging to it ; it is not able so much as to *Move it self*, and therefore much less can it *Artificially direct* its own Motion. Moreover, in the Efformation of the Bodies of Animals, it is *One* and the self-same thing that directs the Whole ; that which Contrives and Frames the Eye, cannot be a distinct thing from that which Frames the Ear ; nor that which makes the Hand, from that which makes the Foot ; the same thing which delineates the Veins, must also form the Arteries ; and that which fabricates the Nerves, must also project the Muscles and Joynts ; it must be the same thing that designs and Organizes the Heart and Brain, with such Communications betwixt them ; *One* and the self-same thing must needs have in it, the entire Idea

Idea and the complete Model or Platform of the whole Organick Body. For the severall parts of Matter distant from one another, acting alone by themselves, without any common Directrix, being not able to confer together, nor communicate with each other, could never possibly conspire to make up one such uniform and Orderly System or Compages, as the Body of every Animal is. The same is to be said likewise concerning the Plastick Nature of the whole Corporeal Universe, in which *ἡ πᾶσις πρὸς ἑνὸς συντρέχει*, all things are ordered together conspiringly into One. It must be one and the same thing, which formeth the whole, or else it could never have fallen into such an Uniform Order and Harmony. Now that which is One and the Same, acting upon severall distant parts of Matter, cannot be Corporeal.

Indeed *Aristotle* is severely censured by some learned men for this, that though he talk every where of such a Nature as acts Regularly, Artificially and Methodically, in order to the Best, yet he does nowhere positively declare whether this Nature of his be Corporeal or Incorporeal, Substantial or Accidental, which yet is the less to be wondred at in him, because he does not clearly determine these same points concerning the Rational Soul neither, but seems to stagger uncertainly about them. In the mean time it cannot be denied, but that *Aristotle's* Followers do for the most part conclude this Nature of his to be Corporeal; whereas notwithstanding, according to the Principles of this Philosophy, it cannot possibly be such: For there is nothing else attributed to Body in it, besides these three, *Matter, Form and Accidents*; neither of which can be the *Aristotelick Nature*. First, it cannot be *Matter*; because Nature, according to *Aristotle*, is supposed to be the Principle of Motion and Activity, which Matter in it self is devoid of. Moreover *Aristotle* concludes, that they who assign only a Material Cause, assign no Cause at all *τὸ δὲ καλῶς, of well and fit*, of that Regular and Artificial Frame of things which is ascribed to Nature; upon both which accompts, it is determined by that Philosopher, that *ἡ φύσις μᾶλλον ἀρχὴ καὶ αἰτία ἢ ὕλη*, Nature is more a Principle and Cause than Matter, and therefore it cannot be one and the same thing with it. Again, it is as plain, that *Aristotle's Nature* cannot be the Forms of particular Bodies neither, as Vulgar Peripateticks seem to conceive, these being all Generated and Produced by Nature, and as well Corruptible as Generable. Whereas Nature is such a thing as is neither Generated nor Corrupted, it being the Principle and Cause of all Generation and Corruption. To make Nature and the Material Forms of Bodies to be one and the self-same thing, is all one as if one should make the Seal (with the Stamper too) to be one and the same thing, with the Signature upon the Wax. And Lastly, *Aristotle's Nature* can least of all be the Accidents or Qualities of Bodies; because these act only in Vertue of their Substance, neither can they exercise any Active Power over the Substance it self in which they are; whereas the Plastick Nature is a thing that Dominates over the Substance of the whole Corporeal Universe, and which Subordinately to the Deity, put both Heaven and Earth into this Frame in which now it is. Wherefore since *Aristotle's Nature* can be neither the

Matter,

Matter, nor the Forms, nor the Accidents of Bodies, it is plain, that according to his own Principles, it must be Incorporeal.

21. Now if the Plastick Nature be Incorporeal, then it must of necessity, be either an Inferiour Power or Faculty of some Soul which is also Conscious, Sensitive or Rational; or else a lower Substantial Life by it self, devoid of Animal Consciousness. The Platonists seem to affirm both these together, namely that there is a *Plastick Nature* lodged in all particular Souls of Animals, Brutes and Men, and also that there is a General *Plastick* or *Spermatick Principle* of the whole *Universe* distinct from their Higher Mundane Soul, though subordinate to it, and dependent upon it, ἡ λεγόμενη φύσις γέννημα ψυχῆς προτεγὲς διαστάσει ζώης That which is called Nature, is the Off-spring of an higher Soul, which hath a more Powerful Life in it. And though Aristotle do not so clearly acknowledge the Incorporeity and Substantiality of Souls, yet he concurs very much with this Platonic Doctrine, that Nature is either a Lower Power or Faculty of some Conscious Soul, or else an Inferiour kind of Life by it self, depending upon a Superiour Soul.

And this we shall make to appear from his Book *De Partibus Animalium*, after we have taken notice of some considerable Preliminary Passages in it in order thereunto. For having first declared, that besides the *Material Cause*, there are other Causes also of Natural Generations, namely these two, ἢτις ἡ ἔννοια ἔστι οὐκ ἄρα ἀρχὴ ἢ κίνησις, that for whose sake, (or the Final Cause) and that from which the Principle of Motion is, (or the Efficient Cause) he determines that the former of these Two, is the principal, φαίνεται ὅτι πρότερον ἢν λέγεται ἔννοια τῆς ἀρχῆς ἢ τῆς κινήσεως, ἀρχὴ ὅτι ὁ λόγος, ἐκείνως, ὡς τοῖς κατὰ τέχνην ἔστι τοῖς φύσιν ἀνθρώπων. The chiefest of these two Causes seems to be the Final or the Intending Cause; for this is Reason, and Reason is alike a Principle in Artificial and in Natural things. Nay the Philosopher adds excellently, that there is more of Reason and Art, in the things of Nature, than there is in those things that are Artificially made by men, μᾶλλον γὰρ ἐστὶ τὸ ἔννοια ἔστι τὸ καλὸν ὡς τοῖς φύσιν ἔργois, ἢ ἐν τοῖς κατὰ τέχνην. There is more of Final or Intending Causality and of the reason of Good, in the works of Nature than in those of Humane Art. After which he greatly complains of the first and most Ancient Physiologers, meaning thereby Anaximander, and those other Ionicks before Anaxagoras, that they considered only τὴν ὕλην ἀρχὴν, the Material Principle and Cause of things, without attending to those Two other Causes, the Principle of Motion, and that which aims at Ends, they talking only, of Fire, Water, Air and Earth, and generating the whole World, from the Fortuitous Concourse of these Senseless Bodies. But at length Aristotle falls upon Democritus, who being Junior to those others before mentioned, Philosophised after the same Atheistical manner, but in a new way of his own, by Atoms; acknowledging no other Nature, neither in the Universe, nor in the Bodies of Animals, than that of Fortuitous Mechanism, and supposing all things to arise from the different Compositions of Magnitudes, Figures, Sites, and Motions. Of which Democritick Philosophy, he gives his Cen-

De part. An.
Lib. 1. cap. 1.

sure in these following words, εἰ μὲν ὅν τι χηματὶ καὶ τῷ χρώματι ἴσασθαι, ὥς τι ζῶον καὶ τῷ μορφῶν, ὅθεν ἐν Δημόκριτος λέγει, &c. If Animals and their several parts did consist of nothing but Figure and Colour, then indeed Democritus would be in the right: But a Dead man hath the same Form and Figure of Body, that he had before, and yet for all that he is not a Man; neither is a Brazen or Wooden Hand a Hand, but only Equivocally, as a Painted Physician, or Pipes made of Stone are so called. No member of a Dead Mans Body, is that which it was before, when he was alive, neither Eye, nor Hand, nor Foot: Wherefore this is but a rude way of Philosophizing, and just as if a Carpenter should talk of a Wooden Hand. For thus these Physiologers declare the Generations and Causes of Figures only, or the Matter out of which things are made, as Air and Earth. Whereas no Artificer would think it sufficient, to render such a Cause of any Artificial Fabrick, because the Instrument happened to fall so upon the Timber, that therefore it was Hollow here and Plane there; but rather because himself made such strokes, and for such Ends, &c.

Now in the close of all, this Philosopher at length declares, That there is another Principle of Corporeal things, besides the Material, and such as is not only the Cause of Motion, but also acts Artificially in order to Ends, ἵνα τι τοῖσιν ὅθεν καὶ καλῶμεν φύσιν, there is such a thing as that which we call Nature, that is, not the Fortuitous Motion of Senseless Matter, but a Plastick Regular and Artificial Nature, such as acts for Ends and Good; declaring in the same place, what this Nature is, namely that it is ψυχὴ ἢ ψυχῆς μέρος, ἢ μὴ ἀνδρ. ψυχῆς, Soul, or Part of Soul, or not without Soul; and from thence inferring, that it properly belongs to a Physiologer, to treat concerning the Soul also. But he concludes afterwards, ὅτι πᾶσα ψυχὴ φύσις, that the whole Soul is not Nature; whence it remains, that according to Aristotle's sence, Nature is ἢ ψυχῆς μέρος, ἢ μὴ ἀνδρ. ψυχῆς, either part of a Soul or not without Soul, that is, either a lower Part or Faculty of some Conscious Soul; or else an Inferiour kind of Life by it self, which is not without Soul, but Subordinate to it and dependent on it.

22. As for the Bodies of Animals Aristotle first resolves in General, that Nature in them is either the whole Soul, or else some part of it, φύσις ἢ ἡ πᾶσα, καὶ ἢ τὸ μέρος τῆς ζῶας, ἢτοι πᾶσα ἢ ψυχὴ, ἢ μέρος τι αὐτῆς, Nature as the Moving Principle, or as that which acts Artificially for Ends, (so far as concerns the Bodies of Animals) is either the whole Soul, or else some Part of it. But afterward he determines more particularly, that the Plastick Nature is not the whole Soul in Animals, but only some part of it; ἢ πᾶσα ψυχὴ φύσις, ἀλλὰ τι μέρος αὐτῆς, that is, Nature in Animals, properly so called, is some Lower Power or Faculty lodged in their respective Souls, whether Sensitive or Rational.

And that there is Plastick Nature in the Souls of Animals, the same Aristotle elsewhere affirms and proves after this manner: τί τὸ συνέχειν εἰς τ' ἀναπύα φερόμενα, τὸ πᾶρ καὶ τὴν γῆν διασπασθίσκται ὥς εἰ μὴ τι ἔσται τὸ καλῶσαι, εἰδ' ἵνα, τὸτ' ἵνα ἢ ψυχὴ, καὶ τὸ αἰτῶν τὰ ἐξείναι καὶ τρέφειναι What is that which in the Bodies of Animals holds together

De An. 1. c. 4.

together such things as of their own Nature would otherwise move contrary ways, and flie asunder, as Fire and Earth, which would be distracted and dissipated, the one tending upwards, the other downwards, were there not something to hinder them: now if there be any such thing, this must be the Soul, which is also the Cause of Nourishment and Augmentation. Where the Philosopher adds, that though some were of Opinion, that Fire was that which was the Cause of Nourishment and Augmentation in Animals, yet this was indeed but *συνάλτιον πῦρ, ὃ μὴν ἀπλῶς γὰρ αὔτιν, ἀλλὰ μάλιστ' ἐν ψυχῇ, only the Concause or Instrument, and not simply the Cause, but rather the Soul.* And to the same purpose he philosophizeth elsewhere, *ἐστὶ γὰρ ἡ πέψις δι' ἧς ἡ τροφή γίνεται τῆς ζωῆς ἐν αἵματι ψυχῆς, ἐπὶ δεξιότητις ἐστὶ, πρὶν γὰρ ἐργάζεσθαι πάλιν.* *Neither is Concoction by which Nourishment is made in Animals done without the Soul, nor without Heat, for all things are done by Fire.* De Resp. c. 8.

And certainly it seems very agreeable to the *Phænomena*, to acknowledge something in the Bodies of Animals Superiour to Mechanism, as that may well be thought to be, which keeps the more fluid parts of them constantly in the same Form and Figure, so as not to be enormously altered in their Growth by disproportionate nourishment; that which restores Flesh that was lost, consolidates dissolved Continuities, Incorporates the newly received Nourishment, and joyns it Continuously with the preexistent parts of Flesh and Bone; which regenerates and repairs Veins consumed or cut off; which causes Denitition in so regular a manner, and that not only in Infants, but also Adult persons; that which casts off Excrements and dischargeth Superfluities; which makes things seem ungrateful to an Interiour Sense, that were notwithstanding pleasing to the Taste. That Nature of *Hippocrates*, that is the Curatrix of Diseases, *αἱ φύσις τῆς νοσήσεως ἐν τοῖς σπασμοῖς*, and that *Archæus* of the Chymists or Paracelsians, to which all Medicaments are but Subservient, as being able to effect nothing of themselves without it. I say, there seems to be such a Principle as this in the Bodies of Animals, which is not *Mechanical* but *Vital*; and therefore since Entities are not to be multiplied without necessity, we may with *Aristotle* conclude it to be *μέγες* or *μέγεθος* τῆς ψυχῆς, a certain part of the Soul of those Animals, or a Lower Inconscient Power lodged in them.

23. Besides this Plastick Nature which is in Animals, forming their several Bodies Artificially, as so many Microcosms or Little Worlds, there must be also a general Plastick Nature in the *Macrocosm* the whole Corporeal Universe, that which makes all things thus to conspire every where, and agree together into one Harmony. Concerning which *Plastick Nature* of the Universe, the Author of *Atundo* writes after this manner, *ἐν τῷ ὅλῳ κόσμῳ διεισδύμενον μίαν ἢ διὰ πάντων δυνάμιν ἐννοούμεν, One Power passing thorough all things, ordered and formed the whole World.* Again he calls the same *πνεῦμα, ἢ ψυχή, ἢ ζῳικὴν φύσιν, a Spirit, and a Living and Generative Nature*, and plainly declares it, to be a thing distinct from the Deity, but Subordinate to it and dependent on it. But *Aristotle* himself in that ge-

De Part. An.
lib. 1. c. 6.

nuine Work of his before mentioned, speaks clearly and positively concerning this Plastick Nature of the Universe, as well as that of Animals, in these words, φαίνεται γὰρ ὡς ὁ αὐτοῖς τοῖς πράγμασι ἄλλη τις ἀρχὴ καὶ αἰτία τοιαύτη ἢ τεχνη, ὥτως ὡς αὐτοῖς τοῖς πράγμασι ἄλλη τις ἀρχὴ καὶ αἰτία τοιαύτη ἢ τεχνη, καθάπερ τὸ θεμενὸν καὶ τὸ ψυχρὸν ὡς τὸ παῖδος. διὸ μάλλον ὁμῶς ἢ ἐργον γινώσκουσι ὑπὸ τοιαύτης αἰτίας, εἰ γίγνεται, καὶ ἔστι διὰ τοιαύτω αἰτίαν μάλλον, ἢ τὰ ζῶα τὰ θνητά. τὸ γὰρ πεπαιγμένον καὶ ἀετισμὸν πολλὸν μάλλον φαίνεται ἐν τοῖς ἐργείοις, ἢ ἐν τοῖς ἑσπείοις. τὸ δ' ἄλλοτε ἄλλως, καὶ ὡς ἔτυχεν, ὥστε τὰ θνητὰ μάλλον οἱ δ' ἄνθρωποι μὲν ζῶον ἔχουσιν φύσιν φανερὴν καὶ γινώσκουσι ἢ δ' ἐργον ἀπὸ τύχης καὶ τῶ αὐτομάτου τοῦτου σίστηται, ἐν ᾧ ἀπὸ τύχης καὶ ἀταξίας καὶ ἰσότητος φαίνεται. It seemeth, that as there is Art in Artificial things, so in the things of Nature, there is another such like Principle or Cause, which we our selves partake of; in the same manner as we do of Heat and Cold, from the Universe. Wherefore it is more probable that the whole World was at first made by such a Cause as this (if at least it were made) and that it is still conserved by the same, than that Mortal Animals should be so: For there is much more of Order and determinate Regularity, in the Heavenly Bodies than in our selves; but more of Fortuitousness and inconstant Regularity among these Mortal things. Notwithstanding which, some there are, who, though they cannot but acknowledge that the Bodies of Animals were all framed by an Artificial Nature, yet they will needs contend that the System of the Heavens sprang merely from Fortune and Chance; although there be not the least appearance of Fortuitousness or Temerity in it. And then he sums up all into this Conclusion, ὡς ἔστι φανερόν ὅτι ἢ τὰ τοιαῦτα ὃ δὲ καὶ καλῶμεν φύσιν. Wherefore it is manifest, that there is some such thing as that which we call Nature, that is, that there is not only an Artificial, Methodical and Plastick Nature in Animals, by which their respective Bodies are Framed and Conserved; but also that there is such a General Plastick Nature likewise in the Universe, by which the Heavens and whole World are thus Artificially Ordered and Disposed.

*24. Now whereas Aristotle in the forecited Words, tells us, that we partake of Life and Understanding, from that in the Universe, after the same manner as we partake of Heat and Cold, from that Heat and Cold that is in the Universe; It is observable, that this was a Notion borrowed from Socrates; (as we understand both from Xenophon and Plato) that Philosopher having used it as an Argumentation to prove a Deity. And the Sence of it is represented after this manner by the Latin Poet;

*Principio Cælum ac Terram, Campoque Liqueñtes,
Luccentiæque Globum Lunæ, Titanidæque Astra,
Spiritus intus alit, totosque Infusa per Artus,
Mens agit at Molem, & Magno se Corpore miscet.
Inde Hominum Pecudæque Genus, Vitæque Volantium.*

From whence it may be collected, that Aristotle did suppose, this Plastick Nature of the Universe to be, ἢ μετὰ ψυχῆς, ἢ μὴ μετὰ ψυχῆς, Either Part of some Mundane Soul, that was also Conscious and Intellectual,

ctual, (as that Plastick Nature in Animals is) or at least *some Inferiour Principle, depending on such a Soul.* And indeed whatever the Doctrine of the modern Peripateticks be, we make no doubt at all, but that *Aristotle* himself held the Worlds Animation, or a Mundane Soul; Forasmuch as he plainly declares himself concerning it, elsewhere in his Book *De Cælo*, after this manner; ἀλλ' ἡμεῖς ὡς ὅτι ἐν σωματίῳ μόνον αὐτῷ, καὶ μενέσθαι, τὰς τῶν ἡλίου ἐχέοντες, ἀψύχας ἢ πάμπαν, διανοήματα. δὲ ὡς ἀντιθέμενον ὑπολαμβάνοντες πρὸς τὴν καὶ ζωὴν. *Lib. 2. c. 12.* But we commonly think of the Heavens, as nothing else but Bodies and Monads, having only a certain Order, but altogether inanimate; whereas we ought on the contrary to conceive of them, as partaking of Life, and Action: that is, as being endued with a Rational or Intellectual Life. For so *Simplicius* there rightly expounds the place, δὲ ὡς πλεονεχὲς ἐμφύχων αὐτῷ συναρτιζέσθαι, καὶ λογικῶν ἐχέοντων ψυχὴν, ὡς καὶ πρὸς τὴν καὶ ζωὴν λογικῶς μετέχοντες. τὸ μὲν γὰρ ποιεῖν, καὶ τὸ τῷ ἀλλότῳ ψυχῶν καταρτίζεσθαι, καὶ τὸ τῷ ἀψύχῳ σωματίῳ, τὸ ὅτι πρὸς τὴν κινήσεως καὶ τῷ λογικῶν ψυχῶν καταρτίζεσθαι. But we ought to think of the Heavens, as Animated with a Rational Soul, and thereby partaking of Action and Rational Life. For (saith he) though ποῦν be affirmed not only of Irrational Souls, but also of Inanimate Bodies, yet the word πρᾶξαι does only denominate Rational Beings. But further, to take away all manner of scruple or doubt, concerning this business; that Philosopher before in the same Book, ἐπεὶ οὕτως ἀφαιρέσθαι, καὶ ἀρχὴν ποιήσεως ἔχει, That the Heaven is Animated, and hath a Principle of Motion within it self: Where by the Heaven, as in many other places of *Aristotle* and *Plato*, is to be understood the Whole World.

There is indeed One Passage in the same Book *De Cælo*, which at first sight, and slightly considered, may seem to contradict this again, and therefore probably is that, which hath led many into a contrary Perswasion, that *Aristotle* denied the Worlds Animation, ἀλλὰ μὴν ὅτι ὑπὲρ ψυχῆς ὁ λογισμὸς ἀναπαύσεως μίαν αἰδίαν ἔχει γὰρ τῇ ψυχῇ οὐκ ἔστιν αὐτῇ τὸ ζῆναι ἀλυστον καὶ μακαρίαν· αἰδίαν γὰρ καὶ τὴν κίνησιν μετὰ τῆς ζωῆς ποιεῖ, πεφικνότες τῇ πρώτῃ εὐνοίᾳ· ἄλλως καὶ κινήσιν συνεχῶς, ἀχολοῖσθαι, καὶ πάσης ἀπὸ πολλὰ γινώσκοντες ἐκαστὸς ἐμφανέσθαι· ὅγε μὴδ' ὥς οὐδ' τῇ ψυχῇ τῇ τῇ οὐκ ἔστιν ἔσθαι ὅτι ἀτάκτους ἢ αἰδίαν ἢ ὑπὸν γινώσκοντες τῇ πᾶσι τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, ἀλλ' ἀναλυστον ἵστίος πρὸς μείρεσιν κατέχον αὐτὴν αἰδίαν καὶ ἀνέναντον. *Lib. 2. c. 1.* But it is not reasonable neither, to think that the Heavens continue to Eternity, moved by a Soul necessitating, or violently compelling them. Nor indeed is it possible, that the Life of such a Soul should be pleasurable or happy. Forasmuch as the continual Violent Motion of a Body (naturally inclining to move another way) must needs be a very unquiet thing, and void of all Mental Repose; especially when there is no such Relaxation, as the Souls of Mortal Animals have by sleep; and therefore such a Soul of the World as this, must of necessity be condemned to an Eternal Ixionian Fate. But in these Words *Aristotle* does not deny the Heavens to be moved by a Soul of their own, (which is positively affirmed by him elsewhere) but only by such a Soul, as should Violently and Forcibly agitate, or drive them round, contrary to their own Natural Inclination, whereby in the mean time, they tended downwards of themselves towards the Centre. And his sense, concerning the Motion of the

Heavens, is truly represented by *Simplicius* in this manner, τὸ ὅλον φύσικον καὶ ζῳικόν, ὑπὸ ψυχῆς κινεῖται καὶ καὶ διὰ μίαν τὴν φύσιν. *The whole World or Heaven, being as well a natural, as an Animalish Body, is moved properly by Soul, but yet by means of Nature also, as an Instrument, so that the Motion of it is not Violent. But whereas Aristotle there insinuates, as if Plato had held the Heavens to be moved, by a Soul violently, contrary to their Nature; Simplicius, though sufficiently addicted to Aristotle, ingenuously acknowledges his Error herein, and vindicating Plato from that Imputation, shews how he likewise held a Plastick Nature, as well as a Mundane Soul; and that amongst his Ten Instances of Motion, * the Ninth is that of Nature, τὴν ἑαυτὴν αὐτὴν κινεῖ, καὶ μεταβάλλεται ὑπὸ ἑτέρας, that which always moves another, being it self changed by something else; as the Tenth, that of the Mundane Soul, τὴν ἑαυτὴν κινεῖ καὶ ἑτέρας, that which originally both moves it self and other things: as if his Meaning in that place were, That though Nature be a Life and Internal Energy, yet it acts Subserviently to a Higher Soul, as the First Original Mover.*

* De Ig. l. 10.

But the Grand Objection against *Aristotle's* holding the *Worlds Animation*, is still behind; namely from that in his *Metaphysics*, where he determines the Highest Starry Heaven, to be moved by an *Immoveable Mover*, commonly supposed to be the Deity it self, and no Soul of the World; and all the other Spheres likewise, to be moved by so many *Separate Intelligencies*, and not by *Souls*. To which we reply, that indeed *Aristotle's First Immoveable Mover* is no *Mundane Soul*, but an *Abstract Intellect Separate from Matter*, and the very Deity it self; whose manner of moving the Heavens is thus described by him, κινεῖ ὡς ἐκώμενον, *It Moveth only as being Loved*: wherefore besides this *Supreme Unmoved Mover*, that Philosopher supposed another Inferiour Moved Mover also, that is, a *Mundane Soul*, as the Proper and Immediate *Efficient Cause* of the Heavenly Motions; of which he speaks after this manner, κινεῖται ὡς τὰλλα καὶ, *that which it self being moved, (objectively, or by Appetite and Desire of the First Good) moveth other things.* And thus that safe and sure-footed Interpreter, *Alex. Aphrodisius*, expounds his Masters Meaning; That the *Heaven being Animated*, and therefore indeed Moved by an *Internal Principle* of its own, is notwithstanding Originally moved, by a certain *Immoveable and Separate Nature*, which is above Soul, καὶ ἴσθι τι αὐτῇ, καὶ ἔστιν καὶ ἔστιν ἔχον τὸ ἐμολογῆσαι αὐτῇ, *both by its contemplating of it, and having an Appetite and Desire, of assimilating it self thereunto.* *Aristotle* seeming to have borrowed this Notion from *Plato*, who makes the Constant Regular Circumgyration of the Heavens, to be an Imitation of the Motion or Energy of *Intellect*. So that *Aristotle's First Mover*, is not properly the *Efficient*, but only the *Final and Objective Cause*, of the Heavenly Motions, the Immediate *Efficient Cause* thereof being ψυχὴ καὶ φύσις, *Soul and Nature.*

Quaest. Met. l. 1. c. 1.

Neither may this be Confuted from those other *Aristotelick Intelligencies* of the Lesser Orbs; that Philosopher conceiving in like manner concerning them, that they were also the *Abstract Minds* or *Intellects* of certain certain

certain other inferior Souls, which moved their several Respective Bodies or Orbs, Circularly and Uniformly, in a kind of Imitation of them. For this plainly appears from hence, in that he affirms of these his *Inferiour Intelligences* likewise as well as of the *Supreme Mover*, that they do *κινεῖται ὡς τὸ τέλος*, *Moved only as the end.*

Where it is Evident, that though *Aristotle* did plainly suppose a *Mundane Intellectual Soul*, such as also contained, either in it, or under it, a *Plastick Nature*, yet he did not make either of these to be the *Supreme Deity*; but resolved the First Principle of things, to be *One Absolutely Perfect Mind or Intellect*, *Separate from Matter*, which was *ἀκίνητος νοῦς*, an *Immoveable Nature*, whose *Essence was his Operation*, and which Moved only as being Loved, or as the *Final Cause*: of which he pronounces in this manner, *ὅτι ὡς τῶ αὐτοῦ ἀρχῆς ἡ κίνησις ὁ ὕπερθεός ἐστιν ὡς φύσις*, *That upon such a Principle as this, Heaven and Nature depends*; that is, the *Animated Heaven*, or *Mundane Soul*, together with the *Plastick Nature* of the Universe, must of necessity depend upon such an *Absolutely Perfect*, and *Immoveable Mind or Intellect*. Met. L. 14. c. 7. 1st ar.

Having now declared the *Aristotelick Doctrine* concerning the *Plastick Nature* of the Universe, with which the *Platonick* also agrees, that it is, *ἢ μέρος ψυχῆς, ἢ μὴ ἀνδ' ψυχῆς*, either *Part of a Mundane Intellectual Soul*, (that is a *Lower Power and Faculty of it*) or *else not without it, but some inferior thing depending on it*; we think fit to add in this place, that though there were no such *Mundane Soul*, as both *Plato* and *Aristotle* supposed, distinct from the *Supreme Deity*, yet there might notwithstanding be a *Plastick Nature* of the Universe, depending immediately upon the *Deity it self*. For the *Plastick Nature* essentially depends upon *Mind or Intellect*, and could not possibly be without it; according to those words before cited, *ὡς τῶ αὐτοῦ ἀρχῆς ἡ κίνησις ὁ ὕπερθεός ἐστιν ὡς φύσις*, *Nature depends upon such an Intellectual Principle*; and for this Cause that Philosopher does elsewhere joyn *νοῦς* and *φύσις*, *Mind and Nature* both together.

25. Besides this *General Plastick Nature* of the Universe, and those *Particular Plastick Powers* in the *Souls of Animals*, it is not impossible but that there may be other *Plastick Natures* also (as certain *Lower Lives*, or *Vegetative Souls*) in some Greater Parts of the Universe; all of them depending, if not upon some higher *Conscious Soul*, yet at least upon a *Perfect Intellect*, presiding over the whole. As for Example; Though it be not reasonable to think, that every Plant, Herb and Pile of Grass, hath a *Particular Plastick Life*, or *Vegetative Soul* of its own, distinct from the Mechanism of the Body; nor that the whole Earth is an Animal endued with a *Conscious Soul*: yet there may possibly be, for ought we know, one *Plastick Nature* or *Life*, belonging to the whole *Terrestrial* (or *Terraqueous*) *Globe*, by which all Plants and Vegetables, continuous with it, may be differently formed, according to their different Seeds, as also Minerals and other Bodies framed, and whatsoever else is above the Power of Fortuitous Mechanism effected, as by the Immediate Cause, though

always Subordinate to other Causes, the chief whereof is the Deity. And this perhaps may ease the Minds of those, who cannot but think it too much, to impose all upon one Plastick Nature of the Universe.

26. And now we have finished our First Task, which was to give an Account of the *Plastick Nature*, the Sum whereof briefly amounts to this; That it is a certain *Lower Life* than the *Animal*, which acts *Regularly* and *Artificially*, according to the Direction of *Mind* and *Understanding*, *Reason* and *Wisdom*, for *Ends*, or in Order to *Good*, though it self do not know the Reason of what it does, nor is *Master* of that *Wisdom* according to which it acts, but only a *Servant* to it, and *Drudging Executioner* of the same; it operating *Fatally* and *Sympathetically*, according to *Laws* and *Commands*, prescribed to it by a *Perfect Intellect*, and imprest upon it; and which is either a *Lower Faculty* of some *Conscious Soul*, or else an *Inferiour kind of Life* or *Soul* by it self; but essentially depending upon an *Higher Intellect*.

We procede to our *Second Undertaking*; which was to shew, how grossly those Two Sorts of *Atheists* before mentioned, the *Stoical* or *Cosmo-plastick*, and the *Stratonical* or *Hylozoick*, both of them acknowledging this *Plastick Life of Nature*, do mistake the Notion of it, or Pervert it and Abuse it, to make a certain *Spurious* and *Counterfeit God-Almighty* of it, (or a *First Principle* of all things) thereby excluding the *True Omnipotent Deity*, which is a *Perfect Mind*, or *Consciously Understanding Nature*, presiding over the Universe; they substituting this *Stupid Plastick Nature* in the room of it.

Now the Chief Errors or Mistakes of these *Atheists* concerning the *Plastick Nature*, are these Four following. First, that they make that to be the *First Principle* of all, and the *Highest thing* in the Universe, which is the *Last* and *Lowest* of all *Lives*; a thing *Essentially Secondary*, *Derivative* and *Dependent*. For the *Plastick Life of Nature* is but the mere *Umbrage of Intellectuality*, a faint and shadowy *Imitation* of *Mind* and *Understanding*; upon which it doth as *Essentially* depend, as the *Shadow* doth upon the *Body*, the *Image* in the *Glass* upon the *Face*, or the *Eccho* upon the *Original Voice*. So that if there had been no *Perfect Mind* or *Intellect* in the World, there could no more have been any *Plastick Nature* in it, than there could be an *Image* in the *Glass* without a *Face*, or an *Eccho* without an *Original Voice*. If there be *vous*, then there must be *Nous*, if there be a *Plastick Nature*, that acts *Regularly* and *Artificially* in Order to *Ends*, and according to the *Best Wisdom*, though it self not comprehending the reason of it, nor being clearly *Conscious* of what it doth; then there must of necessity be a *Perfect Mind* or *Intellect*, that is, a *Deity* upon which it depends. Wherefore *Aristotle* does like a *Philosopher* in joining *vous* and *Nous*, *Nature* and *Mind* both together; but these *Atheists* do very *Aburdly* and *Unphilosophically*, that would make a *Senseless* and *Inconscious Plastick Nature*, and therefore without any *Mind* or *Intellect*, to be the *First Original* of all things.

Secondly, these *Atheists* augment the Former Error, in supposing those

those Higher *Lives of Sense or Animality*, and of *Reason or Understanding*, to rise both of them from that Lower Senseless *Life of Nature*, as the only *Original Fundamental Life*. Which is a thing altogether as Irrational and Absurd, as if one should suppose the Light that is in the Air or *Æther*, to be the Only *Original and Fundamental Light*, and the Light of the Sun and Stars but a *Secondary and Derivative* thing from it, and nothing but the Light of the Air *Adulterated and Improved* by *Condensation*. Or as if one should maintain that the Sun and Moon, and all the Stars, were really nothing else, but the mere *Reflections* of those *Images* that we see in Rivers and Ponds of Water. But this hath always been the Sottish Humour and Cause of *Atheists*, to invert the Order of the Universe, and hang the Picture of the World, as of a Man, with its Heels upwards. *Conscious Reason and Understanding*, being a far higher Degree of Life and Perfection, than that *Dull Plastick Nature*, which does only *Do*, but not *Know*, can never possibly emerge out of it; neither can the *Duplication of Corporeal Organs* be ever able to advance that *Simple and Stupid Life of Nature* into *Redoubled Consciousness or Self-perception*; nor any *Triplification* or indeed *Multiplication* of them, improve the same into *Reason-Understanding*.

Thirdly; for the better Colouring of the Former Errors, the *Hylozoists* adulterate the Notion of the *Plastick Life of Nature*, confounding it with *Wisdom and Understanding*. And though themselves acknowledge, that no *Animal-sense, Self-perception and Consciousness* belongs to it, yet they will have it to be a thing *Perfectly Wise*, and consequently every Atom of Senseless Matter that is in the whole World, to be *Infallibly Omniscient*, as to all its own *Capacities and Congruities*, or whatsoever it self can *Do or Suffer*; which is plainly Contradictious. For though there may be such a thing as the *Plastick Nature*, that according to the Former Description of it, can *Do* without *Knowing*, and is devoid of *Express Consciousness or Self-perception*, yet *Perfect Knowledge and Understanding* without *Consciousness*, is Non-sense and Impossibility. Wherefore this must needs be condemned for a great piece of Sottishness, in the *Hylozoick Atheists*, that they attribute *Perfect Wisdom and Understanding* to a *Stupid Inconscionable Nature*, which is nothing but *χρηστικόν*, the mere *Drudging Instrument*, or *Mannary Officer of Perfect Mind*.

Lastly, these *Atheists* err in this, that they make this *Plastick Life of Nature*, to be a mere *Material or Corporeal thing*; whereas Matter or Body cannot move it self, much less therefore can it *Artificially* order and dispose its own Motion. And though the *Plastick Nature* be indeed the Lowest of all *Lives*, yet notwithstanding since it is a *Life*, or *Internal Energy*, and *Self-activity*, distinct from *Local Motion*, it must needs be *Incorporeal*, all *Life* being Essentially such. But the *Hylozoists* conceive grossly both of *Life and Understanding*, spreading them all over upon Matter, just as Butter is spread upon Bread, or Plaster upon a Wall, and accordingly slicing them out, in different Quantities and Bulks, together with it; they contending that they

are

are but *Inadequate Conceptions* of Body, as the only Substance; and consequently concluding, that the Vulgarly received *Notion of God*, is nothing else but such an *Inadequate Conception of the Matter of the Whole*. Corporeal Universe, mistaken for a Complete and Entire Substance by it self, that is supposed to be the Cause of all things. Which fond Dream or Dotage of theirs, will be further confuted in due place. But it is now time to put a Period, to this long (though necessary) *Digression*, concerning the *Plaslick Life of Nature*, or an *Artificial, Orderly and Methodical Nature*.

XXXVIII. *Plato* gives an account, why he judged it necessary in those times, publickly to propose that *Atheistick Hypothesis*, in order to a Confutation, as also to produce Rational Arguments for the Proof of a Deity, after this manner; *ὅτι μὴ καὶ ὡς παρεμύχῃ ποιοῖσι οἱ τοῖσδε λόγῳι ἐκ τῶν πᾶσιν, ὡς ἐπεὶ εἶπεν, ἀνθρώποις, ἵδμεν ἂν ἴδμεν ὅτι ἱπαμεινύων λόγων, ὡς εἰσι τοῖς, οὗν ὃ ἀνάγκη* Had not these *Atheistick Doctrines* been publickly divulged, and made known in a manner to all, it would not have been needful to have confuted them, nor by Reasons to prove a Deity; but now it is necessary. And we conceive that the same Necessity at this time, will justify our present undertaking likewise; since these *Atheistick Doctrines* have been as boldly vented, and publickly asserted in this latter Age of ours, as ever they could be in *Plato's* time. When the severity of the Athenian Government, must needs be a great check to such Designs, *Socrates* having been put to death upon a mere false and groundless Accusation of *Atheism*, and *Protagoras*, (who doubtless was a Real Atheist) having escaped the same punishment no otherwise than by flight, his Books being notwithstanding publickly burnt in the Market-place at *Athens*, and himself condemned to perpetual Exile, though there was nothing at that time proved against him, save only this one Sceptical Passage, in the beginning of a Book of his, *περὶ μὲν θεῶν οὐκ ἔχω εἰπεῖν, οὐδ' ὡς εἰναι, οὐδ' ὡς οὐ εἶναι, πολλὰ γὰρ τὰ χαλεκώτα ἐστὶν αἰετὰ ἀδιόρητα, καὶ ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἄνθρωπος οὐδὲν ἵσας τῶν ἀνθρώπων* Concerning the Gods, I have nothing at all to say, either that they be or be not; there being many things that hinder the knowledge of this Matter, both the Obscurity of the thing it self, and the shortness of humane Life. Whereas *Atheism* in this Latter Age of ours, hath been impudently asserted, and most industriously promoted: that very Atomick Form, that was first introduced (a little before *Plato's* time) by *Leucippus*, *Protagoras* and *Democritus*, having been also Revived amongst us, and that with no small Pomp and Ostentation of Wisdom and Philosophy.

*Dig. La. in
Vita Prot.*

It was before observed that there were Two several *Forms of Atomical Philosophy*; First, the most Ancient and Genuine that was Religious, called *Moschical* (or if you will *Mosaical*) and *Pythagorical*; Secondly, the Adulterated *Atheistick Atomology*, called *Leucippean* or *Democritical*. Now accordingly, there have been in this Latter Age of ours, Two several successive *Resurrections* or *Restitutions* of those Two *Atomologies*. For *Renatus Cartesius* first revived and restored the Atomick Philosophy, agreeably for the most part, to that ancient *Moschical* and *Pythagorick Form*, acknowledging besides *Extended Substance*

Substance and Corporal Atoms, another *Cogitative Incorporeal Substance*, and joining *Metaphysics or Theology*, together with *Physiology*, to make up one entire *System of Philosophy*. Nor can it well be doubted, but that this *Physiology* of his, as to the *Mechanick* part of it, hath been Elaborated by the ingenious Author, into an Exactness at least equal with the best *Atomologies* of the Ancients. Nevertheless, this Cartesian Philosophy is highly obnoxious to Censure upon some Accompts, the Chief whereof is this; That deviating from that Primitive *Mechanical Atomology*, in rejecting all *Plastick Nature*, it derives the whole System of the Corporal Universe, from the *Necessary Motion of Matter*, only divided into Particles Insensibly small, and turned round in a *Vortex*, without the Guidance or Direction of any *Understanding Nature*. By means whereof, though it boast of Salving all the *Corporal Phenomena*, by mere *Fortuitous Mechanism*, and without any *Final or Mental Causality*, yet it gives no Account at all of that which is the Grandest of all *Phenomena*, the *τὸ εὖχρηστικόν*, *The Orderly Regularity and Harmony of the Mundane System*. The Occasion of which Miscarriage hath been already intimated, namely from the acknowledging only *Two Heads of Being*, *Extended and Cogitative*, and making the *Essence of Cogitation* to consist in *Expressed Consciousness*; from whence it follows, that there could be no *Plastick Nature*, and therefore either all things must be done by *Fortuitous Mechanism*, or else God himself be brought Immediately upon the Stage for the salving of all *Phenomena*. Which Latter Absurdity, our Philosopher being over careful to avoid, cast himself upon the Former, the banishing of all *Final and Mental Causality* quite out of the World, and acknowledging no other Philosophick Causes, beside *Material and Mechanical*. It cannot be denied, but that even some of the ancient Religious Atomists, were also too much infected with this *Mechanizing Humour*; but *Renatus Cartesius* hath not only outdone them all herein, but even the very Atheists themselves also, as shall be shewed afterward. And therefore as much as in him lies, has quite disarmed the World, of that grand Argument for a Deity, taken from the *Regular Frame and Harmony of the Universe*. To which Gross Miscarriage of his, there might be also another added, That he seems to make Matter *Necessarily Existent*, and *Essentially Infinite and Eternal*. Notwithstanding all which, we cannot entertain that Uncharitable Opinion of him, that he really designed *Atheism*, the Fundamental Principles of his Philosophy being such, as that no Atheistick Structure can possibly be built upon them. But shortly after this Cartesian Rejection of the Primitive *Atomology* that acknowledgeth *Incorporeal Substance*, we have had our *Leucippus* and *Democritus* too, who also revived and brought again upon the Stage, that other *Atheistick Atomology*, that makes *ἀνευ τῆς ὁμοῦ φύσεως*, *Senseless and Lifeless Atoms*, to be the only Principles of all things in the Universe, thereby necessarily excluding, besides *Incorporeal Substance* and *Immortality of Souls*, a *Deity* and *Natural Morality*; as also making all Actions and Events, *Materially and Mechanically necessary*.

Now there could be no Satisfactory Confutation of this Atheistick Hypothesis, without a fair Proposal first made of the several Grounds of

of it, to their best advantage, which we have therefore endeavour'd in the Former Chapter. The *Answers* to which *Atheistick Arguments*, ought, according to the Laws of Method, to be reserved for the Last Part of the whole Treatise, where we are positively to determine the *Right Intellectual System of the Universe*; it being properly our Work here, only to give an Account of the *Three False Hypotheses* of the *Mundane System*, together with their several Grounds. Nevertheless, because it might not only seem Indecorous, for the Answers to those Atheistick Arguments, to be so long deferred, and placed so far behind the Arguments themselves, but also prove otherwise really Inconvenient, we shall therefore choose rather to break those Laws of Method, (neglecting the Scrupulosity thereof) and subjoin them immediately in this place, craving the Readers Pardon for this *Propterousness*.

De Leg. l. 10.
p. 908.

lib.

It is certain that the *Source* of all *Atheism*, is generally a Dull and Earthy Disbelief of the Existence of things beyond the Reach of Sense; and it cannot be denied but that there is something of *Immortality* in the Temper of all Atheists, as all Atheistick Doctrine tends also to *Immortality*. Notwithstanding which, it must not be therefore concluded, that all Dogmatick Atheists came to be such, merely by means of Gross Intemperance, Sensuality, and Debauchery. Plato indeed describes one sort of Atheists in this manner; οἱς ἂν πρὸς τῇ δόξῃ, τῇ δὴν ἕκαστος εἶναι πᾶσα, ἀρεστῆαι τι ἰδούσιν καὶ λυπᾶν προσηλωται, μὴ μὲν τι ἰσχυροὶ καὶ μαθητὲς εἶναι παρ' αὐτοῖς. Such who together with this Opinion, that all things are void of Gods, are affect'd also by Intemperance of Pleasures and Pains, and hurried away with Violent Lusts, being Persons otherwise endued with strong Memories, and quick Wits. And these are the Debauched, Ranting, and Helloring Atheists. But besides These, that Philosopher tells us, that there is another Sort of Atheists also, οἱς μὴ νομίζοντες θεὸς εἶναι τὸ πλεονεχέον, καὶ φρόνως πρὸς ὁμιλίᾳ δίκαιον, μετρίως τι γυγνῶσκει τὰς κακὰς, καὶ τὰς δυσχερεῖας τῶ ἀδίκαιον, ὅτι τὰς ταυτάς πρὸς ἑαυτοῖς προσηλωται, ἵνα τι μὴ δυνάμεως τῶ ἀνθρώπου φέρων, καὶ τὰς δυνάμεις στεγνόν. Such, who though they think there be no Gods at all, yet notwithstanding being naturally disposed to Justice and Moderation, as they will not do Outragious and Exorbitant things themselves, so they will shun the Conversation of wicked debauched persons, and delights rather in the Society of those that are Fair and Just. And these are a sort of Externally honest, or Civilized Atheists. Now what that thing is, which besides Gross Sensuality and Debauchery, might tempt men to entertain Atheistick Opinions, the same Philosopher also declares; namely that it is, an *Affection of Singularity*, or of seeming Wiser than the Generality of Mankind. For thus when *Clinias* had disputed honestly against Atheists, from those Vulgar Topicks, of the Regularity and Harmony of the Universe (observable in the Courses of Sun, Moon and Stars, and the Seasons of the Year) and of the common Notions of Mankind, in that both Greeks and Barbarians generally agreed in this, that there were Gods, thinking he had thereby made a Sufficient Confutation of Atheism, the *Athenian Hospes* hereupon discovers a great Fear and Jealousie which he had, lest he should thereby but render himself

an Object of Contempt to Atheists, as being a conceited and scornful Generation of men. *Αἱ φροῖμαι γὰρ ὁ μοιδοῦντες τὰς μαρτυρίας, μέγας ἑμὴν κα' ἀφροσύνην, ἔμεις μὲν γὰρ ἡμεῖς ἴσα αὐτῶν πέρε, τὴν δὲ διαφροσύνην, ἀλλ' ἡγεῖται ἀκαταίετα μέντοι ὑποῦν τι εἰς ὑποφροσύνην ἐπὶ τὴν ἀκαταίετον ἐμῶν δοῦναι τοὺς ψυχῆς αὐτῶν, &c.* I am afraid of those wicked men the Atheists, lest they should despise you: For you are ignorant concerning them, when you think the only Cause of Atheism to be Intemperance of Pleasures and Lusts, violently hurrying mens Souls on to a wicked Life. *Clin.* What other Cause of Atheism can there be besides this? *Ath.* That which you are not aware of, who live remotely, namely, *Ἀνομία πολλὰ καλεσθεῖς δοκῶσα ὕπαι μάλιστα φροσύνας.* A certain grievous Ignorance, which yet notwithstanding hath the appearance of the greatest Wisdom. And therefore afterwards, when that Philosopher goes about to propose the Atheistick Hypothesis, he calls it, *τὴν πολλοῖς δοξαζόμενην εἶναι σφαιρῶτα ἀπέναντι λόγων,* That which to many seemeth to be the wisest and profoundest of all Doctrines.

And we find the same thing at this very day, that Atheists make a great Pretence to Wisdom and Philosophy, and that many are tempted to maintain *Atheistical Opinions*, that they may gain a Reputation of *Wit* by it. Which indeed was one Reason that the rather induced us, nakedly to reveal all the *Mysteries of Atheism*, because we observed, that so long as these things are concealed and kept up in Huggermugger, many will be the rather apt to suspect, that there is some great Depth and Profundity of Wisdom lodged in them, and that it is some Noble and Generous Truth, which the Bigotick Religionists endeavour to smother and oppress.

Now the Cafe being thus, it was pertinently suggested also, by the forementioned Philosopher, ὅτι συμφορὴ γὰρ τί διαφέρει, εἰ φαίνεται αὐτοῖς λόγῳ ἀποφύμηναι ἀσέβειαν, ἀλλοίως τι ἐξάραγχε, μὲν εὖ τις λήσῃ, ἀλλ' ἐξ-
ημαστὴρ δὲ ὄντος ἡρώμενοι. That it must needs be a Matter of no small mo-
ment, for any one to make it appear, that they who maintain wicked Atheistical Opinions, do none of them reason rightly, but grossly fumble in
all their Ratiocinations. And we hope to effect this in our present
Undertaking, to make it evident, that Atheists are no such Conju-
rers, as (though they hold no Spirits) they would be thought to be; no
such Gigantick men of Reason, nor Profound Philosophers, but
that notwithstanding all their Pretensions to Wit, their Atheism is
really nothing else, but ἀμαθία μάλ᾽ αὐτῶν, a most Grievous Ignorance,
Sottishness and Stupidity of Mind in them.

Wherefore we shall in the next place, Conjure down all those Devils raised and displayed in their most Formidable Colours, in the Precedent Chapter; or rather we shall discover that they are really nothing else, but what these Atheists pretend God and Incorporeal Spirits to be, *Mere Phantastick Spectres and Impossibilities*, Vain Imaginations of deluded Minds, utterly devoid of all Truth and Reality. Neither shall we only Confute those Atheistick Arguments, and so stand upon our defensive Posture; but we shall also assault Atheism even with its own Weapons, and plainly demonstrate, that all Forms

of Atheism are unintelligible Nonsense, and Absolute Impossibility to Humane Reason. As we shall likewise over and above, Occasionally insert some (as we think) Undeniable Arguments for a Deity.

The Digression concerning the *Plastick Life of Nature*, or an *Artificial, Orderly and Methodical Nature*, N. 37. Chap. 3.

1. That neither the Hylozoick nor Cosmo-plastick Atheists are condemned for asserting an Orderly and Artificial Plastick Nature, as a Life distinct from the Animal, however this be a Thing exploded, not only by the Atomick Atheists, but also by some Professed Theists, who notwithstanding might have an undiscerned Tang of the Mechanically-Atheistick Humour hanging about them.
2. If there be no Plastick Artificial Nature admitted, then it must be concluded, that either all things come to pass by Fortuitous Mechanism, and Material Necessity (the Motion of Matter unguided) or else that God doth $\omega\tau\epsilon\sigma\tau\epsilon\gamma\omega\upsilon\ \acute{\alpha}\pi\alpha\upsilon\lambda\alpha$, do all things himself Immediately and Miraculously, framing the Body of every Gnat and Fly, as it were with his own hands; since Divine Laws and Commands cannot Execute themselves, nor be the proper Efficient Causes of things in Nature.
3. To suppose all things to come to pass Fortuitously, or by the Unguided Motion of Matter, a thing altogether as Irrational as it is Atheistical and Impious; there being many Phenomena, not only above the Powers of Mechanism, but also contrary to the Laws of it. The Mechanick Theists make God but an Idle Spectator of the Fortuitous Motions of Matter, and render his Wisdom altogether Useless and Insignificant. Aristotle's Judicious Censure of the Fortuitous Mechanists, with the Ridiculousness of that Pretence, that Material and Mechanical Reasons are the Only Philosophical.
4. That it seems neither decorous in respect of God, nor congruous to Reason, that he should $\omega\tau\epsilon\sigma\tau\epsilon\gamma\omega\upsilon\ \acute{\alpha}\pi\alpha\upsilon\lambda\alpha$, do all things himself Immediately and Miraculously, Nature being quite superjeded and made to signify nothing. The same further confuted by the Slow and Gradual Process of things in Nature, as also by those Errors and Bumbles that are committed, when the Matter proves Inept and Contumacious, arguing the Agent not to be Irresistible.
5. Reasonably inferred, that there is a Plastick Nature in the Universe, as a Subordinate Instrument of Divine Providence, in the Orderly Disposal of Matter; but yet so as not without a Higher Providence presiding over it, forasmuch as this Plastick Nature, cannot all Effectively or with Discretion. Those Laws of Nature concerning Motion, which the Mechanick Theists themselves suppose, really nothing else but a Plastick Nature.
6. The Agreeableness of this Doctrine with the Sentiments of the best Philosophers in all Ages, Aristotle, Plato, Empedocles, Heraclitus, Hippocrates,

pocrates, Zeno and the Paracelsians. Anaxagoras, though a Professed Theist, severely censur'd, both by Aristotle and Plato, as an Encourager of Atheism, merely because he us'd Material and Mechanical Causes more than Mental and Final. Physiologists and Astronomers wily vulgarly suspected of Atheism in Plato's time. 7. The Plastick Nature, no Occult Quality, but the only Intelligible Cause of that which is the Grandest of all Phænomena, the Orderly Regularity and Harmony of things, which the Mechanick Theists, however pretending to solve all Phænomena, can give no account at all of. A God, or Infinite Mind, asserted by them, in vain and to no purpose. 8. Two Things here to be performed by us; First to give an Account of the Plastick Nature, and then to shew how the Notion of it hath been Mistaken, and Abused by Atheists. The First General Account of this Plastick Nature according to Aristotle, that it is to be conceived as Art it self acting, Inwardly and Immediately upon the Matter: as if Harmony Living in the Musical Instruments, should move the Strings of them, without any External Impulse. 9. Two Preeminencies of the Plastick Nature above Humane Art. First, that whereas Humane Art acts upon the Matter from without Cumberfomely and Moliminously, with Tumult and Hurliburly, Nature acting on it from within more Commandingly, doth its Work Easily, Cleaverly and Silently. Humane Art acts on the Matter Mechanically, but Nature Vitally and Magically. 10. The Second Preeminence of Nature above Humane Art, that, whereas Humane Artists are often to seek and at a loss, anxiously Consult and Deliberate, and upon Second thoughts Mind their former Work, Nature is never to seek, nor Unresolved what to do, nor doth she ever Repent afterwards of what she hath done, changing her Former Course. Humane Artists themselves Consult not, as Artists, but only for want of Art; and therefore Nature, though never Consulting, may act Artificially. Concluded, that what is called Nature, is really the Divine Art. 11. Nevertheless, that Nature is not the Divine Art, Pure and Abstract, but Concreted and Embodied in Matter: Ratio Mersa & Confusa: Not the Divine Art Archetypal, but Ectypal. Nature differs from the Divine Art, as the Manuary Opificer from the Architect. 12. Two Imperfections of the Plastick Nature, in respect whereof it falls short even of Humane Art; First, That though it act for Ends Artificially, yet it self neither Intends those Ends, nor Understands the Reason of what it doth, and therefore cannot act Electively. The Difference between the Spermatick Reasons and Knowledge. Nature doth but Ape or Mimick the Divine Art or Wisdom, being not Master of that Reason, according to which it acts, but only a Servant to it, and Drudging Executioner of it. 13. Proved that there may be such a thing as acts Artificially, though it self do not comprehend that Art, by which its Motions are Governed, First from Musical Habits; The Danncer resembles the Artificial Life of Nature. 14. The same further convinced from the Instincts of Brute-animals, directing them to act Rationally and Artificially, in order to their own Good and the Good of the Universe, without any Reason of their own. The Instincts in Brutes but Passive Impresses of the Divine Wisdom, and a kind of Fate upon them. 15. The Second Imperfection of the Plastick Nature, that it

act without Animal Phancy, without Sense, Express Con-sense, and Con-sciouſness, and is devoid of Self-perception and Self-enjoyment.

16. Whether this Energy of the Plastick Nature, be to be called Cogitation or no, but a Logomachy or Contention about Words. Granted that what moves Matter Vitally, must needs do it by some Energy of its own, distinct from Local Motion; but that there may be a simple Vital Energy, without that Duplicity which is in Synaethesis, or clear and express Consciuſness. Nevertheless that the Energy of Nature might be called a certain Drowsie, Unawakened, or Astonish'd Cogitation.

17. Instances which render it probable, that there may be a Vital Energy, without Synaethesis, clear and express Con-sense, or Consciuſness.

18. The Plastick Nature, acting neither Knowingly nor Phantastically, act's Fatally, Magically and Sympathetically. The Divine Laws and Fate, as to Matter, not mere Cogitation in the Mind of God, but an Energetick and Effectual Principle; and the Plastick Nature, the true and proper Fate of Matter, or the Corporeal World. What Magick is, and that Nature which act's Fatally, act's also Magically and Sympathetically.

19. That the Plastick Nature, though it be the Divine Art and Fate, yet for all that, it is neither God nor Goddess, but a Low and Imperfect Creature, it acting Artificially and Rationally no otherwise, than compounded Forms of Letters, when printing Coherent Philosophick Science, nor for Ends, than a Saw or Hatchet in the hands of a skilful Mechanick. The Plastick and Vegetative Life of Nature the Lowest of all Lives, and Inferiour to the Sensitive. A Higher Providence than that of the Plastick Nature governing the Corporeal World it self.

20. Notwithstanding which, forasmuch as the Plastick Nature is a Life, it must needs be Incorporeal. One and the same thing, having in it an entire Model and Platform, and acting upon several distant parts of Matter at once coherently, cannot be Corporeal; and though Aristotle nowhere declare whether his Nature be Corporeal or Incorporeal (which he neither doth clearly concerning the Rational Soul) and his Followers conclude it to be Corporeal, yet according to the very Principles of that Philosophy it must needs be otherwise.

21. The Plastick Nature being Incorporeal, must either be a Lower Power lodged in Souls that are also Consciuſe, Sensitive or Rational; or else a distinct Substantial Life by it self, and Inferiour Kind of Soul. How the Platonists complicate both these together; with Aristotle's agreeable Determination, that Nature is either Part of a Soul, or not without Soul.

22. The Plastick Nature as to Animals, according to Aristotle, a Part or Lower Power of their Respective Souls. That the Phenomena prove a Plastick Nature or Archeus in Animals, to make which a distinct thing from the Soul, is to multiply Entities without necessity. The Soul endued with a Plastick Power, the chief Formatrix of its own Body, the Contribution of certain other Causes not excluded.

23. That besides that Plastick Principle in Particular Animals, forming them as so many Little Worlds, there is a General Plastick Nature in the whole Corporeal Universe, which likewise according to Aristotle is either a Part and Lower Power of a Consciuſe Mundane Soul, or else something depending on it.

24. That no less according to Aristotle than Plato and Socrates, our selves partake of Life from the Life of the Universe, as well as we do of Heat and Cold, from

from the Heat and Cold of the Universe; from whence it appears, that Aristotle also held the worlds Animation, with further Undeniable Proof thereof. An Answer to Two the most considerable places of that Philosopher that seem to imply the contrary. That Aristotles First Immoveable Mover, was no Soul, but a Perfect Intellect Abstract from Matter, but that he supposed this to move only as a Final Cause, or as being Loved, and besides it a Mundane Soul and Plastick Nature, to move the Heavens Efficiently. Neither Aristotle's Nature nor his Mundane Soul, the Supreme Deity. However, though there be no such Mundane Soul as both Plato and Aristotle conceived, yet notwithstanding there may be a Plastick Nature depending upon a Higher Intellectual Principle. 25. No Impossibility of some other Particular Plastick Principles; and though it be not reasonable to think, that every Plant, Herb, and Pile of Grass hath a Plastick or Vegetative Soul of its own, nor that the Earth is an Animal; yet that there may possibly be One Plastick Inconscious Nature, in the whole Terrestrial Globe, by which Vegetables may be severally organized and framed, and all things performed which transcend the Power of Fortuitous Mechanism. 26. Our Second Undertaking, which was to shew how grossly those Atheists, (who acknowledge this Plastick Nature) Misunderstand it and Abuse the Notion, to make a Counterfeit God-almighty or Numen of it, to the exclusion of the True Deity. First, in their supposing that to be the First and Highest Principle of the Universe, which is the Last and lowest of all Lives, a thing as Essentially Derivative from, and Dependent upon a Higher Intellectual Principle, as the Echo on the Original Voice. 27. Secondly, in their making Sense and Reason in Animals to Emerge out of a Senseless Life of Nature, by the mere Modification and Organization of Matter. That no Duplication of Corporeal Organs, can ever make One Single Inconscious Life, to advance into Redoubled Consciousness and Self-enjoyment. 28. Thirdly, in attributing Perfect Knowledge and Understanding to this Life of Nature, which yet themselves suppose to be devoid of all Animal Sense and Consciousness. 29. Lastly, in making the Plastick Life of Nature to be merely Corporeal; the Hylozoists contending that it is but an Inadequate Conception of Body, as the only Substance, and fondly dreaming, that the Vulgar Notion of God, is nothing but such an Inadequate Conception of the Matter of the Whole Universe, mistaken for a Complete and Entire Substance by it self, the Cause of all things.





CHAP. IV.

The Idea of God declared, in way of Answer to the First Atheistical Argument. The Grand Prejudice against the Naturality of this Idea, as Essentially including Unity or Oneliness in it, from the Pagan Polytheism, removed. Proved that the Intelligent Pagans generally acknowledged One Supreme Deity. What their Polytheism and Idolatry was: with some Account of Christianity. 1. The either Stupid Insensibility or Gross Impudence of Atheists, in denying the word GOD, to have any Signification, or that there is any other Idea answering to it, besides the mere Phantasm of the Sound. The Disease called by the Philosopher, ἀναισθησία τοῦ νοῦ; the Petrification (or Dead Insensibility) of the Mind. 2. That the Atheists themselves must needs have an Idea of God in their minds, or otherwise when they deny his Existence, they should deny the Existence of Nothing. And that they have also the same Idea of him with Theists, they denying the very same thing which the others affirm. 3. A Lemma or Preparatory Proposition to the Idea of God, That though some things be Made or Generated, yet it is not possible that all things should be Made, but something must of Necessity Exist of itself from Eternity Unmade, and be the Cause of those other things that are Made. 4. The two most Opposite Opinions, concerning that which was Self-existent from Eternity or Unmade, and the Cause of all other things Made: One, That it was nothing but Senseless Matter; the most Imperfect of all things; The Other, That it was something Most Perfect, and therefore Consciously Intellectual. The Asserters of this latter Opinion, Theists in a just and proper sense; of the former, Atheists. So that the Idea of God in general, is a Perfect Consciously Understanding Being (or Mind) Self-existent from Eternity, and the Cause of all other things. 5. Observed, That the Atheists who deny a God, according to the true Idea of him, do often Abuse the word, calling Senseless Matter by that Name, and meaning nothing else thereby, but a First Principle or Self-existent Unmade thing. That according to this Notion of the word God, there can be no such thing as an Atheist; no man being able to persuade himself, that all things sprung from Nothing. 6. In order to the more particular Declaration of the Divine Idea, the Opinion of those taken notice of, who suppose Two Self-existent Unmade Principles, God and Matter, and so God not to be the Sole but only the

Chief Principle. 7. That these are but Imperfect and Mistaken Theists. Their Idea of God declared, with its Defectiveness. A Latitude in Theism. None to be condemned for Absolute Atheists, but such as deny an Eternal Unmade Mind, ruling over the matter. 8. The most Compendious Idea of God, An Absolutely Perfect Being. That this includes not only Conscious Intellectuality and Necessary Existence, but also, Omni-causality, Omnipotence and Infinite Power: and therefore God, the sole Principle of all, and Cause of Matter. The true Notion of Infinite Power. Pagans acknowledged the Divine Omnipotence. And that the Atheists supposed Infinite Power to be included in the Idea of God, proved from Lucretius. 9. That absolute Perfection implies something more than Power and Knowledge. A Vaticination in mens minds of a Higher Good than either. That God is Better than Knowledge, according to Aristotle: and that there is Morality in the Nature of God, wherein his chief Happiness consisteth. This borrowed from Plato, who makes the Highest Perfection, and Supreme Deity, to be Goodness it self, above Knowledge and Intellect. God, and the Supreme Good, according to the Scripture, Love. God no soft or fond Love, but an Impartial Law, and the Measure of all things. That the Atheists supposed Goodness also to be included in the Idea of God. The Idea of God more Explicate and Unfolded, A Being absolutely Perfect, Infinitely Good, Wise and Powerful, Necessarily Existent, and not only the Framers of the World, but also the Cause of all things. 10. That this Idea of God Essentially includes Unity or Oneliness in it; since there can be but One Supreme, One Cause of all things, One Omnipotent, and One Infinitely Perfect. This Unity or Oneliness of the Deity, supposed also by Epicurus and Lucretius, who professedly denied a God according to this Idea. 11. The Grand Prejudice against the Naturality of this Idea of God, as it Essentially includes Unity and Solitariety, from the Polytheism of all Nations formerly, besides the Jews, and of all the wisest men and Philosophers; from whence it is inferred, that this Idea of God is but Artificial, and owes its Original to Laws and Institution. An Enquiry to be made concerning the true sense of the Pagan Polytheism. That the Objectors take it for granted, that the Pagan Polytheists universally asserted, Many Self-existent Intellectual Beings, and Independent Deities, as so many Partial Causes of the World. 12. First, the Irrationality of this Opinion, and its manifest Repugnancy to the Phenomena, which render it less probable, to have been the Belief of all the Pagan Polytheists. 13. Secondly, That no such thing at all appears, as that ever any Intelligent Pagans asserted a Multitude of Eternal, Unmade, Independent Deities. The Hesiodian Gods. The Valentinian Eons. The nearest Approach made therunto by the Manichean Good and Evil Gods. This Doctrine not generally asserted by the Greek Philosophers, as Plutarch affirmeth. Questioned whether the Persian Evil Dæmon or Arimanius, were a Self-existent Principle, Essentially Evil. Aristotle's Confutation and Explosion of Many Principles, or Independent Deities. Faustus the Manichean his Conceit, that the Jews and Christians Paganized, in the Opinion of Monarchy, with St. Austin's Judgment, concerning the Pagans, thereupon. 14. Concluded that the

Pagan

Pagan Polytheism must be understood according to another Equivocation in the word Gods, as used for Created Intellectual Beings, superior to Men, that ought to be Religiously Worshipped. That the Pagans held both Many Gods and One God, (as Onatus the Pythagorean declares himself) in different Sences: Many Inferiour Deities Subordinate to One Supreme. 15. Further Evidence of this, that the Intelligent Pagan Polytheists, held only a Plurality of Inferiour Deities, Subordinate to one Supreme: First because after the Emergence of Christianity, and its contest with Paganism, when occasion was offered, not only no Pagan asserted a Multiplicity of Independent Deities, but also all Universally disclaim'd it, and professed to acknowledge One Supreme God. 16. That this was no Refinement or Interpolation of Paganism, as might possibly be suspected, but that the Doctrine of the most Ancient Pagan Theologers, and greatest Promoters of Polytheism was agreeable hereunto; which will be proved, not from suspected Writings (as of Trismegist and the Sibyls) but such as are Indubitate. First, That Zoroaster the chief Promoter of Polytheism in the Eastern Parts, acknowledged one Supreme Deity, the Maker of the World, proved from Eubulus in Porphyry, besides his own words cited by Eusebius. 17. That Orpheus, commonly called by the Greeks, The Theologer, and the Father of the Grecanick Polytheism, clearly asserted one Supreme Deity, proved by his own words, out of Pagan Records. 18. That the Egyptians themselves, the most Polytheistical of all Nations, had an acknowledgement amongst them of one Supreme Deity. 19. That the Poets, who were the greatest Depravers of the Pagan Theology, and by their Fables of the Gods, made it look more Aristocratically, did themselves notwithstanding acknowledge a Monarchy, one Prince and Father of Gods. That famous Passage of Sophocles not to be suspected, though not found in any of these Tragedies now extant. 20. That all the Pagan Philosophers, who were Theists, universally asserted a Mundane Monarchy. Pythagoras as much a Polytheist as any, and yet his First Principle of Things, as well as Numbers, a Monad or Unity. Anaxagoras his One Mind ordering all things for Good. Xenophanes his One and All, and his One God the Greatest among the Gods. 21. Parmenides his Supreme God, One Immoveable. Empedocles his both Many Gods Junior to Friendship and Contention, and his One God called $\tau\acute{\iota}$ is Senior to them. Zeno Eleates his Demonstration of One God, in Aristotle. 22. Philolaus, his Prince and Governour of all, God always One. Euclides Megarensis his God called $\bar{\iota}\nu\ \tau\acute{\iota}\ \alpha\gamma\alpha\theta\acute{\iota}\nu$, One the Very Good. Timæus Locrus his Mind and Good, above the Soul of the World. Antisthenes his One Natural God. Onaxus his Corypheus. 23. Generally believed and true, that Socrates acknowledged One Supreme God; but that he disclaimed all the Inferiour Gods of the Pagans, a vulgar Error. Plato also a Polytheist, and that Passage which some lay so great stress upon (That he was serious, when he began his Epistles with God, but when with Gods jocular) Spurious and Counterfeit; and yet he was notwithstanding an undoubted Monotheist also in another sence; an Asserter, of One God over all, of a Maker of the World, of a First God, of a Greatest of the Gods. The First Hypothesis of the Platonick Trinity, properly

ly the King of all things, for whose sake are all things; The Father of the Cause and Prince of the World, that is, of the Eternal Intellect, or *Νόϋς*. 24. Aristotle an Acknowledger of Many Gods (he accounting the Stars such) and yet an express Asserter of the *Μονοθεΐα*, One Prince, One Immoveable Mover, 25. Cleanthes and Chrysippus Stoicks, though they filled the whole Heaven, Earth, Air and Sea with Gods; yet notwithstanding they acknowledged, only One God Immortal, Jupiter; all the rest being consumed into him, in the successive Conflagrations, and afterwards made anew by him. Cleanthes his excellent and devout Hymn to the Supreme God. 26. Eridless to cite all the Passages of the later Pagan Writers and Polytheists, in which one Supreme God is asserted. Excellent Discourses in some of them concerning the Deity, particularly Plotinus. Who though he derived all things, even Matter it self, from one Supreme Deity, yet was a Contender for Many Gods. 27. This not only the Opinion of Philosophers and Learned men, but also the General Belief of the Pagan Vulgar; that there was One Supreme God, proved from Maximus Tyrius. The Romans *Deus Optimus Maximus*. The Pagans when most serious spake of God singularly. Kyrie Eleeson part of the Pagans Litany to the Supreme God. The more civilized Pagans at this very day acknowledge one Supreme Deity, the Maker of the World. 28. Plutarch's Testimony, that notwithstanding the variety of Paganick Religions, and the different Names of Gods used in them; yet One Reason, Mind or Providence ordering all things, and its Inferiour Ministers, were alike every where worshipped. 29. Plain that the Pagan Theists must needs acknowledge One Supreme Deity, because they generally believed, the whole World to be One Animal, governed by One Soul. Some Pagans made this Soul of the World their Supreme God, others an Abstract Mind Superiour to it. 30. The Hebrew Doctors generally of this Perswasion, that the Pagans worshipped one Supreme God, and that all their other Gods were but Mediatours betwixt him and men. 31. Lastly, this confirmed from Scripture. The Pagans Knew God. Aratus his Jupiter, and the Athenians Unknown God, the True God. 32. In order to a fuller Explication of the Pagan Theology, and shewing the Occasion of its being misunderstood, Three Heads requisite to be insisted on. First, that the Pagans worshipped One Supreme God under Many Names: Secondly, that besides this One God, they worshipped also Many Gods, which were indeed Inferiour Deities Subordinate to him: Thirdly, that they worshipped both the Supreme and inferiour Gods in Images, Statues and Symbols, sometimes abusively called also Gods. First, that the Supreme God amongst the Pagans was Polyonymous, and worshipped under several Personal Names, according to his several Attributes and the Manifestations of them, his Gifts and Effects in the World. 33. That upon the same account, Things not Substantial were Personated and Deified by the Pagans, and worshipped as so many several Names or Notions of One God. 34. That as the whole Corporeal World Animated, was supposed by some of the Pagans to be the Supreme God, so he was worshipped in the several Parts and Members of it (having Personal Names bestowed upon them) as it were by Parcels and Piece-meal, or by so many Inadequate Conceptions. That some

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of the Pagans made the Corporeal World the Temple of God only, but others the Body of God. 35. The Second Head proposed; that besides the One Supreme God, under several Names, the Pagans acknowledged and worshipped also Many Gods; *εἰς γὰρ πολλούς*, Made Gods, Created intellectual Beings Superiour to Men. 36. The Pythagorick or Platonick Trinity of Divine Hypostases. And the Higher of the Inferiour Deities, according to this Hypothesis; Nous, Psyche, and the whole Corporeal World; with particular Noes and Henades. 37. The other Inferiour Deities acknowledged as well by the vulgar as Philosophers; of Three Sorts. First the Sun, Moon and Stars, and other greater Parts of the Universe, Animated; called Sensible Gods. 38. Secondly, their Inferiour Deities Invisible, Ethereal and Aereal Animals, called *Dæmons*. These appointed by the Supreme Deity, to preside over Kingdoms, Cities, Places, Persons and Things. 39. The Last sort of the Pagan Inferiour Deities, Heroes and *ἡρώεσσες*, or Men-gods. Eumemerus taxed by Plutarch, for making all the Pagan Gods nothing but Dead Men. 40. The Third general Head proposed, That the Pagans worshipped both the Supreme and Inferiour Gods, in Images, Statues and Symbols. That first of all, before Images and Temples, rude Stones and Pillars without Sculpture, were erected for Religious Monuments, and called *παύρια* or *Boulders*. 41. That afterwards Images, Statues and Symbols were used, and housed in Temples. These placed in the West-end of the Temples to face the East; so that the Pagans entering, worshipped towards the West: One probable Occasion of the Ancient Christians Praying towards the East. The Golden Calf made for a Symbolick Presence of the God of Israel. 42. All the parts of the entire Pagan Religion represented together at once in Plato. 43. That some late Writers, not well understanding the Sense of Pagans, have confounded all their Theology, by supposing them to Worship the Inanimate parts of the World as such, for Gods; therefore distinguishing betwixt their Animal and their Natural Gods. That no Corporeal thing was worshipped by the Pagans otherwise, than either as being it self Animated with a Particular Soul of its own, or as being part of the whole Animated World, or as having *Dæmons* presiding over it, to whom the Worship was properly directed; or Lastly, as being Images or Symbols of Divine Things. 44. That though the Egyptians be said to have worshipped Brute Animals, and were generally therefore condemned by the other Pagans; yet the wiser of them used them only as Hieroglyphicks and Symbols. 45. That the Pagans worshipped not only the Supreme God, but also the Inferiour Deities, by Material Sacrifices. Sacrifices or Fire-offerings, in their First and General Notion, nothing else but Gifts and Signs of Gratitude, and Appendices of Prayer. But that Animal Sacrifices had afterwards a Particular Notion also of Expiation fastned on them, whether by Divine Direction, or Humane Agreement, left undetermined. 46. The Pagans Apology for the Three forementioned Things. First, for Worshipping one Supreme God under Many Personal Names, and that not only according to his several Attributes, but also his several Manifestations, Gifts and Effects, in the Visible World. With an Excuse for those Corporeal Theists, who worshipped the whole Animated World as the Supreme God, and the several

ral Parts of it under Personal Names, as Living Members of him. 47. Their Apology for Worshipping, besides the One Supreme God, Many Inferiour Deities. That they Worshipping them only as Inferiour, could not therefore be guilty of giving them that Honour, which was proper to the Supreme. That they Honour'd the Supreme God incomparably above all. That they put a Difference in their Sacrifices, and that Material Sacrifices were not the proper Worship of the Supreme God, but rather below him. 48. Several Reasons of the Pagans, for giving Religious Worship to Inferiour Created Beings. First that this Honour which is bestowed upon them, does ultimately redound to the Supreme God, and aggrandize his State and Majesty, they being all his Ministers and Attendants. 49. That as Demons are Mediators betwixt the Celestial Gods and Men, so those Celestial Gods and all the other Inferiour Deities, are themselves also Mediators betwixt Men and the Supreme God, and as it were convenient steps, by which we ought with Reverence to approach him. 50. That there is an Honour in Justice due, to all those excellent Beings that are above us, and that the Pagans do but honour every thing as they ought, in that due rank and place, in which the Supreme God hath set it. 51. That Demons or Angels being appointed to preside over Kingdoms, Cities and Persons, and the several parts of the Corporeal Universe, and being many ways Benefactors to us, Thanks ought to be returned to them by Sacrifice. 52. That the Inferiour Gods, Demons and Heroes, being all of them able to do us either Good or Hurt, and being also Irascible, and therefore Provokable by our neglect of them, it is as well our Interest as our Duty, to pacifie and appease them by Worship. 53. Lastly, that it cannot be thought, that the Supreme God will envy those Inferiour Gods, that Worship or Honour which is bestowed upon them; nor suspected, that any of those Inferiour Deities will Factionously go about to set up themselves against the Supreme God. 54. That many of the Pagans worshipped none but Good Demons, and that those of them who worshipped Evil ones did it only in order to their Appeasment and Mitigation, that so they might do them no hurt. None but Magicians to be accomplished properly Devil-Worshippers, who honour Evil Demons, in order to the gratification of their Revenge, Lust and Ambition. 55. The Pagans plead that those Demons, who delivered Oracles, and did Miracles amongst them, must needs be Good, since there cannot be a greater reproach to the Supreme God, than to suppose him to appoint Evil Demons as Presidents and Governours over the World, or to suffer them to have so great a sway and share of Power in it. The Faith of Plato in Divine Providence, that the Good every where prevails over the Bad, and that the Delpbick Apollo was therefore a Good Demon. 56. The Pagans Apology for Worshipping the Supreme God in Images, Statues and Symbols. That these are only Schematically Worshipped by them, the Honour passing from them to the Prototype. And that since we living in Bodies, cannot easily have a Conception of any thing without some Corporeal Image or Phantasm, thus much must be indulged to the Infirmary of Humane Nature (at least in the Vulgar) to Worship God Corporeally in Images, to prevent their running to Atheism. 57. That though it should appear
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by this Apology of the Pagans, that their Case were not altogether so Bad, as is commonly supposed, yet they cannot be Justified thereby, in the Three Particulars above mentioned, but the Scripture-Condemnation of them is Irrefragable, That knowing God, they did not Glorifie him as God, or Sanctifie his Name; that is, Worship him according to his Uncommon and Incommunicable, his Peculiar and In-sociable, Transcendent and Singular, Incomparable and Unresembleable Nature; but mingled some way or other Creature-worship with the Worship of the Creatour. First, that the Worshipping of One God in his Various Gifts and Effects, under several personal Names, a thing in it self absurd, may also prove a great occasion of Atheism, when the things themselves come to be called by those Names, as Wine Bacchus, Corn Ceres. The Conclusion easily following from thence, that the Good things of Nature are the only Deities. But to Worship the Corporeal World it self Animated, as the Supreme God, and the Parts of it, as the Members of God, plainly to Confound God with the Creature, and not to Glorifie him as Creatour, nor according to his Separate and Spiritual Nature. 58. To give Religious Worship to Dæmons or Angels, Heroes or Saints, or any other Intellectual Creatures, though not honouring them equally with the Supreme God, is to deny God the Honour of his Holiness, his Singular, Insociable and Incommunicable Nature, as he is the only Self-originated Being, and the Creator of all: Of whom, Through Whom, and To Whom are all things. As God is such a Being, that there is nothing Like him, so ought the Worship which is given him, to be such as hath nothing Like to it, A Singular, Separate and Incommunicate Worship. They not to be Religiously Worshipped that Worship. 59. That the Religious Worship of Created Spirits proceeded chiefly from a Fear that if they were not worshipped, they would be provoked and do hurt, which is both highly Injurious to Good Spirits, and a Dis-trust of the Sufficiency of God's Power to protect his Worshippers. That all Good Spirits Uninvok'd, are of themselves officiously ready to assist those who sincerely Worship and Propitiate the Supreme Deity, and therefore no need of the Religious Worship of them, which would be also Offensive to them. 60. That Mens praying to Images and Statues, is much more Ridiculous than Childrens talking to Babies made of Clouts, but not so Innocent, they thereby Debasing both themselves and God, not Glorifying him according to his Spiritual and Unresembleable Nature, but changing the Glory of the Incorruptible God, into the Likeness of Corruptible Man or Beast. 61. The Mistake of those who think none can be guilty of Idolatry, that believe One God the Maker of the World: 62. That from the same ground of Reason, That nothing ought to be Religiously Worshipped besides the Supreme God, or whom he appoints to represent himself (because he ought to be Sanctified, and dealt withal according to his Singular Nature as unlike to every thing) it follows, contrary to the Opinion of some Opposers of Idolatry, that there ought also to be a Discrimination made, between things Sacred and Profane, and Reverence used in Divine Worship. Idolatry and Sacrilege allied. 63. Another Scripture-Charge upon the Pagans, that they were Devil-worshippers; not as though they intended all their Worship to Evil Dæmons or Devils

Devils as such, but because their Polytheism and Idolatry (unacceptable to God and Good Spirits) was promoted by Evil Spirits delivering Oracles and doing Miracles for the Confirmation of it, they also insinuating themselves into the Temples and Statues, therefore the Worship was look'd upon, as done to them. The same thing said of others besides Pagans, that they Worshipped Devils. 64. Proved that they were Evil Dæmons who delivered Oracles and did Miracles amongst the Pagans, for the carrying on of that Religion, from the many Obscene Rites and Mysteries, not only not prohibited, but also in-joined by them. 65. The same thing further proved, from other cruel and bloody Rites, but especially that of Man Sacrifices. Plutarch's Clear Acknowledgement, that both the Obscene Rites and Man-Sacrifices, amongst the Pagans, owed their Original to Wicked Dæmons. 66. That the God of Israel, neither required, nor accepted of Man-Sacrifices, against a modern Diatribist. 67. That what Faith forever Plato might have in the Delphick Apollo, he was no other than an Evil Dæmon or Devil. An Answer to the Pagans Argument from Divine Providence. 68. That the Pagans Religion, unsound in its Foundation, was Infinitely more Corrupted and Depraved by means of these Four Things; First, the Superstition of the Ignorant Vulgar. 69. Secondly, the Licentious Fictions of Poets and Fable-Mongers, frequently condemned by Plato and other Wiser Pagans. 70. Thirdly, the Craft of Priests and Politicians. 71. Lastly, the Imposture of evil Dæmons or Devils. That by means of these Four Things, the Pagan Religion became a most foul and unclean thing. And as some were captivated by it under a most grievous Token of Superstition, so others strongly inclined to Atheism. 72. Plato not insensible that the Pagan Religion stood in need of Reformation; nevertheless, supposing many of those Religious Rites, to have been introduced by Visions, Dreams, and Oracles, he concluded that no wise Legislator would of his own head venture to make an Alteration. Implying, that this was a thing not to be effected otherwise than by Divine Revelation and Miracles. The generally received Opinion of the Pagans, that no man ought to trouble himself about Religion, but content himself to worship God, *ἑμὸν νόμον*, according to the Law of that Country which he lived in. 73. Wherefore God Almighty in great compassion to Mankind, designed himself to reform the Religion of the Pagan World, by introducing another Religion of his own framing in stead of it; after he had first made a *Præludium* therunto, in one Nation of the Israelites, where he expressly prohibited by a Voice out of the Fire, in his First Commandment, the Pagan Polytheism, or the worshipping of other Inferior Deities besides himself, and in the Second, their Idolatry, or the Worshipping of the Supreme God in Images, Statues or Symbols. Besides which here- strain'd the use of Sacrifices. As also successively gave Predictions, of a Messiah to come, such as together with Miracles might reasonably conciliate Faith to him when he came. 74. That afterwards in due time, God sent the promised Messiah, who was the Eternal Word Hypostatically united with a Pure Humane Soul and Body, and so a true *Θεὸς ἄνθρωπος*, or God man: Designing him for a Living Temple and Visible Statue or Image, in which the Deity should be represented and

and Worshipped; as also after his Death and Resurrection, when he was to be invested with all Power and Authority for a Prince and King, a Mediatour and Intercessour, betwixt God and Men. 75. That this *Σωτήρ* or God-man was so far from intending to require Men-sacrifices of his Worshippers, as the Pagan Demons did, that he devoted himself to be a Catharma & Expiatory Sacrifice for the Sins of the whole World, and thereby also abolished all Sacrifices or Oblations by Fire whatsoever, according to the Divine Prediction. 76. That the Christian Trinity, though a Mystery, is more agreeable to Reason than the Platonick, and that there is no absurdity at all, in supposing the Pure Soul and Body of the Messiah, to be made a Living Temple or Shechinah, Image or Statue of the Deity. That this Religion of One God and One Mediatour, or *Σωτήρ* God-man, preached to the Pagan World and confirmed by Miracles, did effectually destroy all the Pagan Inferiour Deities, Middle Gods and Mediatours, Demons and Heroes, together with their Statues and Images. 77. That it is no way incongruous to suppose that the Divine Majesty, in prescribing a Form of Religion to the World, should graciously condescend to comply with Humane Infirmary, in order to the removing of Two such Grand Evils, as Polytheism and Idolatry, and the bringing of men to Worship God in Spirit and in Truth. 78. That Demons and Angels, Heroes and Saints are but different Names for the same things, which are made Gods by being worshipped. And that the introducing of Angel and Saint-worship, together with Image-Worship, into Christianity, seems to be a defeating of one grand design of God Almighty in it, and the Paganizing of that, which was intended for the Unpaganizing of the World. 79. Another Key for Christianity in the Scripture, not disagreeing with the former, That since the way of Wisdom and Knowledge, proved Ineffectual as to the Generality of Mankind, men might by the contrivance of the Gospel be brought to God and a holy Life (without profound Knowledge) in the way of Believing. 80. That according to the Scripture, there is a Higher, more Precious and Divine Light, than that of Theory and Speculation. 81. That in Christianity, all the Great, Goodly and most Glorious things of this World, are surried and disgraced, comparatively with the Life of Christ. 82. And that there are all possible Engines in it to bring men up to God, and engage them in a holy Life. 83. Two Errors here to be taken notice of; The First of those who make Christianity, nothing but an Antinomian Plot against Real Righteousness, and as it were a secret Confederacy with the Devil. The Second, of those who turn that into Matter of mere Notion and Opinion, Dispute and Controversie, which was designed by God only as a Contrivance, Machine, or Engine to bring men Effectually to a Holy and Godly Life. 84. That Christianity may be yet further illustrated from the consideration of the Adversary or Satanical Power, which is in the World, This no Manticbean Substantial Evil Principle, but a Polity of Lapsed Angels, with which the Souls of Wicked men are also Incorporated, and may therefore be called The Kingdom of Darknes. 85. The History of the Fallen Angels in Scripture briefly explained. 86. The concurrent Agreement of the Pagans concerning Evil Demons or Devils, and their Activity in the World. 87. That there is a perpetual

tual War betwixt Two Polities or Kingdoms in the World, the one of Light, the other of Darknes; and that our Saviour Christ or the Messiah, is appointed the Head or Chieftain over the Heavenly Militia, or the Forces of the Kingdom of Light. 88. That there will be at length a Palpable and Signal Overthrow, of the Satanical Power, and whole Kingdom of Darknes, by $\Sigma\iota\varsigma \kappa\alpha\iota \mu\epsilon\sigma\sigma\iota\varsigma$, God appearing in an extraordinary and miraculous manner; and that this great affair is to be managed by our Saviour Christ, as God's Vicegerent, and a Visible Judge both of Quick and Dead. 89. That our Saviour Christ designed not, to set up himself Factionally against God Almighty, nor to be accounted $\nu\beta\epsilon\tau\tau\epsilon\sigma\tau\epsilon\varsigma$ $\Sigma\epsilon\iota$, superior to God, but that when he hath done his Work, and put down all Adversary Power, himself will then be subject to God, even the Father, that so God may be all in all. 90. Lastly, having spoken of Three Forms of Religions, the Jewish, Christian and the Pagan, and there remaining only a Fourth the Mahometan, in which the Divine Monarchy is zealously asserted, we may now Conclude, that the Idea of God (as essentially including Unity in it) hath been entertained in all Forms of Religion. An Account of that seemingly-strange Phenomenon of Providence; the Rise, Growth and Continuance of the Mahometan Religion, not to be attempted by me, at least in this place.

I. AVING in the Former Chapter prepared the way, we shall now procede (with the Divine Assistance) to Answer and Confute all those *Atheistick Arguments* before proposed. The First whereof was this, *That there is no Idea of God, and therefore, either no such Thing existing in Nature, or at least no Possible Evidence of it.*

To affirm that there is no *Idea of God*, is all one as to affirm, that there is no *Conception of the Mind* answering to that Word or Name; And this the Modern Atheists stick not to maintain, That the *Word God* hath no *Signification*, and that there is no other *Idea* or *Conception* in Mens Minds, answering thereunto, besides the mere *Phantasm of the Sound*. Now for any one to go about soberly to confute this, and to Prove that *God* is not the Only *Word* without a *Signification*, and that men do not every where pay all their Religious Devotions, to the mere *Phantasm* of a *Transient Sound*, expecting all Good from it, might very well seem to all Intelligent persons, a most Absurd and Ridiculous Undertaking; both because the thing is so evident in it self, and because the plainest things of all can least be Proved; for $\delta \pi\alpha\lambda\lambda\alpha \alpha\pi\theta\epsilon\lambda\epsilon\iota \delta\epsilon\iota\chi\alpha\iota \nu\upsilon\mu\omega\mu\epsilon\tau\alpha\varsigma, \alpha\upsilon\tau\omega\iota\varsigma \alpha\pi\theta\epsilon\lambda\epsilon\iota \delta\epsilon\iota\chi\alpha\iota \delta\epsilon\iota\chi\alpha\iota$. He that thinks all things to be Demonstrable, takes away Demonstration it self. Wherefore we shall here only suggest thus much, that since there are different words for *God* in several Languages, and men have the same *Notion* or *Conception* in their Minds answering to them all, it must needs be granted, that they have some other *Idea* or *Conception* belonging to those Words, besides the *Phantasms* of their several Sounds. And indeed it can be nothing else, but either

Monstrous

Monstrous Sottishness and Stupidity of Mind, or else Prodigious Impudence, in these Atheists to deny, that there is any Idea of God at all, in the Minds of men, or that the Word hath any Signification.

It was heretofore observed by *Epiſtetus*, ἂν τις αἰσῆσαι πρὸς τὸ ἄγαν ἀναισθητός; ὁσπρὶν, πρὸς τὸν ὃν ῥᾶδιόν ἐστιν ἄρῃν λόγον, δι' ὃ μὴ ἀποδῇ τις αὐτῷ τὸ τοιοῦτον ὅτι τὸ τῷ ἐκείνῳ γινώσκῃ δύναμιν, ὅτι τὸ τῷ τῷ διδασκαλῷ ἀδύνατον. That if any man will oppose or contradict the most evident Truths, it will not be easie, to find arguments wherewith to convince him. And yet this notwithstanding, ought neither to be Imputed, to any Inability in the Teacher, nor to any strength of Wit in the Denier, but only to a certain dead Insensibility in him. Whereupon he further adds, that there is a double ἀπαιρέσις or ἀπολίθωσις, Mortification or Petrification of the Soul; the one, when it is Stupified and Befotted in its Intellectuals; the other, when it is Bedeaded in its Morals, as to that Pudor that naturally should belong to a Man. And he concludes, that either of these States (though it be not commonly so apprehended) is a Condition little less deplorable, than that of Bodily Death; as also that such a person is not at all to be Disputed with. For πῶς αὐτῷ πῶς ἢ πῶς εἰδέναι προσεγγίξω, ἢ αἰσθῆσαι ἐπὶ ταῖς καὶ αἰσθητικαῖς ὁ προσποιεῖται; ἐπὶ χέρεσιν ὅτι τὸ νεκρὸν, ὁσπρὶν μάλιστα καὶ τὸ αἰσθητικῶν καὶ τὸ αἰσθητικῶν. What sword can one bring or what Fire, by burning or flashing, to make such a one perceive that he is dead? but if he be sensible, and will not acknowledge it, then he is worse than dead, being castrated as to that Pudor that belongs to a man. Moreover, that Philosopher took notice that in those times, when this Denial of most Evident Truths, proceeded rather from Impudence than Stupidity or Sottishness, the Vulgar would be apt to admire it, for firength of Wit and great Learning; ἂν δὲ τις τὸ αἰσθῆσαι ἀπαιρέσῃ, τὸ τοιοῦτον ὁ δύναμιν καλεῖται. But if any mans Pudor be deaded or mortified in him, we call this Power and Strength.

Now as this was sometimes the Case of the Academicks, so is it also commonly of the Atheists, that their Minds are Partly Petrified and Benumbed into a kind of Sottish and Stupid Insensibility, so that they are not able to discern things that are most Evident; and Partly Depudorated or become so void of Shame, as that though they do perceive, yet they will Obstinate and Impudently deny the plainest things that are, as this, that there is any Idea answering to the word God, besides the Phantasm of the sound. And we do the rather insist upon this Prodigious Monstrosity of Atheists in this place, because we shall have occasion afterwards more than once to take notice of it again, in other Instances, as when they affirm, that Local Motion and Cogitation, are really one and the self same thing, and the like. And we conceive it to be unquestionably True, that it is many times nothing else, but either this Shameless Impudence or Sottish Insensibility in Atheists, that is admired by the Ignorant, for Profoundness of Wit and Learning, ἀλλὰ ταῦτ' οὐ δύναμιν εἶπε; μὴ γινώσκοντες αὐτῶν καὶ τῶν καλῶν καὶ ἐν πᾶσι τοῖς λόγοις καὶ πρὸς τοὺς λόγους. But shall I call this Power or Wit, and commend it upon

that account? No more than I will commend the Impudence of the Cinædi, who stick not publickly to Do and Say any thing.

II. But whatever these *Atheists* deny in words, it is notwithstanding evident, that even themselves have an *Idea* or *Conception* in their Minds answering to the Word, *God*, when they deny his Existence, because otherwise they should deny the existence of *No-thing*. Nor can it be at all doubted, but that they have also the same *Idea* of *God* with *Theists*, they denying the Existence of no other thing than what these assert. And as in all other Controversies, when men dispute together, the one Affirming the other Denying, both Parties must needs have the same *Idea* in their Minds of what they dispute about, or otherwise their whole Disputation would be but a kind of *Babel-Language* and Confusion; so must it be likewise in this present Controversie, betwixt *Theists* and *Atheists*. Neither indeed would there be any Controversie at all between them, did they not both by *God*, mean one and the same thing; nor would the *Atheists* be any longer *Atheists*, did they not deny the Existence of that very same Thing, which the *Theists* affirm, but of something else.

III. Wherefore we shall in the next place declare what this *Idea* of *God* is, or what is that thing whose Existence they that affirm are called *Theists*, and they who deny *Atheists*. In order whereunto, we must first lay down this *Lemma* or *Preparatory Proposition*, That as it is generally acknowledged, that all things did not exist from Eternity, such as they are, *Unmade*, but that somethings were *Made* and *Generated* or produced; so it is not possible that *All* things should be *Made* neither, but there must of necessity be something *Self-existent* from Eternity, and *Unmade*; because if there had been once Nothing, there could never have been any thing. The Reason of which is so evident and irresistible, that even the *Atheists* confess themselves conquered by it, and readily acknowledge it for an indubitable Truth, That there must be something *ἀρχόντων*, something which was never *Made* or *Produced*, and which therefore is the Cause of those other things that are *Made*, something *αὐτίκως* and *αὐτεκρινόμενον*, that was *Self-originated* and *Self-existing*, and which is as well *ἀνάληδες* and *ἀφθάρτον*, as *ἀφθάρτον*, *Incorruptible* and *Undestroyable*, as *Ingenerable*; whose Existence therefore must needs be *Necessary*, because if it were supposed to have happened by Chance to exist from Eternity, then it might as well happen again to Cease to Be. Wherefore all the Question now is, what is this *ἀρχόντων* and *ἀνάληδες*, *αὐτίκως* and *αὐτεκρινόμενον*, this *Ingenerable* and *Incorruptible*, *Self-originated* and *Self-existent* Thing, which is the Cause of all other things that are *Made*.

IV. Now there are Two Grand Opinions Opposite to one another concerning it: For first, some contend that the only *Self-existent*, *Unmade* and *Incorruptible Thing*, and *First Principle* of all things, is *Senseless Matter*, that is, Matter either perfectly *Dead* and *Stupid*, or at least devoid of all *Animalist* and *Conscious Life*. But because this is really the *Lowest* and most *Imperfect* of all Beings,
Others

Others on the contrary judge it reasonable, that the *First Principle* and *Original* of all things, should be that which is *Most Perfect* (as *Aristotle* observes of *Pherecydes* and his Followers, τὸ γυνήσαν πρῶτον ἀέριον τιθάν, That they made the *First Cause and Principle of Generation* to be the *Best*) and then apprehending that to be endowed with *Conscious Life* and *Understanding*, is much a *Greater Perfection* than to be devoid of both, (as *Balbus* in *Cicero* declares upon this very occasion, Nec dubium quin quod Animans sit, habetque Mentem & Rationem & Sensum, id sit melius quàm id quod his careat) they therefore conclude, That the only *Unmade* thing, which was the *Principle, Cause* and *Original* of all other things, was not *Senseless Matter*, but a *Perfect Conscious Understanding Nature*, or *Mind*. And these are they who are strictly and properly called *Theists*, who affirm that a *Perfectly Conscious Understanding Being*, or *Mind*, existing of it self from *Eternity*, was the *Cause* of all other things; and they on the contrary who derive all things from *Senseless Matter*, as the *First Original*, and deny that there is any *Conscious Understanding Being* *Self-existent* or *Unmade*, are those that are properly called *Atheists*. Wherefore the true and genuine *Idea* of *God* in general, is this, A *Perfect Conscious Understanding Being* (or *Mind*) *Existing of it self from Eternity*, and the *Cause* of all other things.

V. But it is here observable, that those *Atheists* who deny a *God*, according to this *True and Genuine Notion* of him, which we have declared, do often *Abuse* the *Word*, calling *Senseless Matter* by that Name. Partly perhaps as endeavouring thereby, to decline that odious and ignominious name of *Atheists*, and partly as conceiving, that whatsoever is the *First Principle* of things, *Ingenerable* and *Incarnable*, and the *Cause* of all other things besides it self, must therefore needs be the *Divinest Thing* of all. Wherefore by the word *God*, these mean nothing else, but that which is ἀλόγιστον, *Unmade* or *Self-existent*, and the ἀρχή or *First Principle* of things. Thus it was before observed, that *Anaximander* called *Infinite Matter*, devoid of all manner of *Life*, the τὸ δῶν or *God*; and *Pliny*, the *Corporeal World*, endowed with nothing but a *Plastick Unknowing Nature*, *Numen*; as also others in *Aristotle*, upon the same account called the *Inanimate Elements Gods*, as *Supposed First Principles* of things, οὗτοι ὃν τῶντα, for these are also *Gods*. And indeed *Aristotle* himself seems to be guilty of this mis carriage of *Abusing* the word *God* after this manner, when speaking of *Love* and *Chaos*, as the two first Principles of things, he must, according to the *Laws* of *Grammar*, be understood to call them both *Gods*: τὰς δύο ὅν τῶν χρὴ ἀνομιῖται, αὗτι τῶν τις πρῶτον, ἱστῶ κελεῖν ὅτιον. Concerning these two (*Gods*) how they ought to be ranked, and which of them is to be placed first, whether *Love* or *Chaos*, is afterwards to be resolved. Which Passage of *Aristotle*'s seems to agree with that of *Epicharmus*, ἅλλα λέγειται μὲν χάος πρῶτον γινώσθαι θεῶν, But *Chaos* is said to have been made the first of the *Gods*; unless we should rather understand him thus, That *Chaos* was said, to have been made before the *Gods*. And this *Abuse* of the Word *God*, is a thing which the learned *Origen* took notice of in his Book against *Celsus*, where he speaks of that Religious Care, which ought to be had a-

L. 1. p. 19. *Cam.* about the use of Words: *ὁ τίνος μεγαλοψύχου καὶ ὀλίγου τῶν θεῶν ἄνθρωπος, ἀλλὰ ἄλλως ἐφαρμάζειν ὀνόματα πρὸς τὰ ὄντα, ὅτι ἕλκω ἀνὰ χεῖρα.* He therefore that hath but the least consideration of these things, will take a Religious care, that he give not improper names to things, lest he should fall into a like miscarriage with those, who attribute the name of God to Inanimate and Senseless matter. Now according to this false and spurious Notion of the word God, when it is taken for any Supposed First Principle, or Self-existent Unmade Thing, whatsoever that be, there neither is nor can be any such thing as an *Atheist*; since whosoever hath but the least dram of Reason, must needs acknowledge, that Something or other Existed from Eternity Unmade, and was the Cause of those other things that are Made. But that Notion or Idea of God, according to which some are *Atheists*, and some *Theists*, is in the strictest sence of it, what we have already declared, A Perfect Mind, or Consciously Understanding Nature, Self-existent from Eternity, and the Cause of all other things. The genuine *Theists* being those who make the First Original of all things Universally, to be a Consciously Understanding Nature (or Perfect Mind) but the *Atheists* properly such, as derive all things from Matter, either perfectly Dead and Stupid, or else devoid of all Conscience and Animal life Life.

VI. But that we may more fully and punctually declare the true Idea of God, we must here take notice of a certain Opinion of some Philosophers, who went as it were in a middle betwixt both the Former, and neither made Matter alone, nor God, the Sole Principle of all things; but joyned them both together and held Two First Principles or Self-existent Unmade Beings, independent upon one another, God, and the Matter. Amongst whom the *Stoicks* are to be reckoned, who notwithstanding because they held, that there was no other Substance besides Body, strangely confounded themselves, being by that means necessitated, to make their Two First Principles, the Active and the Passive, to be both of them really but One and the self-same Substance: their Doctrine to this purpose being thus declared by Cicero; *Naturam dividebant in Res duas, ut Altera esset Efficientis, Altera autem quasi huic se præbent, ex qua Efficeretur aliquid. In eo quod Efficeret, Vim esse censebant; in eo quod Efficeretur, Materiam quandam; in Vtroque tamen Vtrumque. Neque enim Materiam ipsam obherere potuisse si nulla Vi contineretur, neque Vim sine aliqua Materia; Nihil est enim quod non Alicubi esse cogatur.* The *Stoicks* divided Nature into Two Things as the First Principles, One whereof is the Efficient, or Artificer, the Other that which offers it self to him for things to be made out of it. In the Efficient's Principle they took notice of Active Force, in the Patient of Matter; but so as that in each of these were both together: forasmuch as neither the Matter could cohere together unless it were contained by some Active Force, nor the Active Force subsist of it self without Matter, because that is Nothing which is not somewhere. But besides these *Stoicks*, there were other Philosophers, who admitting of Incorporeal Substance, did suppose Two First Principles, as Substances really distinct from one another that were Coexistent from Eternity, an Incorporeal Deity and Matter;

as for Example *Anaxagoras*, *Archelaus*, *Atticus*, and many more; in- See *Euseb.* 1
fomuch that *Pythagoras* himself was reckoned amongst those by *Nu-* *Prep. Ev. lib. 7.*
menius, and *Plato* by *Plutarch* and *Laertius*.

And we find it commonly taken for granted, that *Aristotle* also was of this Perswasion, though it cannot be certainly concluded from thence (as some seem to suppose) because he asserted the Eternity of the World: *Plotinus*, *Porphyrus*, *Jamblichus*, *Proclus* and *Simplicius*, doing the like, and yet notwithstanding maintaining, that God was the Sole Principle of all things, and that Matter also was derived from him. Neither will that Passage of *Aristotle's* in his Metaphysicks, necessarily evince the Contrary, *ὅτις δυνάμιτι πάντων ἐστὶ καὶ ἀρχὴ τις*, God seems to be a Cause to all things and a certain Principle, because this might be understood only of the Forms of things.

L. 1. c. 1.

But it is plain that *Plutarch* was a Maintainer of this Doctrine, from his Discourse upon the Platonick *Psychogonia*, (besides other Places) *βέλτερον ἢν πλάτῃσι πεποιημένος, ἢ μὲν κόσμον ὑπὸ θεῶ γεγενῆσθαι λέγειν καὶ ἀφ' οὗ ὁ μὲν γὰρ καλλίστος τῶν γεγενῆσθαι, ὁ δ' ἀρσενος τῶν αἰτιῶν τῶν ὅσων καὶ ἑλπίς ἔστι γένεσθαι, ὁ γινόμενός, ἀλλὰ ὑπερβύβω αἰὶ τῶ δημιουργῶ, εἰς δι- αθεῖν καὶ τῶν αὐτῶν, καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν ἰσομεῖσθαι, ὡς δυνατὸν ἢν ἀρχὴν καὶ γὰρ οὐ τὸ μὴ εἶναι ἢ γένεσις, ἀλλ' οὐ τὸ μὴ καλῶς, μὲν ἰκανὸς ἔχοντος, ὡς οἰκίας, καὶ ἡμεῖς, καὶ ἀνδ' ἑκάστος. It is therefore better for us to follow Pla- to (than Heraclitus) and loudly to declare, that the World was made by God. For as the world is the Best of all Works, so is God the Best of all Causes. Nevertheless the Substance or Matter out of which the World was made, was not it self made; but always ready at hand, and sub- ject to the Artificer, to be ordered and disposed by him. For the making of the World, was not the Production of it out of Nothing, but out of an antecedent Bad and Disorderly State, like the Making of an House, Gar- ment or Statue.*

It is also well known, that *Hermogenes* and other ancient Preten- ders to Christianity, did in like manner assert the Self-existence and Improduction of the Matter, for which Cause they were commonly called *Materiarii*, or the *Materiarian* Hereticks; they pretending by this means to give an account (as the Stoicks had done before them) of the Original of Evils, and to free God from the Imputation of them. Their Ratiocination to which purpose, is thus set down by *Tertullian*. God made all things, either out of Himself, or out of Nothing, or out of Ma- ter. He could not make all things out of Himself, because himself being always Unmade, he should then really have been the Maker of No- thing. And he did not make all out of Nothing, because being Essen- tially good, he would have made *Nihil non optimum*, every thing in the Best manner, and so there could have been no Evil in the World. But since there are Evils, and these could not procede from the Will of God, they must needs arise from the Fault of something, and therefore of the Matter, out of which things were made. Lastly, it is sufficiently known likewise, that some Modern Sects of the Christian Profession, at this day, do also assert the Uncreatedness of the Matter. But these

Adver. Hermog.
p. 282. R. g.

these suppose, in like manner as the Stoicks did, Body to be the Only Substance.

VII. Now of all these whosoever they were who thus maintained *Two Self-existent Principles*, God and the Matter, we may pronounce Univerſally, that they were neither Better nor Worſe, than a kind of *Imperfect Theists*.

They had a certain *Notion or Idea of God*, such as it was, which seems to be the very same, with that expressed in *Aristotle*, ζῶν ἄετον αἰδῶν, *An Animal the Best Eternal*, and represented also by *Epicurus* in this manner, ζῶν πῶτον ἔχει μακαριότητα μετ' ἀφθαρσίας: *An Animal that hath all Happiness with Incorruptibility*.

Wherein it was acknowledged by them, that besides *Senseless Matter*, there was also an *Animalish and Conscious or Perceptive Nature*, Self-existent from Eternity; in opposition to *Atheists*, who made *Matter*, either devoid of all manner of Life, or at least of such as is *Animalish and Conscious*, to be the *Sole Principle of All things*. For it hath been often observed, that some *Atheists* attributed, a kind of *Plastick Life or Nature*, to that *Matter*, which they made to be the *Only Principle of the Universe*. And these Two sorts of *Atheisms* were long since taken notice of by *Seneca* in these words; *Universum in quo nos quoque sumus, expert esse Consilii, & aut ferri Temeritate quadam aut Naturâ Nesciente quid faciat.* The *Atheists* make the *Universe*, whereof our selves are part, to be devoid of Counsel, and therefore either to be carried on *Temerariouſly and Fortuitouſly*; or else by such a *Nature*, as which (though it be *Orderly, Regular and Methodical*) yet is notwithstanding *Nescient of what it doth*. But no *Atheist* ever acknowledged *Conscious Animality*, to be a *First Principle* in the *Universe*; nor that the *Whole* was governed by any *Animalish, Sentient, and Understanding Nature*, presiding over it as the *Head of it*; but as it was before declared, they Concluded all *Animals and Animality*, all *Conscious, Sentient and Self-perceptive Life*, to be *Generated and Corrupted, or Educ'd out of Nothing, and Reduced to Nothing again*. Wherefore they who on the *Contrary* asserted *Animality and Conscious Life*, to be a *First Principle or Unmade thing* in the *Universe* are to be accounted *Theists*. Thus *Balbus* in *Cicero* declares, that to be a *Theist*, is to assert, *Ab Animantibus Principiis Mundum, esse Generatum, That the World was Generated or Produced at first from Animant Principles*, and that it is also still governed by such a *Nature, Res omnes subjectas esse Naturæ Sentienti, That all things are subject to a Sentient and Conscious Nature, steering and guiding of them*.

But to distinguish this *Divine Animal*, from all others, these *Definers* added, that it was αἰετον and μακαριότητα; the *Best and most Happy Animal*; and accordingly, this Difference is added to that *General Nature of Animality*, by *Balbus* the *Stoick*, to make up the *Idea or Definition of God* complete: *Talem esse Deum certâ Notione animi præsentimus; Primum, ut sit Animans; Deinde, ut in omni Natura nihil*

Mat. Qu. Prof.
L. 1.

Cicero de Nat.
D. 1. 2.

nihil Illo sit Præstantius: We presage concerning God, by a certain Notion of our Mind; First, that he is an Animans, or Consciously Living Being; and then Secondly, that he is such an Animans, as that there is nothing in the Whole Universe, or Nature of things, more Excellent than Him.

Wherefore these *Materiarian Theists* acknowledged God to be a Perfectly-understanding Being, and Such as had also Power over the Whole Matter of the Universe; which was utterly unable to move it self, or to produce any thing without him. And all of them except the *Anaxagoreans* concluded, that He was the Creator of all the Forms of Inanimate Bodies, and of the Souls of Animals. However, it was Universally agreed upon amongst them, that he was at least The Orderer and Disposer of all, and that therefore he might upon that account well be called, the *δευνέτης*, The Maker or Framer of the World.

Notwithstanding which, so long as they Maintained Matter to exist Independently upon God, and sometimes also to be *Refractory* and *Contumacious* to him, and by that means to be the Cause of Evil. contrary to the Divine Will; it is plain that they could not acknowledge the Divine Omnipotence, according to the Full and Proper sense of it. Which may also further appear from these Queries of Seneca concerning God. *Quantum Deus possit? Materiam ipsè sibi Formet, an Datà utatur? Deus quicquid Vult efficiat? An in multis rebus illum Trahenda destituant, & à Magno Artifice Præve formetur multa, non quia cessat Ars, sed quia id in quo exercetur, sæpe Inobsequens Artifici?* How far Gods Power does extend? Whether he make his own Matter, or only use that which is offered him? Whether he can do whatsoever he will? Or the Materials in many things Frustrate and Disappoint him, and by that means things come to be Ill-framed by this great Artificer, not because his Art fails him, but because that which it is exercised upon, proves Stubborn and Contumacious? Wherefore, I think, we may well conclude, that those *Materiarian Theists*, had not a Right and Genuine Idea of God.

Nevertheless, it does not therefore follow, that they must needs be concluded *Absolute Atheists*; for there may be a Latitude allowed in Theism; and though in a strict and proper sense, they be only Theists, who acknowledge One God perfectly Omnipotent, the Sole Original of all things, and as well the Cause of Matter, as of any thing else; yet it seems reasonable, that such Consideration should be had of the Infirmary of Humane Understandings, as to extend the Word further, that it may comprehend within it, those also who assert One Intellectual Principle Self-existent from Eternity, the Framer and Governor of the whole World, though not the Creator of the Matter; and that none should be condemned for *Absolute Atheists*, merely because they hold *Eternal Uncreated Matter*, unless they also deny, an *Eternal Unmade Mind*, ruling over the Matter, and so make *Senseless Matter* the Sole Original of all things. And this is certainly most agreeable to common apprehensions; for *Democritus* and *Epicurus*, would never

And again, *Od. ξ'.*

— οὐδ' ἐνὶ στήθεσσι τοῖσιν ἔσθ' ἵκεν,
 "οὔτι κε καὶ θεῶν ἐθέλει, δύναται γὰρ ἅπαντα."

— *Deus autem hoc dabit, illud omittet,*
Quodcunque ei libitum fuerit, Potest enim Omnia.

To this Purpose also before *Homer, Linus,*

ῥάδια πάντα θεῶν πλῆσαι, καὶ ἀνέναντον ὄντων

And after him, *Callimachus,*

δολιχὸν ἔνθα καὶ πᾶσι δυνατὴν

All things are possible for God to do, and nothing transcends his Power;

Thus also amongst the Latin Poets, *Virgil Æn. the First,*

Sed Pater Omnipotens, Speluncis abdidit Atrix.

Again *Æn. the Second,*

At Pater Anchises, oculos ad sidera latus
Extulit, & Cælo palmas cum Voce tetendit;
Jupiter Omnipotens, precibus si flecteris ullis;

And *Æn. the Fourth,*

Talibus orantem diçis, ardsque tenentem
Audiit Omnipotens.

Ovid in like manner, *Metamorph. 1.*

Tum Pater Omnipotens, misso perfregit Olympum
Fulmine, & excussit subjectum Pelion Offæ.

And to cite no more, *Agatho* an ancient Greek Poet, is commended by *Aristotle*, for affirming, nothing to be exempted from the Power of God, but only this, that he cannot make That not to have been, which hath been; that is, do what implies a Contradiction.

μήτε γὰρ αὐτῷ, καὶ οὐδ' ἐν ἐξουσίᾳ,
 ἄρξωμαι πῶς, ἅς' ἂν ᾖ πεπερασμένα.

Lib. Sic. Lib. 6. 2.

Hoc namque duntaxat, negatum etiam Deo est,
Quæ facta sunt, Infecunda posse reddere.

Lastly, that the *Atheists* themselves under Paganism look'd upon *Omnipotence*,

sence, and *Infinite Power*, as an Essential Attribute of the Deity, appears plainly from *Lucretius*, when he tells us, that *Epicurus*, in order to the Taking away of *Religion*, set himself to Confute *Infinite Power*.

Lib. 1.

— Omne Immenſum peragravit Mente Animòque,
Unde reſert nobis Viſtor, quid poſſit Oriri,
Quid nequeat: Finita Potestas denique quoique
Quanam ſit ratione, atque altè Terminus hærens.
Quare Relligio pedibus ſubjecta viciffim
Obteritur, nos exæquat Viſtoria Cælo.

As if he should have ſaid, *Epicurus* by ſhewing that all *Power* was *Finite*, effectually destroyed *Religion*; he thereby taking away the Object of it, which is an *Omnipotent* and *Infinately Powerful Deity*. And this is a thing which the ſame Poet often harps upon again, that there is No *Infinite Power*, and Conſequently no *Deity*, according to the true *Idea* of it. But laſt of all, in his Sixth Book, he condemns *Religionists*, as guilty of great folly, in aſſerting *Omnipotence* or *Infinite Power* (that is, a *Deity*) after this manner.

Rurus in antiquas reſeruntur Relligiones,
Et Dominos acres aſciscunt, Omnia Poſſe,
Quos miſeri credunt, ignari quid queat eſſe,
Quid nequeat, Finita Potestas denique quoique,
Quanam ſit ratione, atque altè Terminus hærens:
Quo magis errantes totà regione feruntur.

Where though the Poet, ſpeaking careleſſly, after the manner of thoſe times, ſeem to attribute *Omnipotence* and *Infinite Power* to *Gods Plurally*, yet as it is evident in the thing it ſelf, that this can only be the Attribute of *One Supreme Deity*; ſo it may be obſerved, that in thoſe Paſſages of the Poets before cited, it is accordingly always aſcribed to *God Singularly*. Nevertheleſs all the Inferiour Pagan Deities, were ſuppoſed by them to have their certain ſhares of this *Divine Omnipotence*, ſeverally diſpenſed and imparted to them.

IX. But we have not yet diſpatched all that belongs to the Entire *Idea* of God. For *Knowledge* and *Power* alone, will not make a *God*. For *God* is generally conceived by all to be a *Moſt Venerable* and *Moſt Deſirable Being*: whereas an *Omniscient* and *Omnipotent Arbitrary Deity*, that hath nothing either of *Benignity* or *Morality* in its Nature to *Meaſure* and *Regulate* its *Will*, as it could not be truly *Auguſt* and *Venerable*, according to that *Maxime, ſine Bonitate nulla Majeſtas*; ſo neither could it be *Deſirable*, it being that which could only be *Feared* and *Dreaded*, but not have any *Firm Faith* or *Confidence* placed in it. *Plutarch* in the *Life of Ariſtides*, τὸ ὅσον τοῦ θεοῦ διαφείν, ἀφραγὰς, καὶ δυνάμει, καὶ ἀρετῇ ἐν σημειώτατοις ἐστὶν καὶ ἐφ' ὅταν τῷ θεῷ ἀφ' ὧν μὲν γὰρ ἴσται καὶ τὰ κατὰ, καὶ τοῖς τοιχοῖς συμβέβηκε δόξαμιν ὁ σφοδρὸς καὶ κέρωνος, καὶ πεινμάτων ἱερμὰ καὶ ἐδμμάτων ἔπιφορὰ μὴ ἀλλοῦ ἔχειν, &c. *God ſeems to excel in theſe Three things, Incorruptibility, Power*
and

and Virtue, of all which the Most Divine and Venerable is Vertue, for Vacuum and the Senseless Elements have Incorruptibility, Earthquakes, and Thunders, Blustering Winds and Overflowing Torrents, Much of Power and Force. Wherefore the Vulgar being affected three manner of ways towards the Deity, so as to admire its Happiness, to Fear it, and to Honour it; they esteem the Deity Happy for its Incorruptibility, they Fear it and stand in awe of it for its Power, but they Worship it; that is Love and Honour it, for its Justice. And indeed an Omnipotent Arbitrary Deity, may seem to be in some sence, a Worse and more Undesireable Thing, than the Manichean Evil God; forasmuch as the Latter could be but *Finutely Evil*, whereas the Former might be so *Infinitely*. However (I think) it can be little doubted, but that the whole *Manichean Hypothesis*, taken all together, is to be preferred, before this of *One Omnipotent Arbitrary Deity* (devoid of Goodness and Morality) ruling all things; because there the *Evil Principle* is Yoaked with another Principle *Essentially Good*, checking and controlling it. And it also seems less Dishonourable to God, to impute *Defect of Power* than of *Goodness and Justice* to him.

Neither can *Power* and *Knowledge* alone, make a Being in it self completely *Happy*; for we have all of us by *Nature* μαίεσθαι τι (as both *Plato* and *Aristotle* call it) a certain *Divination*, *Presage*, and *Fortuitous Vaticination* in our minds, of some *Higher Good* and *Perfection*, than either *Power* or *Knowledge*. *Knowledge* is plainly to be preferred before *Power*, as being that which guides and directs its blind Force and Impetus; but *Aristotle* himself declares, that there is λόγος τι κρείττον, which is λόγος ἀρχή, *Something better than Reason* and *Knowledge*, which is the *Principle* and *Original* of it. For (saith he) λόγος ἀρχή ἡ λόγος, ἀλλὰ τι κρείττον. *The Principle of Reason is not Reason, but Something Better.* Where he also intimates this to be the Proper and Essential Character of the Deity; τι ἂν ἂν κρείττον ἐξ ὁμοιότητος, πλὴν ὁ θεός; *For what is there, that can be better than Knowledge, but God?* Likewise the same Philosopher elsewhere plainly determines, that there is *Morality* in the *Nature* of *God*, and that his *Happiness* consisteth principally therein, and not in *External things*, and the Exercise of his *Power*, ὅτι μὲν ἂν ἰδεῖσθαι τὴν ἀδυναμίας ὁμοιότητα πρὸς τὴν ἀρετὴν ἐξ ὁμοιότητος, ἐκ τῆς ἐκείνου καὶ τῆς ταύτης, καὶ συναμεινωμένης αὐτῶν, καὶ τῆς ἐκείνου, ὅς ἀδυναμίας μὲν ἐστὶ καὶ μακροτέρως, δι' ὅτι δὲ τῆς ἰσότητος αὐτῶν ἀγαθῶν, ἀλλὰ δι' αὐτὴν αὐτῆς, καὶ τῆς πῶς τὴν ἑαυτοῦ φύσιν. *That every man hath so much of Happiness, as he hath of Virtue and Wisdom, and of Acting according to these, ought to be confessed and acknowledged by us, it being a thing that may be proved from the Nature of God, who is Happy, but not from any external Goods, but because he is himself (or that which he is) and in such a manner affected according to his Nature, that is, because he is Essentially Moral and Vertuous.*

Which Doctrine of *Aristotle's*, seems to have been borrowed from *Plato*, who in his Dialogues *De Republica*, discoursing about Moral Vertue, occasionally falls upon this Dispute concerning the *Sum-*

Lib. 6.

μῦθος Bonnum or Chiefest Good; wherein he concludes, that it neither consisted in *Pleasure* as such, according to the Opinion of the Vulgar, nor yet in Mere *Knowledge* and *Understanding*, according to the Conccit of others, who were more Polite and Ingenious. οἷσα ἔτι τοῖς μὲν πολλοῖς ἡδονὴ δοκεῖ εἶναι τὸ ἀγαθόν, τοῖς ὅ καμψτελεῖς φρόνης· καὶ ὅτι οἱ τῷτο ἡγέμενοι καὶ ἔχοντες δόξαν ἥτις φράσηται, ἀλλ' αὐτοὶ καλῶνται πολλοῦ τὸν τῷ ἀγαθῷ φάναι, μάλα γαλίας, ἐπὶβλῶντες γὰρ ὅτι καὶ ἡμεῖς τὸ ἀγαθόν, λέγει ὁ πολὺν ἄς ὠδὲ ὁ. *You know that to the Vulgar, Pleasure seems to be the Highest Good, but to those who are more Elegant and Ingenious, Knowledge: But they who entertain this Latter Opinion, can none of them declare what kind of Knowledge it is, which is that Highest and Chiefest Good, but are necessitated at last to say, that it is The Knowledge of Good, very ridiculously: Forasmuch as herein they do but run round in a Circle, and upbraiding us for being ignorant of this Highest Good, they talk to us at the same time, as knowing what it is.* And thereupon he adds καλὴν ἀμφοτέρων οἶον, γνώσεως τε καὶ αἰσθησεως, ἀλλὰ καὶ καλῶν ἔτι τῷτο ἡγέμενοι· αὐτῇ ὁρθῶς ἡγέμεν. Ἐπειμὲν ὅ καὶ Ἀλθιβεαι, ἔζωσθ' ὥς τε καὶ ὅταν ἡλιόθεν μὲν νομίζῃ ὁρθόν, ἡλιον ὡς ἡγέμεναι καὶ ὁρθῶς, ὅταν καὶ αἰσθηθεὶς ἀγαθῷ μὲν νομίζῃ ἀμφοτέρω ὁρθόν, ἀγαθόν ὡς ἡγέμεναι ὁπότερον αὐτῶν καὶ ὁρθόν, ἀλλ' ἔτι μὴδὲν τὸν τῷ ἀγαθῷ εἶναι τιμῶντες. *That though Knowledge and Truth be both of them Excellent things, yet he that shall conclude the Chief Good to be something which transcends them both, will not be mistaken. For as Light, and Sight or the Seeing Faculty, may both of them rightly be said to be Soliform things, or of Kin to the Sun, but neither of them to be the Sun it self; so Knowledge and Truth, may likewise both of them be said to be Boniform things, and of Kin to the Chief Good, but neither of them to be that Chief Good it self; but this is still to be look'd upon as a thing more August and Honourable.* In all which of Plato's, there seems to be little more, than what may be experimentally found within our selves; namely, that there is a certain *Life*, or *Vital* and *Moral Disposition* of Soul, which is much more Inwardly and thoroughly *Satisfactory*, not only than *Sensual Pleasure*, but also than all *Knowledge* and *Speculation* whatsoever.

Now whatever this Chiefest Good be, which is a Perfection Superiour to Knowledge and Understanding; that Philosopher resolves that it must needs be First and Principally in God, who is therefore called by him, ἰδέα τ' ἀγαθῶν, *The very Idea or Essence of Good.* Wherein he trode in the Footsteps of the Pythagoreans, and particularly of *Timæus Locrus*, who making Two Principles of the Universe, *Mind* and *Necessity*, adds concerning the Former, τῶντων ἡ μὲν τῶς τ' ἀγαθῶν φύσεως ἔμειν, δὲ τῶν ἐνυμμενῶν ἀρχῆς τῇ ἀείων· *The First of these Two, is of the Nature of Good, and it is called God, the Principle of the Best things.* Agreeably with which Doctrine of theirs, the Hebrew Cabalists also make a *Sephirah* in the Deity, Superiour both to *Binah* and *Chochmah* (*Understanding* and *Wisdom*) which they call *Cheber* or the *Crown*. And some would suspect this Cabalistic Learning to have been very ancient among the Jews, and that *Parmenides* was imbued with it, he calling God in like manner σφῆν or the *Crown*. For which *Velleius* in *Cicero*, (representing

senting the several Opinions of Philosophers concerning God) perstrings him amongst the rest, *Parmenides Commentitum quiddam, Coronæ similitudine efficit, Stephanem appellat, continentem ardore lucis orbem, qui cingit Cælum, quem appellat Deum.*

But all this while we seem to be to seek, What the Chief and Highest Good Superiour to Knowledge is, in which the Essence of the Deity principally consists, and it cannot be denied, but that *Plato* sometimes talks too Metaphysically and Cloudily about it; for which cause, as he lay open to the Laith of *Aristotle*, so was he also Vulgarly perstringed for it, as appears by that of *Amphyl*, the Poet in *Lactius*.

Τὸ δ' ἀγαθὸν ὃ, π' περ' ἔστιν, ὃ σὺ τοῖς ἑτέροις
 μένεις διὰ ταύτην, ὥσθ' εἶνα τῆς ἐξου-
 ᾗς τοῦ τῆς πλάτης ἀγαθὸν.

What Good that is, which you expect from hence, I confess, I less understand; than I do Plato's Good. Nevertheless he plainly intimates these two Things concerning it. First, that this Nature of Good which is also the Nature of God, includes *Ferignity* in it, when he gives this account of Gods both Making the World and after such a Manner; *Because he was Good, and that which is Good hath no Envy in it, and therefore he both made the World, and also made it as well, and as like to himself as was possible.* And Secondly, that it comprehends Eminently all *Vertue and Justice*, the *Divine Nature* being the *First Pattern* hereof; for which cause *Vertue* is defined to be, *An Assimilation to the Deity.* *Justice and Honesty* are no *Fallitious* things, Made by the Will and Command of the more Powerful to the Weaker, but they are *Nature and Perfection*, and descend downward to us from the Deity.

But the Holy Scripture without any Metaphysical Pomp and Obscurity, tells us plainly, Both what is that Highest Perfection of Intellectual Beings, which is *καὶ ἢν λόγος καὶ ὑπερφύσις*, *Better than Reason and Knowledge*, and which is also the Source, Life and Soul of all Morality, namely that it is *Love or Charity*. *Though I speak with the Tongue of Men and Angels, and have not Love, I am but χαλκὸς ἢ ξύλον, ἢ κτύβαλον ἀλαλῶν, as Sounding Brass or a Tinkling Cymbal*, which only makes a Noise without any Inward Life. *And though I have Prophecy, and understand all Mysteries and all Knowledge, and though I have all Faith, so that I could remove Mountains, and have not Love, I am Nothing*; that is, I have no Inward Satisfaction, Peace or True Happiness. *And though I bestow all my Goods to feed the Poor, and give my body to be burned, and have not love, it profiteth me nothing*; I am for all that utterly destitute of all True Morality, Vertue and Grace. And accordingly it tells us also in the next place, what the Nature of God is, that he is properly, neither *Power* nor *Knowledge* (though having the Perfection of both in him) but *Love*. And certainly whatever *Dark Thoughts* concerning the Deity; some Men in their Cells may sit brooding on, it can never reasonably be conceived, that that which is *ἡ ἀπείρητος ἀγάπη καὶ αὐταρξία*, the

Most Self-sufficient and Self-happy Being, should have any *Narrow and selfish Designs* abroad, without it self, much less harbour any *Malignant and Despicable* ones, towards its Creatures. Nevertheless because so many are apt to abuse the Notion of the Divine *Love and Goodness*, and to frame such Conceptions of it, as destroy that *Awful and Reverential Fear* that ought to be had of the Deity, and make Men *Presumptuous and Careless* of their Lives, therefore we think fit here to superadd also, that God is no *Soft nor Fond and Partial Love*, but that *Justice* is an Essential Branch of this *Divine Goodness*; God being, as the Writer *De Mundo* well Expresses it, νόμος ἰσχυρὸς, *An Impartial Law*, and as *Plato*, μέτρον πάντα, *the Measure of all things*. In Imitation whereof, *Aristotle* concludes also, that a Good Man (in a Lower and more Imperfect sense) is μέτρον too, *an Impartial Measure of Things and Actions*.

It is evident that the Atheists themselves in those former times of Paganism, took it for Granted, that *Goodness* was an Essential Attribute of the Deity whose Existence they opposed (so that it was then generally acknowledged for such, by the Pagan Theists) from those Argumentations of theirs before mentioned, the 12th. and 13th. taken from the *Topick of Evils*, the Pretended *Ill Frame* of things, and *Want of Providence* over Humane Affairs. Which if they were true, would not at all disprove such an Arbitrary Deity (as is now phancied by some) made up of Nothing but *Will and Power*, without any Essential *Goodness* and *Justice*. But those Arguments of the Atheists are directly Level'd against the Deity, according to the True Notion or *Idea* of it; and could they be made Good, would do execution upon the same. For it cannot be denied, but that the Natural Consequence of this Doctrine, That there is a *God Essentially Good*, is this, that therefore the World is *Well Made and Governed*. But we shall afterwards declare, that though there be Evil in the *Parts* of the World, yet there is none in the *Whole*; and that *Moral Evils* are not Imputable to the Deity.

And now we have propos'd the *Three Principal Attributes* of the Deity. The First whereof is *Infinite goodness with Fecundity*, the Second *Infinite Knowledge and Wisdom*, and the Last *Infinite Active and Perceptive Power*. From which Three Divine Attributes, the Pythagoreans and Platonists, seem to have framed their *Trinity* of *Archical Hypostases*, such as have the Nature of Principles in the Universe, and which though they apprehended as several Distinct Substances, gradually subordinate to one another, yet they many times extend the πένε so far, as to comprehend them all within it. Which *Pythagorick Trinity* seems to be intimated by *Aristotle* in those words, καθ' ὅσον γὰρ πάντες καὶ οἱ ἰσχυροὶ τὸ πᾶν καὶ τὰ πάντα τὰς τρεῖς διώρισται. *As the Pythagoreans also say, the Universe and all things, are determin'd and contain'd by three Principles*. Of which Pythagorick Trinity more afterward. But now we may enlarge and fill up, that Compendious *Idea* of God premis'd, of *A Being Absolutely Perfect*, by adding thereunto (to make it more Particular) such as is *Ininitely Good, Wise, and Powerful, necessarily Existing, and not only the*

the Framer of the World, but also the Cause of all things. Which Idea of the Deity, is sufficient, in order to our present Undertaking.

Nevertheless, if we would not only attend to what is barely necessary for a Dispute with *Atheists*, but also consider the Satisfaction of other Free and Devout Minds, that are hearty and sincere Lovers of this Most Admirable and Most Glorious Being, we might venture for their Gratification, to propose yet a more Full, Free and Copious Description of the Deity, after this manner. *God is a Being Absolutely Perfect, Unmade or Self-originated, and Necessarily Existing, that hath an Infinite Fecundity in him, and Virtually Contains all things; as also an Infinite Benignity or Overflowing Love, Uninvidiously displaying and communicating it self; together with an Impartial Rectitude, or Nature of Justice: Who fully comprehends himself, and the Extent of his own Fecundity; and therefore all the Possibilities of things, their several Natures and Respects, and the Best Frame or System of the Whole: Who hath also Infinite Active and Perceptive Power: The Fountain of all things, who made all that Could be Made, and was Fit to be made, producing them according to his Own Nature (his Essential Goodness and Wisdom) and therefore according to the Best Pattern, and in the Best manner Possible, for the Good of the Whole; and reconciling all the Variety and Contrariety of things in the Universe, into One most Admirable and Lovely Harmony. Lastly, who Contains and Upholds all things, and governs them after the Best Manner also, and that without any Force or Violence; they being all Naturally subject to his Authority, and readily obeying his Laws. And Now we see that God is such a Being, as that if he could be supposed Not to Be, there is Nothing, whose Existence, a Good Man could Possibly more Wish or Desire.*

X. From the *Idea of God* thus declared, it evidently appears, that there can be but *One* such Being, and that *Monum*; *Unity, Oneliness or Singularity* is Essential to it: forasmuch as there cannot possibly be more than *One Supreme*, more than *One Omnipotent* or *Infinite* Powerful Being, and more than *One Cause* of all things besides it self. And however *Epicurus*, endeavouring to pervert and Adulterate the *Notion of God*, pretended to satisfy that *Natural Prolepsis* or *Anticipation* in the Minds of Men, by a Feigned and Counterfeit asserting of a Multiplicity of Coordinate Deities, Independent upon *One Supreme*, and such as were also altogether unconcerned either in the Frame or Government of the World, yet himself notwithstanding plainly took notice of this *Idea of God* which we have proposed, including *Unity* or *Oneliness* in it (he professedly opposing the Existence of such a Deity) as may sufficiently appear from that Argumentation of his, in the Words before cited.

*Quis regere Immensi summam, Quis habere Profundi
Indu manu validos potis est moderanter habenas?
Quis pariter caelos omnes convertere, & omnes
Ignibus aetheris terras suffire feraces?*

*Lib. 1. p. 1. 6.
Lamb.*

Omnibus inq; locis esse omni tempore præsto?

Where he would conclude it to be a thing Utterly impossible, for the Deity to *Animadvert*, *Order* and *Dispose* all things, and be *Present* every where in all the distant places of the World at once; which could not be Pretended of a Multitude of Coordinate Gods, sharing the Government of the World amongst them, and therefore it must needs be levell'd against a Divine Monarchy, or One Single, Solitary Supreme Deity, ruling over all. As in like manner, when he pursues the same Argument further in *Cicero*, to this purpose, that though such a thing were supposed to be Possible, yet it would be notwithstanding absolutely Inconsistent with the Happiness of any Being, he still proceeds upon the same *Hypothesis* of one Sole and Single Deity: *Sive ipse Mundus Deus est, quid potest esse minus quietum, quam nullo puncto temporis intermisso, versari circum axem Cæli admirabili celeritate? Sive in ipso Mundo Deus inest aliquis qui regat, qui gubernet, qui cursus astrorum, mutationes temporum, hominum commoda vitæque teneatur; na Ille est implicatus molestis negotiis & operosus. Whether you will suppose the World it self to be a God, what can be more unquiet, than without intermission perpetually to whirl round upon the Axis of the Heaven, with such admirable celerity? Or whether you will imagine a God in the World distinct from it, who does govern and dispose all things, keep up the Courses of the Stars, the Successive Changes of the Seasons, and Orderly Vicissitudes of things, and contemplating Lands and Seas, conserve the Utilities and Lives of men; certainly He must needs be involved in much solicitous trouble and Employment. For as *Epicurus* here speaks Singularly, so the Trouble of this Theocracy could not be thought so very great, to a Multitude of Coordinate Deities, when parcel'd out among them, but would rather seem to be but a sportful and delightful Diversifement to each of them. Wherefore it is manifest that such an *Idea* of God, as we have declared, including *Unity*, *Oneliness* and *Singularity* in it, is a thing, which the ancient *Atheists*, under the times of Paganism, were not unacquainted with, but principally directed their Force against. But this may seem to be *Anticipated* in this place, because it will fall in afterwards more opportunely to be discourd of again.*

XI. For this is that which lies as the *Grand Prejudice* and *Objection* against that *Idea* of God, which we have proposed, Essentially including *pluram*, *Singularity* or *Oneliness* in it, or the Real Existence of such a Deity, as is the *Sole Monarch* of the Universe; Because all the Nations of the World heretofore (except a small and inconsiderable handful of the *Jews*) together with their wisest men and greatest Philosophers, were generally look'd upon as *Polytheists*, that is, such as Acknowledged and Worshipped a *Multiplicity* of Gods. Now *One God* and *Many Gods*, being directly Contradictious to one another, it is therefore concluded from hence, that this *Opinion* of *Atonarchy* or of *One Supreme God*, the *Maker* and *Governour* of all, hath no Foundation in *Nature*, nor in the genuine *Idea's* and *Prolepses* of mens minds, but is a mere *Artificial* thing, owing its Original wholly

wholly to *Private Phancies and Conceits*, or to *Positive Laws and Institutions*, amongst *Jews, Christians, and Mahometians*.

For the assailing of which Difficulty (seeming so formidable at first sight) it is necessary, that we should make a Diligent Enquiry into the True and Genuine sense of this *Pagan Polytheism*. For since it is impossible that any man in his Wits, should believe a *Multiplicity of Gods*, according to that *Idea of God* before declared, that is, a *Multiplicity of Supreme, Omnipotent, or Infinitely Powerful Beings*; it is certain that the *Pagan Polytheism*, and *Multiplicity of Gods*, must be understood according to some other *Notion* of the Word *Gods*, or some *Equivocation* in the use of it. It hath been already observed, that there were sometime amongst the Pagans, such, who meaning nothing else by *Gods*, but *Understanding Beings Superiour to men*, did suppose a Multitude of such Deities, which yet they conceived to be all (as well as Men) *Native and Mortal*, Generated successively out of Matter and Corrupted again into it, as *Democritus* his *Idols* were. But these *Theogonists*, who thus Generated all things whatsoever, and therefore the *Gods* themselves universally, out of *Night and Chaos, the Ocean or Fluid Matter*, (notwithstanding their Using the Name *Gods*) are plainly condemned both by *Aristotle* and *Plato*, for down-right *Atheists*, they making *Senseless Matter*, the *Only Self-existent thing*, and the Original of all things.

Wherefore there may be another *Notion* of the Word *Gods*, as taken for *Understanding Beings Superiour to Men*, that are not only *Immortal*, but also *Self-existent* and *Unmade*; and indeed the Assertors of a *Multiplicity* of such *Gods* as these, though they cannot be accounted *Theists* in a strict and proper sense (according to that *Idea of God* before declared) yet they are not vulgarly reputed *Atheists* neither, but look'd upon as a kind of Middle thing betwixt Both, and commonly called *Polytheists*. The reason whereof seems to be this, because it is generally apprehended to be Essential to *Atheism*, to make *Senseless Matter* the Sole Original of all things, and consequently to suppose all *Conscious Intellectual Beings* to be *Made or Generated*; wherefore they who on the contrary assert (not One but) Many *Understanding Beings Unmade and Self-existent*, must needs be look'd upon as those, who of the Two, approach nearer to *Theism* than to *Atheism*, and so deserve rather to be called *Polytheists*, than *Atheists*.

And there is no Question to be made, but that the Urgers of the forementioned Objection against that *Idea of God*, which includes *Oneliness* and *Singularity* in it, from the *Pagan Polytheism*, or *Multiplicity of Gods*, take it for granted, that this is to be understood of *Many Unmade Self-existent Deities, Independent* upon one Supreme, that are so many *First Principles* in the Universe, and *Partial Causes* of the World. And certainly, if it could be made to appear, that the *Pagan Polytheists* did universally acknowledge such a *Multiplicity of Unmade Self-existent Deities*, then the Argument fetch'd from thence, against the *Naturality* of that *Idea of God* proposed

posed (Essentially including *Singularity* in it) might seem to have no small Force or Validity in it.

XII. But First this Opinion of *Many Self-existent Deities*, Independent upon One *Supreme*, is both Very *Irrational* in it self, and also plainly *Repugnant* to the *Phænomena*. We say First, it is *Irrational* in it self, because *Self-existence*, and *Necessary Existence* being Essential to a Perfect Being and to nothing else, it must needs be very *Irrational* and *Aburd*, to suppose a *Multitude* of *Imperfect* Understanding Beings *Self-existent*, and no *Perfect One*. Moreover, if *Imperfect* Understanding Beings were imagined to Exist of themselves from Eternity, there could not possibly be any reason given, why just so many of them should exist, and neither More nor Less, there being indeed no reason why any at all should. But if it be supposed, that these *Many Self-existent Deities* happened only to Exist thus from Eternity, and their Existence notwithstanding, was not *Necessary* but *Contingent*, the Consequence hereof will be, that they might as well happen again to cease to be, and so could not be Incorruptible. Again, if any *One Imperfect* Being whatsoever, could exist of it self from Eternity, then all might as well do so, not only *Matter*, but also the *Souls* of Men and other Animals, and consequently there could be No *Creation* by any Deity, nor those supposed Deities therefore deserve that Name. Lastly, we might also add, that there could not be a *Multitude* of Intellectual Beings *Self-existent*, because it is a thing which may be proved by Reason, that all *Imperfect* Understanding Beings or Minds, do partake of *One Perfect Mind*, and suppose also *Omnipotence* or *Infinite Power*; were it not, that this is a Consideration too remote from *Vulgar Apprehension*, and therefore not so fit to be urged in this place.

Again, as this Opinion of *Many Self-existent Deities*, is *Irrational* in it self, so is it likewise plainly *Repugnant* to the *Phænomena* of the World. In which, as *Macrobius* writes, *Omnia sunt connexa*, all things conspire together into *One Harmony*, and are carried on Peaceably and Quietly, Constantly and Eavenly, without any Tumult or Hurly-burly, Confusion or Disorder, or the least appearance of *Schism* and *Faction*; which could not possibly be supposed, were the World Made and Governed, by a Rabble of *Self-existent Deities*, Coordinate, and Independent upon One *Supreme*. Wherefore this kind of Polytheism was obiter thus confuted by *Origen*; πῶς ἂν πλείον τι ἐκ τῶν ἐργαζέμενων πλείονον τῆς χτὶ τῶν ἀναξίων τῶ κόσμου αἰεὶ τὸ δημιουργῶν αὐτοῦ εἶναι εἶναι, καὶ συμπλοῖσθαι αὐτῷ εἶναι ἰσότητος, καὶ διὰ τὸ τοιοῦτον δημιουργῶν ὑπὸ τοῦ κόσμου δημιουργῶν γὰρ εἶναι, ἐς ὃ ὑπὸ τοῦ κόσμου συνίσταται εἶναι τὸ εὐαγῆν κόσμου; How much better is it, agreeably to what we see in the harmonious System of the World, to worship one only Maker of the World, which is one, and conspiring throughout with its whole self, and therefore could not be made by many Artificers, as neither be contained by Many Souls, Moving the Whole Heaven? Now since this Opinion is both *Irrational* in it self and *Repugnant* to the *Phænomena*, there is the less Probability that it should have been received and entertained by all the more Intelligent Pagans.

XIII. Who,

XIII. Who, that they did not thus Universally, look upon all their Gods as so many *Unmade Self-existent Beings*, is unquestionably manifest from hence, because ever since *Hesiod's* and *Homer's* time at least, the Greekish Pagans generally acknowledged a *Theogonia*, a *Generation and Temporary Production of the Gods*; which yet is not to be understood Universally neither, forasmuch as he is no Theist, who does not acknowledge some *Self-existent Deity*. Concerning this *Theogonia*, *Herodotus* writeth after this manner: *ἔπειδ' ἔφυλον θεοὶ καὶ ἄνθρωποι, ἐπὶ αὐτοῖσι πάντες ἑκάστω τέ τις τὰ ἔθνη, οὐκ ἐπίστατο μέλει ὁ πρότερον τι καὶ χεῖς, ὡς εἶπεν λόγῳ· ἠδὲ οὐδ' ὅτι οὐ μὲν ἰθαλὴν περὶ ἀποδιδόναι ἴππῃ δεικνύμεν πρῶτον, καὶ ὁ πᾶσι. οἱ τοι ὅτι οἱ παλαιότεροι θεογονίαν ἔβησαν, καὶ τοῖσι θεοῖσι τὰς ἐπωνυμίας δόδισεν.* *Whence every one of the Gods was Generated, or whether they all of them ever were, and what are their forms, is a thing that was not known till very lately; for Hesiod and Homer, were (as I suppose) not above four hundred years my Seniors. And these were they who introduced the Theogonia among the Greeks, and gave the Gods their several Names: that is, settled the Pagan Theology. Now if before Hesiod's and Homer's time, it were a thing not known or determined amongst the Greeks, whether their Gods were Generated, or all of them Existed from Eternity; then it was not Universally concluded by them, that they were all Unmade and Self-existent. And though perhaps some might in those ancient times believe one way, and some another, concerning the Generation and Eternity of their Gods, yet it does not follow, that they who thought them to be all Eternal, must therefore needs suppose them to be also Unmade or Self-existent. For Aristotle, who asserted the Eternity of the World, and consequently also, of those Gods of his, the Heavenly Bodies, did not for all that, suppose them to be Self-existent or First Principles, but all to depend upon One Principle or Original Deity. And indeed the true meaning of that Question in Herodotus, Whether the Gods were Generated or Existed all of them from Eternity, is (as we suppose) really no other than that of Plato's, εἰ γένεον ἢ ἀίδειος ὁ κόσμος &c. Whether the World were Made or Unmade; and whether it had a Temporary beginning, or existed such as it is from Eternity; which will be more fully declared afterwards. But ever since Hesiod's and Homer's time, that the Theogonia or Generation of the Gods, was settled, and generally believed amongst the Greeks, it is certain that they could not possibly think, all their Gods Eternal, and therefore much less, Unmade and Self-existent.*

Enter p. 113.

But though we have thus clearly proved that all the Pagan Gods were not Universally accounted by them, so many *Unmade Self-existent Deities*, they acknowledging a *Theogonia* or a *Generation of Gods*, yet it may be suspected notwithstanding, that they might suppose a *Multitude of them also* (and not only One) to have been *Unmade from Eternity and Self-existent*. Wherefore we add in the next place, that no such thing does at all appear neither, as that the Pagans or any others, did ever publicly or professedly assert a *Multitude of Unmade Self-existent Deities*. For First, it is plain concerning the *Hesiodian Gods*, which were all the Gods of the Greekish Pagans

Pagans, that either there was but *One* of them only *Self-existent*, or else *None* at all. Because *Hesiod's Gods* were either all of them derived from *Chaos* (or the *Floting Water*) *Love* it self being Generated likewise out of it (according to that *Aristophanick Tradition* before mentioned) or else *Love* was supposed to be a distinct Principle from *Chaos*, namely the *Active Principle* of the Universe, from whence together with *Chaos*, all the *Theogenia* and *Cosmogonia* was derived. Now if the Former of these were true, that *Hesiod* supposed all his *Gods* Universally, to have been Generated and sprung Originally from *Chaos* or the *Ocean*, then it is plain that notwithstanding all that *Rabble* of *Gods* must'ed up by him, he could be no other than *One* of those *Atheistick Theogenists* beforementioned, and really acknowledged no *God* at all, according to the *True Idea* of him; he being not a *Theist*, who admits of no *Self-existent Deity*. But if the Latter be true, that *Hesiod* supposed *Love* to be a Principle distinct from *Chaos*, namely the *Active Principle* of the Universe, and derived all his other *Gods* from thence, he was then a right *Paganick Theist*, such as acknowledged indeed *Many Gods*, but only *One* of them *Unmade* and *Self-existent*, all the rest being Generated or Created by that *One*. Indeed it appears from those *Pallages* of *Aristotle* before cited by us, that that *Philosopher* had been sometimes divided in his Judgment concerning *Hesiod*, where he should rank him, whether among the *Atheists* or the *Theists*. For in his *Book de Cælo*, he ranks him amongst those, who made all things to be Generated and Corrupted, besides the *Eare Substance of the Matter*, that is amongst the *Absolute Atheists*, and look'd upon him as a *Ringleader* of them: but in his *Metaphysics*, upon further thoughts, suspects that many of those who made *Love* the *Chief* of the *Gods*, were *Theists*, they supposing it to be a *First Principle* in the Universe, or the *Active Cause* of things, and that not only *Parmenides*, but also *Hesiod* was such. Which Latter Opinion of his is by far the more probable, and therefore embraced by *Plutarch*, who somewhere determines *Hesiod* to have asserted *One* *Unmade Deity*, as also by the ancient *Scholias* upon him, writ thus, that *Hesiod's Love* was *ὁ ἑρως ἐρας, ὃς καὶ θεὸς ὁ γὰρ ἐστὶν ἀποζητῶνς πάντας θεῶν*. The Heavenly Love, which is also God, that other Love that was born of *Venus*, being *Junior*. But *Joannes Diaconus*; *ἐρατις ὁ ἐρτωμένη τοῦ θεοῦ, ὃς τὸν ἀφροδίτης παῖδον, πῶς γὰρ τὸ μῆτρὸς μὴτα γενήσεται, ὅπου φησὶ γενέσθαι, ἀλλ' ἄλλον τι αὖ περιγενεῖται ἐκείνη, οὐκ αὖ τὸν ἐκείνη παραμυθεύει φυσικῶς γενεῖσθαι αἰτίαν ἐκείνη τῆς ἑτέρας*. By Love here (saith he) we must not understand *Venus* her Son, whose Mother was as yet *Unborn*, but another more ancient Love, which I take to be the *Active Cause* or *Principle of Motion*, Naturally inserted into things. Where though he do not seem to suppose this Love to be *God* himself, yet he conceives it to be an *Active Principle* in the Universe derived from *God*, and not from *Matter*. But this Opinion will be further confirmed afterward.

The next considerable appearance of a Multitude of *Self-existent Deities*, seems to be in the *Valentinian Thirty Gods* and *Æons*, which have been taken by some for such; but it is certain that these were all of them *five One*, Generated; they being derived by that *Phantastick*

tastick Devizer of them, from One Self-originated Deity, called *Bythus*. For thus *Epiphanius* informs us, *τρεῖς ἄκοντα ἡ δὲ ἑστὸς οὐκ ἔστι* *Har. 31.*
Λίαντας ἡ οὐρανὸς βόλεται περισσέγῃ, ὡς ὁ πρῶτος ἔστι βυθός. This (*Valentinus*) would also introduce *Thirty Gods and Æons*, and *Heavens*, the first of which is *Bythus*; he meaning thereby an Unfathomable Depth and Profundity; and therefore this *Bythus*, was also called by him ὁ ἀκρίβητος ἡ ἀκαταμέτρητος πατήρ, *The Highest and Ineffable Father.*

We do indeed acknowledge that there have been some, who have really asserted a *Duplicity of Gods*, in the sense declared; that is of *Animalist* or *Perceptive Beings Self-existent*; One as the *Principle of Good*, and the other of *Evil*. And this *Ditheism* of theirs, seems to be the nearest approach, that was ever really made to *Polytheism*. Unless we should here give heed to *Plutarch*, who seems to make the ancient *Perſians*, besides their *Two Gods*, the *Good* and the *Evil*, or *Oromasdes* and *Arimanius*; to have asserted also a *Third Middle Deity* called by them *Mithras*; or to some Ecclesiastick Writers, who impute a *Trinity of Gods* to *Marcion*; (though *Tertullian* be yet more Liberal, and encrease the Number to an *Ennead*.) For those that were commonly called *Tritheists*, being but mistaken Christians and Trinitarians, fall not under this Consideration. Now as for that forementioned *Ditheism*, or Opinion of *Two Gods*, a *Good* and an *Evil* one, it is evident that its Original sprung from nothing else, but First a Firm Perswasion of the *Essential Goodness* of the Deity, together with a Conceit that the *Evil* that is in the world, was altogether *Inconsistent* and *Unreconcilable* with the same, and that therefore for the salving of this *Phenomenon*, it was absolutely necessary, to suppose another *Animalist Principle Self-existent*, or an *Evil God*. Wherefore as these *Ditheists*, as to all that which is *Good* in the World, held a *Monarchy*, or one Sole Principle and Original, so it is plain, that had it not been for this business of *Evil* (which they conceived could not be salved any other way) they would never have asserted any more *Principles* or *Gods* than One.

The chiefest and most eminent Assertors of which *Ditheistick Doctrine* of *Two Self-existent Animalist Principles* in the Universe, a *Good God* and an *Evil Demon*, were the *Marcionites* and the *Manicheans*, both of which, though they made some slight Pretences to Christianity, yet were not by Christians owned for such. But it is certain that besides these and before them too, some of the Professed Pagans also, entertained the same Opinion, that famous Moralist *Plutarchus Chæromensis*, being an Undoubted Patron of it; which in his Book *De Iside & Osiride* he represents, with some little difference, after this manner; *μεμυδμένον ἡ δὲ ἡ τῶν τῶ κόσμου γένεσις ἡ σύστασις ἐξ ἀγαθῶν, ἢ καὶ ἰσοδυνάμει δυνάμει, ἀλλὰ ὃ βελτίονος τὸ κράτος ἔστιν ἀπολέσθαι ἢ τὴν φαύλων κακῶν ἀνάστασιν, πολλὰ καὶ ἐμπεφυκῶται καὶ σῶματι, πολλὰ ἢ τῇ ψυχῇ τῷ πατρὶ, ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὴν βελτίονα δυνάμει.* *P 371. Edit.*
The Generation and Constitution of this World is mixt of contrary Powers or Principles (the one Good, the other Evil) yet so as that they are not both of equal force, but the Better of them more prevalent: notwithstanding

standing which, it is also absolutely impossible, for the Warfer Power or Principle to be ever Utterly destroyed, much of it being always intermingled in the Soul, and much in the Body of the Universe, there perpetually tagging against the Better Principle.

P. 1003. Pm.

Indeed learned men of later times, have for the most part look'd upon Plutarch here, but either as a bare Relater of the Opinion of other Philosophers; or else as a Follower only, and not a Leader in it. Notwithstanding which, it is evident, that Plutarch was himself heartily Engaged in this Opinion, he discovering no small fondness for it, in sundry of his other Writings: as for Example in his Platonick Questions, where he thus declares himself concerning it, ἢ τὸ πᾶν ἡμῶν ἐν ἡμῶν λεγόμενον ἀλλοτρίος ἔστι, ἢ μὲν γὰρ αἶνος ψυχῇ, καὶ τὸ ἀμορφον αἰμα, συσπύρεται ἀλλοτρίοις αἵ, καὶ τὸ ἀσύνετον αἰ-
 τῶν γένεσιν ἔχει ἀπὸ ἀρχῆν, Or else that which is often affirmed by us is true, that a Mad Irrational soul, and an unformed disorderly Body did coexist with one another from Eternity, neither of them having any Generation or Beginning. And in his *Timean Psychogonia*, he does at large industriously maintain the same, there and elsewhere endeavouring to establish this Doctrine, as much as possibly he could, upon Rational Foundations. As First, that Nothing can be Made or Produced without a Cause, and therefore there must of necessity, be some Cause of Evil also, and that a Positive one too; he representing the Opinion of those as very ridiculous, who would make the Nature of Evil, to be but ἐκσώδιον an *Accidental Appendix* to the World, and all that Evil which is in it, to have come in only by the by, and by Consequence, without any *Positive Cause*. Secondly, that God being *Essentially Good* could not possibly be the Cause of Evil, where he highly applauds Plato for removing God to the greatest distance imaginable from being the Cause of Evil. Thirdly, that as God could not, so neither could ἡ ἀπῶς, Matter in its self devoid of all form and Quality, be the Cause of Evil, noting this to have been the Subterfuge of the Stoicks. Upon which account, he often condemns them, but uncertainly, sometimes as such, who assign'd No Cause at all of Evils, and sometimes again as those who made God the Cause of them. For in his *Psychogonia* he concludes that unless we acknowledge a Substantial Evil Principle, αἱ στοικαὶ καταλαμβάνουσιν ἡμᾶς ἀπελθεῖν, τὸ κακὸν οὐκ ἐν τῷ μὴ ὄντι ἀνατῆται καὶ ἀγενήτως ἐκσώ-
 γαντες, ἐπεὶ ἤτις ἔστι ὅτι τὸ ἀγαθόν, ὅτι τὸ ἀπῶς, ὅτις ἔστι ὅτι κακόν καὶ γένεσιν παρελθόν, The Stoical Difficulties will of necessity overtake and involve us, who introduce Evil into the World from Nothing, or Without a Cause, since neither that which is Essentially Good (as God) nor yet that which is devoid of all Quality (as Matter) could possibly give being or Generation to it. But in his Book against the Stoicks, he accuses them as those, who made God, Essentially Good, the Cause of Evil. αὐτοὶ τὴν κακῶν ἀρχὴν ἀγαθὸν ὅτι τὸ εἶναι ποιεῖ, καὶ γὰρ ἡ ἡλικία τὸ κακόν ἐξ αὐτῆς παρελθόν, ἀπῶς γὰρ ἔστι καὶ πῶς ὅπως ἀρχεται διαφοράς, ὑπὸ τῷ ποιῶντος αὐτὴν καὶ χημαῖζοντος ἔχοντα. Ἐπὶ αὐτῶν τὸ κακὸν εἰ μὲν δὲ ἔστι, οὐκ ἐν τῷ μὴ ὄντι, εἰ δὲ διὰ τὴν κακῶν ἀρχὴν οὐκ ἐν τῷ εἶναι γένεσιν ὑπερκεῖται. Themselves make God being Good, the Principle and cause of Evil, since Matter which is devoid of Quality, and receives all its Differences
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from the Active Principle, that moves and forms it, could not possibly be the Cause thereof. Wherefore Evil must of necessity, either come from Nothing, or else it must come from the Active and Moving Principle, which is God. Now from all these Premises joyned together, Plutarch concludes, that the Phenomenon of Evil, could no otherwise possibly be saved, than by supposing a Substantial Principle for it, and a certain Irrational and Malescent Soul or Demon, Unmade, and Coexisting with God and Matter from Eternity to have been the Cause thereof. And accordingly he resolves, that as whatsoever is Good in the Soul and Body of the Universe, and likewise in the Souls of Men and Demons, is to be ascribed to God as its only Original, so whatsoever is Evil, Irregular and Disorderly in them, ought to be imputed to this other Substantial Principle, a ψυχὴ ἀντι ἑκακώτατος, an Irrational and Malescent Soul or Demon, which insinuating it self every where throughout the World, is all along intermingled with the Better Principle : ἡ μὲν γὰρ ὅλη ἐστὶν τοῦ θεοῦ τὴν ψυχὴν, so that neither the Soul of the Universe, nor that of Men and Demons, was wholly the Workmanship of God, but the Lower, Brutish and Disorderly part of them, the Effect of the Evil Principle.

But besides all this, it is evident that Plutarch was also strongly possessed with a Conceit, that nothing Substantial could be Created (no not by Divine Power) out of Nothing Preexisting; and therefore that all the Substance of whatsoever is in the World did Exist from Eternity Unmade: so that God was only the Orderer, or the Metabolyzer and Harmonizer thereof. Wherefore as he concluded that the Corporeal World was not Created by God out of Nothing, as to the Substance of it, but only the Preexisting Matter, which before moved Disorderly, was brought into this Regular Order and Harmony by him: In like manner he resolved that the Soul of the World (for such a thing is always supposed by him) was not made by God out of Nothing neither, nor out of any thing Inanimate and Soulless Preexisting, but out of a Preexisting Disorderly Soul, was brought into an Orderly and Regular Frame; ἀνομοία ᾗ δὲ ἦν τὰ πρὶν τὸ τοῦ κόσμου γένεσθαι, ἀνομοία ὃν ἐκ ἀναιμάτου ὁδὸν ἀνιῆται, ὁδὸν ἀψυχῶν, ἀλλὰ ἀμερῶτον μὲν καὶ ἀσώφρον τὸ σωματικόν, ἐμπληρὸν δὲ καὶ ἀλογον τὸ νοητικὸν ἔχοντα. τούτῳ δὲ ἢ ἀνομοία καὶ ἄλογος ἐκ ἑκάστου λέγεται. ὃ γὰρ θεὸς ἐπὶ σῶμα τὸ ἀναιμάτον, ἐπὶ ψυχὴν τὸ ἀψυχὸν ἐπέστη, ἀλλ' ἔπειθ' ἀρμόνικοι ἀνέβη, &c. There was Unformed Matter, before this Orderly World was made, which Matter was not Incorporeal, nor Unmoved or Inanimate, but Body discomposed and acted by a Furious and Irrational Mover, the Deformity whereof was the Disharmony of a Soul in it, devoid of Reason. For God neither made Body out of that which was No-Body, nor Soul out of No-soul. But as the Musician who neither makes Voice nor Motion, does by ordering of them notwithstanding produce Harmony; so God, though he neither made the Tangible and Resisting Substance of Body, nor the Phantastick and Self-moving Power of Soul, yet taking both those Principles preexisting (the one of which was Dark and Obscure, the other Turbulent and Irrational) and orderly disposing and Harmonizing of them, he did by that means produce this most beautiful and perfect Animal of the World. And further to the same purpose; καὶ σῶματος ἀπλῶς ὁδὸν ἔχον καὶ ὕλην, ἀλλὰ συμμετρίας ὁδὸν σῶμα καὶ καλῶς καὶ ὁμοιότητι, ἢ ὁ θεὸς ποιῶν καὶ δημιουργῶν.

De Psichog. p. p. 1014. Par.

it is not one only Dispenser of things, who as it were out of several Vessels distributeth those several Liquors of Good and Evil, mingling them together and dashing them as he pleaseth. But there are two distinct and Contrary Powers or Principles in the World, One of them always leading as it were to the Right hand, but the other tugging a Contrary way. Inasmuch that our whole Life and the whole World is a certain Mixture and Confusion of these Two: at least this Terrestrial World below the Moon is such, all being every where full of Irregularity and Disorder. For if nothing can be Made without a Cause, and that which is Good cannot be the Cause of Evil, there must needs be a distinct Principle in Nature for the Production of Evil as well as Good. And this hath been the Opinion of the Most and Wisest Men, some of them affirming *οὗτος ἐστιν ὁ θεὸς καὶ ὁ ἀπὸ τοῦ αἰθέρος*, that there are Two Gods as it were of Contrary Crafts and Trades, one whereof is the Maker of all Good, and the other of all Evil; but others calling the Good Principle only a God, and the Evil Principle a Demon, as Zoroaster the Magician. Besides which Zoroaster and the Persian Magi, Plutarch pretends that the Footsteps of this Opinion were to be found also in the Astrology of the Chaldeans, and in the Mysteries and Religious Rites, not only of the Egyptians, but also of the Grecians themselves; and lastly he particularly imputes the same, to all the most famous of the Greek Philosophers, as Pythagoras, Empedocles, Heraclitus, Anaxagoras, Plato and Aristotle; though his chiefest endeavour of all be to prove, that Plato was an Undoubted Champion for it; *ἀλλὰ ταῦτ' ἂν πλάτων ἐκ ἑκείνου τοῦ ἔργου, ὅτι παροδῶν, ὡς ἔκκειν, τὴν μεταξὺ τῆς ἀρχῆς καὶ τοῦ θεοῦ τελευτῶν ἀρχὴν καὶ δύναμιν, ὑπέμεινε τῷ λόγῳ. ὃ ἀποκρίτως ἐπισυνέειπεν ἐκ οὗτοιο πρῶτου, ὅτι κακὴν εἶπεν ἀπ' αὐτομάτου καὶ σημειώσας. Ἐπὶ τῷ μὲν γὰρ ὅτι ἀκαρεῖς ἐκείνου τὴν ἀπομὴν συζαρήσιν, ὡς ἀναπτύσσοντες ἐπισυνέειπεν κινῆσαι οὐκ ἔστι μὴ ὅπως, αὐτοῖς ὃ κακὴν καὶ κακοδαιμονίαν τοσούτων ἐπίρας τὴν ἐξ οὗτοιο σώματος μελέας ἀποτοπίας καὶ δυσχερείας, αὐτίαν οὐ τοῖς ἀρχαῖς καὶ ἐχέουσας, κατ' ἐπακολούθησιν μηχανῆσαι λόγον. ὃ πλάτων ἐκ' ἑαυτοῦ ἀλλὰ τὴν ὕλην διαφορῶς ἀπ' αὐτοῦ ἀπλάττειν, καὶ τὸ θεοῦ τὴν ἐκ' αὐτοῦ αὐτίαν ἀποβῆσαι πῶς ἔμελλεν. But Plato was not guilty of that Misfortune of Later Philosophers, in overlooking the Third Power which is between the Matter and God, and thereby falling into the Grosest of all Absurdities, That the Nature of Evils was but an Accidental Appendix to the World, and came into it merely by chance, no body knoweth how. So that those very Philosophers who will by no means allow to Epicurus, the Smallest Declension of his Atoms from the Perpendicular, alledging that this would be to introduce a Motion without a Cause, and to bring something out of Nothing; themselves do notwithstanding, suppose all that Vice and Misery which is in the World, besides innumerable other Absurdities and Inconveniences about Body, to have come into it, merely by Accidental Consequence, and without having any Cause in the First Principles. But Plato did not so, but devesting Matter of all Qualities and Differences, by means whereof, it could not possibly be made the Cause of Evils, and then placing God at the greatest distance from being the Cause thereof; he consequently resolved it into a Third Unmade Principle between God and the Matter, an Irrational Soul or Demon, moving the Matter disorderly.*

Now because *Plutarch's* Authority passeth so uncontrolled, and

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his Testimony in this particular seems to be of late generally received as an Oracle, and consequently the thing taken for an Unquestionable Truth, that the *Ditheistick Doctrine* of a *Good and Evil Principle*, was the Catholick or Universal Doctrine of the *Pagan Theists*, and particularly that *Plato*, above all the rest, was a Professed Champion for the same; we shall therefore make bold to examine *Plutarch's* Grounds for this so confident Assertion of his; and principally concerning *Plato*. And his Grounds for imputing this Opinion to *Plato*, are only these Three which follow. First, because that Philosopher in his *Politicus*, speaks of a *Necessary and Innate Appetite*, that may sometimes turn the Heavens a contrary way, and by that means cause Disorder and Confusion; Secondly because in his *Tenth De Legibus*, he speaks of *Two kinds of Souls*, whereof One is *Benevolent*, but the other *Contrary*; And Lastly, because in his *Timæus* he supposeth, the Matter to have been Moved disorderly before the World was made, which implies that there was a Disorderly and Irrational Soul consisting with it as the Mover of it, Matter being unable to move it self. But as to the First of these Allegations out of *Plato's Politicus*, we shall only observe, that that Philosopher, as if it had been purposely to prevent such an Interpretation of his meaning there as this of *Plutarch's*, inserts these very words; *μὴ γὰρ αὖτὸς τῆς Σελ., φησὶντα ἑαυτοῦς ἀσέβητα, σελῶν αὐτὸν*. Neither must any such thing be supposed, as if there were two Gods, contrarily minded to one another, turning the Heavens sometimes one way and sometimes another. Which plain declaration of *Plato's* Sense, being directly contrary to *Plutarch's* Interpretation, and this *Ditheistick Opinion*, might serve also for a sufficient Confutation of His Second Ground from the *Tenth De Legibus*, as if *Plato* had there affirmed, that there were *Two Souls* moving the Heavens, the One *Benevolent*, but the other *Contrary*; because this would be all one as to assert Two Gods, contrarily minded to one another. Notwithstanding which, for a fuller Answer thereunto, we shall further add, that this Philosopher, did there, First, only distribute Souls in General into Good and Evil, those Moral Differences Properly belonging to that rank of Beings called by him *Souls*, and first emerging in them, according to this Premised Doctrine, *τῇ ἀγαθῇ αἰτίᾳ ἢ ψυχῇ καὶ τῇ κακῇ, καὶ κακῇ καὶ ἀγαθῇ, διὰ τὸν τι καὶ ἀδικον*. Soul is the Cause of Good and Evil, Honest and Dishonest, Just and Unjust. But then afterwards, making Enquiry concerning the Soul of the World or Heaven, what kind of Soul that was, he positively concludes, that it was no other than a Soul endued with all Vertue. *ἀθ. ἐπὶ δὲ ψυχῇ μὲν οὖν ἡ ἀδιάσπαστος ἡμῶν πόλις, τῇ δὲ ἑκατὸν ἀσπαστὴν ἢ ἀνάγκης ἀσπαστὴν φανταί, ἑπταμελὲς μὲν καὶ κοσμοῦσαι, ἑπτα τὴν ἀέριον ψυχὴν ἑπτα τὴν ὁσέλιαν. κλ. α ἔστι, ἀλλὰ ἐν γὰρ τῇ ἀσπαστῇ ὅς' ὅσον ἑκάς λέγειν, ἢ πᾶσαν ἀρετὴν ἔχουσαν ψυχὴν μίαν ἢ πλείους ἀδιάσπαστον*. Ath. Hosp. Since it is Soul that moves all things, we must of necessity affirm, that the Heaven or World is moved by some Soul or other, adorning and disposing of it, whether it be the Best Soul, or the Contrary. Clin. O Hosps, it is certainly not Holy nor pious to conclude otherwise, than that a Soul endued with all Vertue, One or More, moves the World. And as for the last thing urged by *Plutarch*, that before the World was made, the

the Matter is said by *Plato*, to have been *Moved disorderly*, we conceive that that Philosopher did therein only adhere to that Vulgarly received Tradition, which was Originally Mosical, that the First beginning of the *Cosmogonia*, was from a *Chaos*, or *Matter confusedly moved*, afterward brought into Order. And now we think it plainly appears, that there is no strength at all in any of *Plutarch's* forementioned Allegations, nor any such Monster to be found any where in *Plato*, as this *Substantial Evil Principle* or *God*, a *Wicked Soul* or *Demon*, Unmade and Self-existent from Eternity, Opposite and Inimicus to the *Good God*, sharing the Empire and Dominion of the World with him. Which Opinion is really nothing else but the *Deifying of the Devil*, or *Prince of Evil Spirits*, making him a Corrival with God, and entitling him to a Right of receiving Divine Honour and Worship.

And it is observable, that *Plutarch* himself confesseth this Interpretation which he makes of *Plato*, to be *New* and *Paradoxical*, or an Invention of his own, *καὶ διὰ τὸ πλείους ἢ ἀπὸ Πλάτωνος ὑπαναίσταται, διόμορον παρεμβύλιας*, Such as because it was contrary to the Generally received Opinion of *Platonists*, himself thought to stand in need of some Apology and Defence. To which purpose therefore he adds again, *πρῶτον εἰ ἢ ἔχω ὧς ἐξ ὧν τάς τούτοις διανοίας, ὡς δὲ νομοῖμαι πρὸς ἐκείνην, καὶ παρεμβύλιας*, ὡς ἐστίν, τὸ ἀληθὲς τῷ λόγῳ, καὶ παρεδίδωμι. *I will* (saith he) *declare mine own Opinion first concerning these things, confirming it with Probabilities, and as much as possibly I can, aiding and assisting the Truth and Paradoxicalness thereof.* Moreover *Proclus* upon the *Timæus* takes notice of no other Philosophers, that ever imputed this Doctrine to *Plato*, or indeed maintained any such Opinion, of Two Substantial Principles of Good and Evil, but only *Plutarch* and *Atticus*; (though I confess *Chalcidius* cites *Numenius* also to the same purpose) *Proclus* his words are these: *οἱ μὲν ὧς ἐξ ἐκείνης πλάττειν τὴν κοσμίαν καὶ ἀσπί- νοτον, πρῶτον φασὶ τὴν ἀπερμήτοιν ὕλην πρὸ ὧς γενέσθαι, πρῶτον δὲ καὶ τὴν κακαράτην ψυχὴν τὴν τούτῳ κινῆσαν, πῶθεν γὰρ ἡ κίνησις ἦν, ἢ ἀπὸ τοῦ κακοῦ καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ καλοῦ, ἀπὸ ἀπερμήτου ψυχῆς.* *Plutarchus Cheronensis* and *Atticus* maintain, that before the Generation and Formation of the World, there was Unformed and disorderly Matter existing (from Eternity) together with a Maleficent Soul; for whence, say they, could that Motion of the Matter, in *Plato's* *Timæus*, procede, but from a Soul? and if it were a Disorderly Motion, it must then needs come from a Disorderly Soul. And as *Proclus* tells us, that this Opinion of theirs had been before confuted by *Porphyrus* and *Jamblichus*, as that which was both Irrational and Impious, so doth he there likewise himself briefly refel it in these Two Propositions; First, that *πᾶσα ψυχὴ θεοῦ ἐκ τῷ θεῷ, Every Soul is the Offspring of God*, and there can be no Soul nor any thing else, besides God Self-existing; and Secondly, *τὸ κακὸν διαμένει πῶς ὡς καὶ τὸ ἀγαθὸν ἄπειρον, ὅτι γὰρ ὁμοῦ μὲν τῷ θεῷ τὸ ἄδειον, εἴτε ἐκείνους ἀ- γνῶστον, εἴτε ὅπως αἰσθητοῦ μέρους.* *It is absurd to make Evil alike Eternal with Good, for that which is Godless cannot be of like honour with God, and equally Unmade, nor indeed can there be any thing at all, positively op- posite to God.*

But because it may probably be here demanded, What Account it was then possible for *Plato* to give, of the Original of Evils, so as not to impute them to God himself, if he neither derived them from *ὕλη ἀκαρπία*, *Unqualified Matter* (which *Plutarch* has plainly proved to be absurd) nor yet from a *ἄρρητος ἄνους*, an *Irrational and Malescent Soul of the World or Demon*, Self-existent from Eternity; we shall therefore hereunto briefly reply: That though that Philosopher derived not the Original of Evils, from *Unqualified Matter*, nor from a *Wicked Soul or Demon Unmade*, yet did he not therefore impute them to God neither, but as it seemeth, to the *Necessity of Imperfect Beings*. For as *Timæus Locutus* had before *Plato* determined, that the World was made by God and *Necessity*, so does *Plato* himself accordingly declare in his *Timæus*, ἐπὶ μιγαμμένῳ τῷδε τῷ ὕλῃ καὶ ὕλῃ, ἢ ἀνάγκῃ καὶ νόῳ, ὅτι ἀνάγκη καὶ νόος ἀνάγκη ἀρχαίος. That the Generation of this World is mixt and made up of a certain composition of Mind and *Necessity* both together, yet so as that Mind, doth also (in some sence) rule over *Necessity*. Wherefore though according to *Plato*, God be properly and directly the Cause of nothing else but Good, yet the *Necessity* of these *Lower Imperfect* things, does unavoidably give Being and Birth to Evils. For First, as to *Moral Evils*, (which are the Chiefest) there is a *Necessity* that there should be *Higher and Lower Inclinations* in all Rational Beings Vitally United to Bodies, and that as *Anteconsensum* or *Free-willed*, they should have a Power of determining themselves more or less, either way; as there is also a *Necessity*, that the same Liberty of Will (essential to Rational Creatures) which makes them capable of *Praise and Reward*, should likewise put them in a Possibility of *deserving Blame and Punishment*. Again, as to the Evils of Pain and Inconvenience; there seems to be a *Necessity*, that *Imperfect Terrestrial Animals*, which are capable of the Sense of Pleasure, should in contrary Circumstances (which will also sometimes happen, by reason of the Inconsistency and Impossibility of things) be obnoxious to Displeasure and Pain. And Lastly, for the Evils of Corruptions and Dissolutions; there is a plain *Necessity*, that if there be *Natural Generations* in the World, there should be also *Corruptions*; according to that of *Lucretius* before cited,

*Quando aliud ex alio reficit Natura, nec ullam
Rem gigni patitur, nisi Morte adjutam alienā.*

To all which may be added, according to the Opinion of many, That there is a kind of *Necessity* of some Evils in the World, for a Condiment (as it were) to give a Relish and *Haut-gout* to Good; since the Nature of *Imperfect Animals* is such, that they are apt to have but a Dull and Sluggish Sense, a Flat and Insipid Taste of Good, unless it be quickned and stimulated, heightened and invigorated, by being compared with the Contrary Evil. As also, that there seems to be a *Necessary Use* in the World of the κακά ἀνάγκη, those *Involuntary Evils* of Pain and Suffering, both for the Exercise of *Vertue*, and

and the Quickning and Exciting the *Activity* of the World, as also for the Repressing, Chastising and Punishing of those κακά ἐκείνα, those *Voluntary Evils of Vice and Action*. Upon which several accounts, probably, *Plato* concluded, that Evils could not be utterly destroyed, at least in this Lower World, which according to him, is the Region of Lapsed Souls: ἀλλ' ὅτ' ἀπολλέσθαι τὰ κακά δυνατόν ἔσται οὐδενί (ὁ πτωχὸς γὰρ τι τῶ ἀγαθῷ αἰεὶ ἔσται ἀνάγκη) ὅτ' οὐ θεὸς αὐτὰ ἰσχύσεται, τῷ δι' ἑαυτοῦ φέρεται, καὶ τὸν δὲ τὸ πῶς ὀφείλουσιν εἰς ἀνάγκη· διὰ παρεῖναι καὶ αἰσιν δαίμονας, φέροντες ὅτι τὰ κακά· φύγη δ' ὁ ἑμμελὶς θεὸς καὶ τὸ δυνατόν, ἐμμελὶς γάρ, ἡμεῖς καὶ ὅσοι μετὰ φρονήσεως γινώσκουσι. But it is neither possible (O Theodorus) That Evils should be quite destroyed (for there must be something always Contrary to Good) nor yet that they should be seated amongst the Gods, but they will of necessity infect this Lower Mortal Region and Nature. Wherefore we ought to endeavour to flee from hence, with all possible speed, and our flight from hence is this, to assimilate our selves to God as much as may be. Which Assimilation to God consisteth in being Just and Holy with Wisdom. Thus, according to the Sense of *Plato*, though God be the Original of all things, yet he is not to be accounted properly the Cause of Evils, at least Moral ones, (they being only Defects) but they are to be imputed to the Necessity of Imperfect Beings, which is that ἀνάγκη πολλὰ τῷ θεῷ δυσμαχεῖσθαι καὶ ἀρνησάμενα, That Necessity which doth often resist God, and as it were shake off his Bridle. Rational Creatures being by means thereof, in a Capability of acting contrary to God's Will and Law, as well as their own true Nature and Good; and other things hundred of that Perfection, which the Divine Goodness would else have imparted to them. Notwithstanding which, Mind, that is, God, is said also by *Plato*, to Rule over Necessity, because those Evils, occasioned by the Necessity of Imperfect Beings, are Over-ruled by the Divine Art, Wisdom and Providence, for Good; Typhon and Arimanius (if we may use that Language) being as it were Outwitted, by Osiris and Ormazdes, and the worst of all Evils made, in spite of their own Nature, to contribute subserviently to the Good and Perfection of the Whole; καὶ τὸ τοῦ μεγίστου τέχνης ἀγαθοποιῶν τὰ κακά, and this must needs be acknowledged to be the greatest Art of all, to be able to Bonifie Evils, or Tincture them with Good.

In Thales p. 1:6 line 6.

And now we have made it to appear (as we conceive) that *Plato* had no sufficient Grounds to impute this Opinion, of Two Active Perceptive Principles in the World, (one the Cause of Good and the other of Evil) to *Plato*. And as for the other Greek Philosophers, his Pretences to make them Assertors of the same Doctrine, seem to be yet more slight and frivolous. For he concludes the * Pythagoreans to have held Two such Substantial Principles of Good and Evil, merely because they sometimes talk of the ἀντιθέσεις and ἀντιστοιχίας, The Contrarieties and Conjugations of things, such as Finite and Infinite, Dextrous and Sinistrous, Even and Odd, and the like. As also that *Heraclitus* entertain'd the same Opinion, because he spake of a πᾶσι θεῶν ἀρμονία κόσμος, A Universal Harmony of the World, whereby things reciprocate forwards and backwards, as when a Bow is successively Intended

* Of the Pythagoreans it is said in Plato's Timæus, that they were the first who admitted Evil amongst the Principles. See in Aristotle's Metaphysics p. 1014.

tended and Remitted; as likewise because he affirmed, *All things to flow, and War to be the Father and Lord of all*. Moreover he resolves that *Empedocles his Friendship and Contentions* could be no other than a *Good and Evil God*; though we have rendred it probable, that nothing else was understood thereby, but an *Active Spermatick Power* in this Corporeal World, causing *Vicissitudes of Generation and Corruption*. Again *Anaxagoras* is entitled by him to the same Philosophy, for no other reason, but only because he made *Mind and Infinite Matter, Two Principles of the Universe*. And Lastly, *Aristotle* himself cannot scape him from being made an Assertor of a *Good and Evil God* too, merely because he concluded *Form and Privation*, to be *Two Principles of Natural Bodies*. Neither does *Plutarch* acquit himself anything better, as to the *Sege of Whole Nations*, when this Doctrine is therefore imputed by him to the *Chaldeans*, because their *Astrologers* supposed *Two of the Planets* to be *Beneficent, Two Malescent, and Three of a Middle Nature*; and to the ancient Greeks, because they sacrificed, not only to *Jupiter Olympius*, but also to *Hades or Pluto*, who was sometimes called by them the *Infernal Jupiter*. We confess that his Interpretation of the *Traditions and Myseries* of the ancient Egyptians is ingenious, but yet there is no necessity for all that, that by their *Typhon* should be understood a *Substantial Evil Principle*, or *God Self-existent*, as he contends. For it being the manner of the ancient Pagans, (as shall be more fully declared afterwards) to *Physiologize* in their *Theology*, and to *Personate* all the several *Things* in Nature; it seems more likely, that these Egyptians did after that manner, only *περσωνεύον*, *Personate* that *Evil and Confusion, Tumult and Hurliburly, Constant Alternation and Vicissitude of Generations and Corruptions*, which is in this Lower World, (though not without a Divine Providence) by *Typhon*.

Wherefore the only Probability now left, is that of the *Persian Magi*, that they might indeed assert *Two such Active Principles of Good and Evil*, as *Plutarch* and the *Manicheans* afterwards did; and we must confess, that there is some Probability of this, because besides *Plutarch*, *Laertius* affirms the same of them, δύο κατ' αὐτὸς εἶναι ἀρχαί, ἀγαθὴν δαίμονα καὶ κακὴν, *That there are Two Principles according to the Persian Magi, a Good Demon and an Evil one*; he seeming to Vouch it also from the Authorities of *Hermippus, Endoxus* and *Theopompus*. Notwithstanding which, it may very well be Questioned, whether the meaning of those *Magi*, were not herein misunderstood, they perhaps intending nothing more by their *Evil Demon*, than such a *Satanical Power* as we acknowledge, that is, not a *Substantial Evil Principle, unmade and Independent upon God*, but only a *Polity of Evil Demons* in the World, united together under One Head or Prince. And this not only because *Theodorus in Photius*, calls the Persian *Arimanius*, by that very name, *Satanas*; but also because those very Traditions of theirs, recorded by *Plutarch* himself, seem very much to favour this Opinion, they running after this manner; ἐπὶ τῷ χρόνῳ ἑκατέρωθεν, ὡς ὅτι ἡρεμάδιον λοιμὸν ἐπαγγέλλεται καὶ λιμὸν, ὅπου τότε αὐτὸν φανερὸν παντάπασιν ἐφαίνεσθαι, ὅτι ὁ γὰρ ἐπὶ

πίδα ἐν ὁμοῦν ἡμετέρας, ἕνα βίον ἐν μίαν πολιτείαν ἀνθρώπων μακάρεων ἐν ἁμογλώσσῳ ἀπὸντων ἡμετέρας. That there is a Fatal time at hand, in which Arimanius, the Introducer of Plagues and Famines, must of necessity be utterly destroyed, and when, the Earth being made plain and equal, there shall be but one Life, and one Polity of men, all happy and speaking the same Language. Or else as Theopompus himself represented their fience, τέλος ἀπαλειπεῖσθαι τὸ Ἄδ'ω, ἐν τῷ μὲν αὐτῶντος ἐξολομῶας ἔσθαι, μὴ τεραφῆς διαμῆρας, μὴ σκίαν πύστας. τὸ δὲ τὰυτὰ μηχανισμὸν θῶν ἡμετέρας ἐν ἀναπαύεσθαι χεῖρα καλῶς μὲν ἂ πολλὸν τῷ θεῷ, ἔσθ' ἀνδραποῖ κοίμαμεν μῆτερον, That in conclusion, Hades shall be utterly abolished, and then men shall be perfectly happy, their Bodies neither needing food, nor casting any shadow. That God, which contrived this whole Scene of things, resting only for the present a certain season, which is not long to him, but like the intermission of sleep to men. For since an Unmade and Self-existent Evil Demon, such as that of Plutarch's and the Manicheans, could never be utterly abolished or destroyed; it seems rather probable, that these Persian Magi did, in their Arimanius, either προσωποποιῶν, personate Evil only, as we suppose the Egyptians to have done in Typhon; or else understand a Satanical Power by it: notwithstanding which, they might possibly sacrifice thereunto (as the Greeks did to Evil Demons) for its Appeasement and Mitigation; or else as worshipping the Deity it self, in the Ministers of its Wrath and Vengeance.

However, from what hath been declared, we conceive it does sufficiently appear, that this *Dittheistick Doctrine* of a Good and Evil God, (or a Good God and Evil Demon both Self-existent) asserted by Plutarch and the Manicheans, was never so universally received amongst the Pagans, as the same Plutarch pretendeth. Which thing may be yet further evidenced from hence, because the Manicheans professed themselves not to have derived this Opinion from the Pagans, nor to be a Subdivision under them, or Schism from them, but a quite different Sect by themselves. Thus *Faustus* in St. Augustine: *Pagani Bona & Afala, Tetra & Splendida, Perpetua & Caduca, Astabilia & Certa, Corporalia & Divina, Unum habere Principium dogmatizant. His ego valde contraria censeo, qui Bonis omnibus Principium fateor Deum, Contrariis verd' Hylem (sic enim Mali Principium & Naturam Theologus noster appellat.)* The Pagans dogmatize, that Good and Evil things, Four and Splendid, Perishing and Perpetual, Corporal and Divine, do all alike procede from the same Principle. Whereas we think far otherwise, that God is the Principle of all Good, but Hyle (or the Evil Demon) of the contrary, which names our Theologer (Manes) confounds together. And afterwards *Faustus* there again determines, that there were indeed but Two Sects of Religion in the World, really distinct from one another, viz. *Paganism* and *Manicheism*. From whence it may be concluded, that this Doctrine, of Two Active Principles of Good and Evil, was not then look'd upon, as the Generally received Doctrine of the Pagans. Wherefore it seems reasonable to think, that Plutarch's imputing it so Universally to them, was either out of Design, thereby to gain the better countenance and authority, to a Conceit which himself was fond of; or else because he be-

Centra Faust.
Lib. 20. c. 3.

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and another *Evil Soul of the World*) to be no Self-existent Deities, but *Dei Genetoi*, *Generated or Created Gods* only. And the same is to be affirmed of all his Pagan Followers, as also of the Manichæans, forasmuch as they, besides their Good and Evil God (the only Unmade Self-existent Beings acknowledged by them) worshipped also Innumerable other Deities.

Hitherto we have not been able to find amongst the Pagans, any who asserted a *Multitude of Unmade Self-existent Deities*, but on the contrary we shall now find One, who took notice of this Opinion of πολλὰ ἀρχαί, *Many Principles*, so far forth as to confute it, and that is *Aristotle*, who was not occasioned to do that neither, because it was a Doctrine then Generally Received, but only because he had a mind, odiously to impute such a thing to the Pythagoreans and Platonists, they making *Idea's* (sometimes called also *Numbers*) in a certain sence, the Principles of things. Nevertheless the Opinion itself is well confuted by that Philosopher, from the *Phænomena* after this manner: οἱ ἡλιεῖς καὶ ἄλλοι πρῶτοι καὶ μαθηματικοὶ, καὶ ἄλλοι ἀριθμοὶ εἰσὶν ἀρχαὶ ἡμετέρας ἐκείνης ἀνάγκης, ἐκπεσόντων τὴν τῶ πάντων εἰς αὐτὴν πύξιν. *They who say that Mathematical Number is the First, and suppose one Principle of one thing, and another of another, would make the whole World to be like an incoherent and disagreeing Poem, where things do not all mutually contribute to one another, nor conspire together to make up one Sence and Harmony; But the contrary (saith he) is most evident in this World; and therefore their cannot be Many Principles, but only One.* From whence it is manifest, that though *Aristotle* were a Worshipper of *Many Gods*, as well as the other Pagans, (he somewhere representing it as very absurd to Sacrifice to none but *Jupiter*) yet he was no *Polytheist*, in the sence before declared, of many *Unmade Self-existent Deities*, nor indeed any *Ditheist* neither, no assertor of *Two Understanding Principles*, a *Good and Evil God*, (as *Plutarch* pretended him to be) he not only hete exploding that Opinion of πολλὰ ἀρχαί, *Many Principles*, but also exprelly detiving all from *One*, and in that very Chapter affirming, that *Good* is a *Principle*, but not *Evil*. But as for the Platonists and Pythagoreans there perstringed by him, though it be true that they made *Idea's* in some sence Principles, as the Paradigms of things, yet according to *Aristotle's* own Confession, even in that same Chapter, they declared also, that there was ἀνα ἀρχὴν νοητέραν, *another Principle more excellent or Superiour*, which is indeed that that was called by them the τὸ ἐν, or *μονάς*, *Unity it self* or a *Monad*, that is, *One most Simple Deity*.

Though we did before demonstrate, that the *Pagan Gods* were not all supposed by them to be *Unmade Self-existent Beings*, because they acknowledged a *Theogonia*, a *Generation and Temporary Production of Gods*; yet forasmuch as it might be suspected, that they held notwithstanding a *Multitude of Unmade Deities*, we have now made the best Enquiry that we could concerning this, and the utmost that we have been able yet to discover is, that some few of the Professed Pagans, as well as of pretended Christians, have indeed asserted a

Duplicity

Duplicity of such Gods (viz. Understanding Beings Unmade) one Good and the other Evil, but no more. Whereas on the contrary we have found, that *Aristotle* did professedly oppose, this Opinion of *Many Principles*, or *Unmade Gods*, which certainly he durst never have done, had it then been the Generally received Opinion of the Pagans. And though it be true, that several of the Ancient Christians, in their Disputes with Pagans, do confute that Opinion of *Many Unmade Deities*, yet we do not find for all that, that any of them seriously charge the Pagans with it, they only doing it occasionally and *ex abundantia*. But we should be the better enabled, to make a clear Judgment concerning this Controversie, whether there were not amongst the *Pagan Deities*, a *Multitude of Supposed Unmade Beings*; if we did but take a short survey of their Religion, and consider all the several kinds of Gods worshipped by them; which may, as we conceive, be reduced to these following Heads. In the First place therefore it is certain, that Many of the Pagan Gods, were nothing else but *Dead Men* (or the Souls of Men Deceased) called by the Greeks *Heroes*, and the Latines *Manes*, such as *Hercules*, *Liber*, *Æsculapius*, *Castor*, *Pollux*, *Quirinus*, and the like. Neither was this only true of the Greeks and Romans, but also of the Egyptians, Syrians and Babylonians. For which cause the Pagan Sacrifices, are by way of contempt in the Scripture called, the *Sacrifices of the Dead*, that is, not of *Dead or Lifeless Statues*, as some would put it off, but of *Dead Men*, which was the reason, why many of the Religious Rites and Solemnities, observed by the Pagan Priests; were *Mournful and Funeral*; accordingly as it is expressed in *Ezechiel* concerning the Babylonians, *The Priests sit in their Temples having their clothe rent, and their heads and beards shaven, and nothing upon their heads; They rore and cry before their Gods, as men do at the Feast, when one is dead.* (Some of which Rites, are therefore thought to have been Interdicted to the Israelitish Priests.) And the same thing is noted likewise by the Poet concerning the Egyptians,

Chap. 6. v. 31.

Et quem tu plangens, Hominem testaris, Osirin :

And intimated by *Xenophanes* the Colophonian, when he reprehensively admonished the Egyptians after this manner, *ἂν θεῶν νομίζον μὴ θέναν, ἢ ὃ θέναν μὴ θεῶν νομίζῃν*, *That if they thought those to be Gods, they should not so lament them, but if they would lament them, they should no longer think them Gods.* Moreover it is well known, that this Humour of Deifying Men, was afterwards carried on further, and that Living Men (as Emperors) had also Temples and Altars, erected to them; Nay Humane *Polities and Cities*, were also sometimes Deified by the Pagans, *Rome* it self being made a *Goddeß*. Now no man can imagine that those *Men-gods* and *City-gods*, were look'd upon by them, as so many *Unmade Self-existent Deities*, they being not indeed so much as *θεοὶ φύσιν θεοὶ*, *Gods Made or Generated by Nature*, but rather Artificially Made, by Humane Will and Pleasure. Again, Another sort of the *Pagan Deities*, were all the *Greater Parts* of the Visible Mundane System; or Corporeal World, as supposed to be Animated,

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The Sun, the Moon and the Stars, and even the Earth it self, under the Names of *Vesta*, and *Cybele*, the *Mother of the Gods*, and the like. Now it is certain also, that none of these could be taken for Unmade Self-existent Deities neither, by those who supposed the whole World it self to have been *Generated*, or had a *Beginning*, which as *Aristotle* tells us, was the Generally received Opinion before his time. There was also a *Third Sort* of Pagan Deities, *Ethereal* and *Aerial Animals* Invisible, called *Demons*, *Genii* and *Lares*, Superiour indeed to Men, but Inferiour to the *Celestial* or *Mundane Gods* before mentioned. Wherefore these must needs be look'd upon also by them but as *ὑποτάκτοι θεοί*, *Generated or Created Gods*, they being but certain Inferiour Parts of the whole Generated World.

Besides all these, the Pagans had yet another *Sort of Gods*, that were nothing but mere *Accidents* or *Affections* of *Substances*, which therefore could not be supposed by them to be *Self-existent Deities*, because they could not so much as *Subsist* by themselves. Such as were, *Virtue*, *Piety*, *Felicity*, *Truth*, *Faith*, *Hope*, *Justice*, *Clemency*, *Love*, *Desire*, *Health*, *Peace*, *Honour*, *Fame*, *Liberty*, *Memory*, *Sleep*, *Night*, and the like; all which had their Temples or Altars erected to them. Now this kind of *Pagan Gods*, cannot well be conceived to have been any thing else, but the *Several and Various Manifestations* of that *One Divine Force*, *Power* and *Providence* that runs through the *Whole World* (as respecting the *Good* and *Evil* of Men) *Falsitiously Personated*, and so represented as so *Many Gods* and *Godesses*.

Lastly, There is still *Another kind of Pagan Gods* behind, having *Substantial* and *Personal Names*, which yet cannot be conceived neither to be so many *Understanding Beings*, *Unmade*, and *Independent* upon any *Supreme*, were it for no other reason but only this, because they have all of them their *Particular Places* and *Provinces*, *Offices* and *Functions* severally (as it were) assigned to them, and to which they are confined; so as not to interfere and clash with one another, but agreeably to make up one *Orderly* and *Harmonious System* of the *Whole*; One of those Gods ruling only in the *Heavens*, Another in the *Air*, Another in the *Sea*, and Another in the *Earth* and *Hell*; One being the *God or Goddess of Learning and Wisdom*, Another of *Speech* and *Eloquence*, Another of *Justice* and *Political Order*; One the *God of War*, Another the *God of Pleasure*, One the *God of Corn*, and Another the *God of Wine*, and the like. For how can it be conceived, that a Multitude of *Understanding Beings* *Self-existent* and *Independent*, could thus of themselves have fallen into such a *Uniform Order* and *Harmony*, and without any *clashing*, *peaceably* and *quietly* sharing the *Government* of the whole World amongst them, should carry it on with such a *Constant Regularity*? For which Cause we conclude also, that neither those *Dii Majorum Gentium*, whether the *Twenty Selecti*, or the *Twelve Consentes*, nor yet that *Triniviriate* of Gods, amongst whom *Homer* shares the *Government* of the whole World, according to that of *Μακρίμης Τυρίης*, τὰ μὲν ὁμοῖα διδασκεῖ τὰ δὲ ἄλλα, ποιεῖ δὲ μὴ ὁμοῖα, τὰ μὲν ἅλα τοῦ μὲν αἰεὶ, ἁδὲν δὲ ὁμοῖα ζῶον ἡρέβ- Diff. 16.

εἶτα, καὶ τὸ ἕρπον, *The Sea being assigned to Neptune, the Dark and Subterraneous Parts to Pluto, but the Heaven to Jupiter, which Three are sometimes called also the Celestial, Marine, and Terrestrial Jupiter*; Nor lastly, that other *Roman and Samothracian Trinity of Gods*, worshipped all together in the Capitol, *Jupiter, Minerva and Juno*; I say, that none of all these could reasonably be thought by the Pagans themselves, to be so many really distinct, *Unmade, and Self-existent Deities*.

Wherefore the Truth of this whole business seems to be this, that the ancient Pagans did *Physologize* in their *Theology*, and whether looking upon the *Whole World Animated*, as the *Supreme God*, and consequently the *Several Parts* of it, as his *Living Members*, or else apprehending it at least to be a *Mirror*, or *Visible Image* of the *Invisible Deity*, and consequently all its *Several Parts*, and *Things of Nature*, but so many *Several Manifestations* of the *Divine Power* and *Providence*, they pretended, that all their Devotion towards the Deity, ought not to be Huddled up in one General and Confused Acknowledgment, of a *Supreme Invisible Being*, the *Creator and Governour* of all, but that all the *Several Manifestations* of the *Deity* in the *World*, considered singly and apart by themselves, should be made so many *Distinct Objects* of their Devout Veneration; and therefore in order hereunto did they *προσωποποιῶν, speak of the things in Nature, and the Parts of the World, as Persons*, and consequently as so many *Gods and Goddesses*; yet so, as that the Intelligent might easily understand the Meaning, that these were all really nothing else, but so many *Several Names and Notions*, of that *One Numen, Divine Force and Power*, which runs through the whole *World*, multiformly displaying it self therein. To this purpose *Balbus in Cicero, Videtisne ut à Physicis rebus, tracta Ratio sit ad Commentitios & Fictos Deos?* See you not how from the *Things of Nature*, *Fictitious Gods* have been made? And *Origen* seems to insist upon this very thing, (where *Celsus* upbraids the *Jews and Christians* for worshipping *One only God*) shewing that all that seeming Multiplicity of *Pagan Gods*, could not be understood of so *Many Distinct Substantial Independent Deities*; *Θηκύντο τῶν πῶς αὐτῶς δυνάται ἀφαιρῶνται τὸ πλῆθος τῶν καὶ ἑλληνικῶν θεῶν, ἢ τῶν λοιπῶν βαρβάρων. Διουόντο ὑπὸ τῶν ἑλλάνων μινυμένων ἡρώων ἀπὸ αὐτῶς τῶς μύθου, ἢ ὁρίσθη τῶς ὀνόμα, ἢ τῶς χάριτες αὐτῶν γυνάως ἀφαιρῶνται δύνασθαι κατ' ἑλάν ὑπὸ τῶν ἑλλάνων, ἀλλ' ὁ διουόνται τὰ ἑλλάνων ἀσκηλῶματα (σωματοποιῶν) διουόντα ἀπὸ τῶν πραγμάτων) ἀφαιρῶνται οὕτως. To this Sence; Let *Celsus* therefore himself shew, how he is able to make out a Multiplicity of *Gods* (Substantial and Self-existent) according to the *Greeks* and other *Barbarian Pagans*; let him declare the *Essence* and *Substantial Personality* of that *Memory* which by *Jupiter* generated the *Muses*, or of that *Themis* which brought forth the *Hours*; Or let him shew how the *Graces* always *Naked* do subsist by themselves. But he will never be able to do this, nor to make it appear that those *Figments of the Greeks* (which seem to be really nothing else but the *Things of Nature* turned into *Persons*) are so many distinct (Self-existent) *Deities*. Where the latter Words are thus rendred in a Late Edition; Sed nunquam poterit (Celsus) Græcorum Figmenta, quæ validiora fieri videntur, ex rebus ipsis*

the Deity presiding over it, Aphrodite or Venus. And lastly, in the same manner, by the *Muses*, they signified both those Rational Arts, Rhetorick, Astronomy, Poetry, and the Goddesses which assist therein or promote the same. Now as the several Things in Nature and Parts of the Corporeal World, are thus Metonymically and Catacrestically, called Gods and Goddesses, it is evident, that such Deities as these, could not be supposed to be *Unmade* or *Self-existent*, by those who acknowledged the whole World to have been Generated and had a Beginning. But as these Names were used more Properly, to signify Invisible and Understanding Powers, Presiding over the Things in Nature, and Dispensing of them, however they have an appearance of so many several distinct Deities, yet they seem to have been all really nothing else, but as *Balbus* in *Cicero* expresses it, *Deus Pertinens per Naturam cujusque Rei*, God passing through, and acting in the Nature of every thing, and consequently, but several Names, or so many Different Notions and Considerations of that One Supreme Numen, that Divine Force, Power, and Providence, which runs through the whole World, as variously Manifesting it self therein.

Wherefore, since there were no other Kinds of Gods amongst the Pagans, besides these already enumerated, unless their Images, Statues and Symbols should be accounted such (because they were also sometimes Abusively called Gods) which could not be supposed by them to have been *Unmade* or without a Beginning, they being the Workmanship of mens own hands; We conclude universally, that all that Multiplicity of Pagan Gods, which makes so great a show and noise, was really either nothing but Several Names and Notions of One Supreme Deity, according to its different Manifestations, Gifts and Effects in the World, Personated; or else Many Inferiour Understanding Beings, Generated or Created by One Supreme: so that One *Unmade Self-existent Deity*, and no more, was acknowledged by the more Intelligent of the ancient Pagans, (for of the Sottish Vulgar no man can pretend to give an account, in any Religion) and consequently, the Pagan Polytheism (or Idolatry) consisted not, in worshipping a Multiplicity of *Unmade Minds*, Deities and Creators Self-existent from Eternity and Independent upon One Supreme; but in Mingling and Blending, some way or other unduly, *Creature-worship*, with the *Worship of the Creator*.

And that the ancient Pagan Theists thus acknowledged One Supreme God, who was the only *Deus a se ipso*, *Unmade* or *Unproduced Deity*, (I say, Theists, because those amongst the Pagans, who admitted of Many Gods, but none at all *Unmade*, were absolute Atheists) this may be undeniably concluded from what was before proved, that they acknowledged Omnipotence or Infinite Power, to be a Divine Attribute. Because upon the Hypothesis of Many *Unmade Self-existent Deities*, it is plain that there could be none Omnipotent, and consequently no such thing as Omnipotence in rerum natura: and therefore Omnipotence was rightly and properly styled by *Macrobius*, *Summi Dei Omnipotentia*, it being an Attribute Essentially Peculiar, to One Supreme, and Sole Self-existent Deity. And

Simplicius

simplicius likewise a Pagan, confuted the Manichean Hypothesis of Two Self-existent Deities from hence also, because it destroyed Omnipotence: ἀνακρίζονται δυσλόγητες τῇ ὅλῃ ἀρχῇ (τὴν ἀγαθὴν καὶ τὸ κακόν) καὶ τὸ ἀγαθὸν παρ' αὐτῆς λεγόμενον εἶναι, μὴ τι πάμπαν αἶνον λέγει, μὴδὲ ὡς παύοντες δύνατος ἀνυμνεῖν, μὴδὲ δδισαμεν αὐτὰ τὴν ἀκροβάτην καὶ ὅλῃ ἀναθίσκειναι, ἀλλὰ τὸ ἡμισὶ τ' ὅλης δυνάμεως, ὡς ἄρα καὶ τὸτο· For they who assert Two Principles of the Universe (One Good, the other Evil) are necessitated to grant, that the Good Principle called by them God, is not the Cause of all things, neither can they praise it as Omnipotent, nor ascribe a Perfect and Whole Entire Power to it, but only the Half of a Whole Power at most, if so much. Over and besides all which, it hath been also proved already, that the ancient Atheists under Paganism, directed themselves principally, against the Opinion of Monarchy, or of One Supreme Deity ruling over all; from whence it plainly appears, that it was then asserted by the Pagan Theists.

And we think it here observable, that this was a thing so generally confessed and acknowledged, that *Fauslus* the Manichean, took up this Conceit, that both the Christians and Jews Paganized in the Opinion of Monarchy, that is, derived this Doctrine of One Deity, the Sole Principle of all things, only by Tradition from the Pagans, and by consequence were no other than Schisms or Subdivided Sects of Paganism. Vos desciscetes à Gentibus (saith he) Monarchiæ Opinionem primò vobiscum divulgastis, id est, ut Omnia credatis ex Deo. Estis jam Schisma, necnon & Priores vestri Judei. De Opinione Monarchiæ, in nullo etiam ipsi dissentiant à Paganis. Quare constat Vos atque Judeos, Schisma esse Gentililitatis. Sectas autem si queras, non plus erunt quàm Duæ, Gentium & Nostra. Thou revolting from the Gentiles, broke off their Opinion of Monarchy, and carried it along with you, so as to believe all things to come from God. Wherefore you are really nothing but a Schism of Paganism, or a Subdivided Branch of it, and so are your Predecessors the Jews; who differ nothing from Pagans neither, in this Opinion of Monarchy. Whence it is manifest, that both Christians and Jews are but Schisms of Gentilism. But as for Sects of Religion, really differing from another, there are but these Two, That of the Pagans, and That of ours, who altogether dissent from them. Now though this be false and foolish, as to the Christians and Jews, deriving that Opinion of Monarchy, only by way of Tradition, from the Pagans, which is a thing founded in the Principles of Nature; yet it sufficiently shews, this to have been the General Sense of the Pagans, that all their Gods were derived from One Sole Self-existent Deity; so that they neither acknowledged a Multitude of Unmade Deities, nor yet that Duplicity of them, which *Plutarch* contended for, (One Good and the Other Evil) who accordingly, denied God to be the Cause of all Things, writing thus in his Defect of Oracles, οἱ μὲν ὁμῶς ἀπλῶς τ' εἶναι, οἱ δ' ὁμῶς τι πάλιν αἶνον τοιοῦτος, ἀσχετὸν τῷ μὲν καὶ τῷ ἄλλῳ, They are guilty of one-Extreme, who make God the Cause of Nothing, and they of another, who make him the Cause of all things. But this Paradox, was both late started amongst the Greeks, and quickly cried down by the Succession of their Philosophers, and therefore prejudiceth not the Truth of *Fauslus* his

L. 20. cap. 10.

General Assertion, concerning the Pagans. Which is again fully confirmed, by St. Austin in his Reply; *Siquis ita dividat, ut dicat eorum quæ aliquâ Religione detinentur, Aliis placere Unum Deum colendum, Aliis Multos; per hanc differentiam & Pagani à nobis Remoti sunt, & Manichei cum Paganiis deputantur, nos autem cum Judeis. Hic fortè dicatis, quòd Multos Deos Vestros, ex Una Substantia perhibetis; Quasi Pagani Multos suos, non ex Una asserant, quamvis diversa illis Officia, & Opera, & Potestates illis attribuant; sicut etiam apud vos, Alius Deus expugnat Gentem Tenebrarum, Alius ex eâ captivâ fabricat Mandum, &c. If one should make another Distribution of Religions, into such as Worship either One God, or Many Gods; according to this Division the Pagans will be removed from us Christians, and joyned with the Manicheans. But perhaps you will here say, that all your Many Gods are derived from One Substance, as if the Pagans did not also derive all their Gods from One, though attributing several Offices, Works and Powers to them; in like manner as amongst you, One God expugns the Nation of Darknes, Another God makes a World out of it, &c. And again afterwards he writes further to the same purpose; *Discat ergò Faustus Monarchie Opinionem, non ex Gentibus nos habere, sed Gentes non usque aded ad Falsos Deos esse dilapsas, ut Opinionem amitterent Unius Veri Dei, ex quo est Omnis qualiscunque Natura: Les Faustus therefore know, that We Christians have not derived the Opinion of Monarchy from the Pagans, but that the Pagans have not so far degenerated, sinking down into the Worship of false Gods, as to have lost the Opinion of One True God, from whom is all whatsoever Nature.**

S. Aug. contra
Jansen. l. 20.
c. 15.

XIV. It follows from what we have declared, that the Pagan Polytheism or Multiplicity of Gods, is not to be understood in the sense before expressed, of *Many Gods* ἀπὸ πολλῶν θεῶν, ἀνεκδιαιρέτων, *Many Unproduced and Self-existent Deities*, but according to some other Notion or Equivocation of the word Gods. For God is, ὁ πῶμαχος ἀνθρώπων, one of those words that hath been used in many different senses, the Atheists themselves acknowledging a God and Gods, according to some Private Senses of their own, (which yet they do not all agree in neither) and Theists not always having the same Notion of that Word: Forasmuch as Angels in Scripture are called Gods in one sense, that is, as *Understanding Beings* Superiour to men, Immortal, Holy and Happy; and the word is again sometimes carried down lower to Princes and Magistrates; and not only so, but also to Good men as such, when they are said to be *Made Partakers of the Divine Nature*. And thus that learned Philosopher and Christian Boethius, *Omnis Beatus Deus; sed Natura quidem Unus, Participatione verò nihil prohibet esse plurimos*, every Good and Happy man is a God, and though there be only One God, by Nature, yet nothing hinders but that there may be Many by Participation. But then again all Men and Angels are alike denied to be Gods in other Respects, and particularly, as to Religious Worship. *Thou shalt Worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou Serve.* Now this is that, which seems to be Essentially included in the Pagan Notion of the word God or Gods, when taken in general, namely, a Respect to Religious Worship. Wherefore a God in general according to the sense of the Pagan Theists, may be thus defined, *An Understanding*

derstanding Being superiour to Men, not originally derived from Senseless Matter, and look'd upon as an Object for mens Religious Worship. But this general Notion of the word God, is again restrained and limited, by Differences, in the Division of it. For such a God as this, may be either ἀγέννητος, Ingenerate or Unproduced, and consequently Self-existent; or else γεννητός, Generated or Produced, and Dependent on some Higher Being as its Cause. In the former sence, the Intelligent Pagans, as we have declared, acknowledged only One God, who was therefore called by them ὁ Θεός κατ' ἰσονομίαν, according to that of Thales in Laertius, πρῶτος οὗτος ὁ θεός, ἀγέννητος γὰρ. God is the oldest of all things, because he is Unmade or Unproduced, and the only thing that is so: but in the latter, they admitted of Many Gods, Many Understanding Beings, which, though Generated or Produced, yet were Superiour to Men, and look'd upon as Objects for their Religious Worship. And thus the Pagan Theists were both Polytheists and Monotheists in different Sences, they acknowledged both Many Gods and One God; that is, Many Inferiour Deities, subordinate to One Supreme. Thus Onatus the Pythagorean in Stobæus declares himself, δοῦναι δέ μοι, ἔστι μὴ ὅς ἐστιν ὁ θεός, ἀλλ' ὅς ἐστιν ὁ μέγιστος, καὶ καθ' ὑπερίκειν, καὶ ὁ κρατίστος τῶν πάντων. οἷός ἐστιν ἄλλοι πολλοὶ διαφύρεσθαι κατ' δύναμιν, βασιλεύει δὲ πάντων αὐτῷ ὁ κατὰ καὶ μέγιστος καὶ ἀρετὰ μέγιστος. ὅτι καὶ ἐν ᾧ ὁ θεὸς ἔχει τὴν σύμπαυσιν κόσμου. τοὶ δ' ἄλλοι οἱ θεοὶ ἐν κατ' ἑκάστῳ, οὗν τὸ πᾶν τὸ θεῶν αἰσῶν, κατ' λόγον ὑποδείκνυται, τῷ πρώτῳ καὶ νοτιῷ. It seemeth to me that there is not only One God, but that there is One the Greatest and Highest God, that governeth the whole World, and that there are Many other Gods, besides him differing as to power, that One God reigning over them all, who surmounts them all, in Power, Greatness and Vertue. This is that God, who contains and comprehends the whole World; but the other Gods, are those who together with the Revolution of the Universe, orderly follow that First and Intelligible God. Where it is evident, that Onatus his πολλοὶ θεοὶ or Many Gods, were only the Heavenly Bodies, or Animated Stars. And partly, from those words cited, but chiefly others which follow after in the same place, (that will be produced elsewhere) it plainly appears, that in Onatus his time, there were some who acknowledged One Only God, denying all those other Gods, then commonly Worshipped. And indeed Anaxagoras, seems to have been such a one; so far as much as asserting One Perfect Mind Ruling over all, (which is the True Deity) he effectually degraded all those other Pagan Gods, the Sun, Moon and Stars from their Godships, by making the Sun nothing but a Globe of Fire, and the Moon Earth and Stones, and the like of the other Stars and Planets. And some such there were also amongst the Ancient Egyptians, as shall be declared in due place. Moreover Proclus upon Plato's Timæus tells us, that there hath been always less doubt and controversie in the World concerning the One God, than concerning the Many Gods. Wherefore Onatus here declares his own sence, as to this particular, viz. that besides the One Supreme God, there were also Many other Inferiour Deities, that is, Understanding Beings, that ought to be Religiously Worshipped.

But because it is not impossible, but that there might be imagin'd One Supreme Deity, though there were many other Deities ἀγέννητοι Unmade

made and Self-existent Gods besides, as Plutarch supposed before, One Supreme God, together with a $\psi\chi\eta\ \acute{\alpha}\nu\epsilon\varsigma$, an Irrational Soul or Daemon Unmade Inferiour in power to it; therefore we add in the next place, that the more Intelligent Pagans, did not only assert One God that was Supreme and $\kappa\epsilon\gamma\tau\iota\sigma\tau\epsilon\varsigma\ \pi\acute{\alpha}\nu\tau\omega\upsilon$, the most Powerful of all the Gods, but also who being Omnipotent, was the Principle and Cause of all the rest, and therefore the only $\Theta\epsilon\acute{\iota}\varsigma\ \acute{\alpha}\gamma\gamma\epsilon\iota\lambda\acute{\omicron}\varsigma\ \kappa\epsilon\ \alpha\upsilon\tau\omicron\upsilon\tau\omicron\pi\acute{\iota}\sigma\tau\omicron\varsigma$, the only Unproduced and Self-existent Deity. Maximus Tyrius affirms this to have been the general sence of all the Pagans, that there was, $\Theta\epsilon\acute{\iota}\varsigma\ \acute{\epsilon}\varsigma\ \pi\acute{\alpha}\nu\tau\omega\upsilon\ \beta\alpha\sigma\iota\lambda\acute{\epsilon}\varsigma\ \kappa\epsilon\ \pi\acute{\alpha}\tau\epsilon\rho\varsigma\ \kappa\epsilon\ \theta\epsilon\iota\omega\iota\ \pi\alpha\lambda\lambda\omicron\iota$, $\Theta\epsilon\acute{\iota}\varsigma\ \pi\alpha\upsilon\delta\iota\varsigma$, $\sigma\upsilon\upsilon\alpha\gamma\chi\omicron\iota\sigma\tau\epsilon\varsigma\ \theta\epsilon\acute{\omega}\nu$, One God the King and Father of all, and many Gods, the Sons of God, reigning together with God. Neither did the Poets imply anything less, when $\tau\acute{\omicron}\varsigma\ \delta\epsilon\acute{\iota}\varsigma$ was so often called by the Greeks and Jupiter by the Latins $\pi\acute{\alpha}\tau\epsilon\rho\ \acute{\alpha}\nu\theta\rho\omega\pi\iota\tau\omicron\upsilon\ \delta\iota\acute{\omega}\tau\iota$, and *Hominum Pater atq; Deorum*, or *Hominum Satorque Deorum*, and the like. And indeed the Theogonia of the ancient Pagans before mention'd, was commonly thus declared by them universally, $\eta\mu\acute{\iota}\nu\epsilon\varsigma\ \tau\acute{\omicron}\varsigma\ \delta\epsilon\acute{\iota}\varsigma\ \acute{\epsilon}\mu\omega\iota$ that the Gods were Generated, or as Herodotus expresseth it, $\epsilon\pi\iota\ \acute{\epsilon}\kappa\alpha\varsigma\ \tau\acute{\omicron}\varsigma\ \theta\epsilon\acute{\omega}\nu\ \iota\gamma\gamma\acute{\epsilon}\sigma\tau\epsilon$, that every one of the Gods was Generated or Produced; which yet is not so to be understood, as if they had therefore supposed, no God at all Unmade or Self-existent, (which is Absolute Atheism) but that the $\epsilon\iota\ \delta\epsilon\acute{\iota}\varsigma$ the Gods, as distinguish'd from the $\epsilon\ \delta\epsilon\acute{\iota}\varsigma$ or $\tau\omicron\ \delta\epsilon\acute{\iota}\omega\iota$, from God or the Supreme Deity, were all of them universally, Made or Generated.

Diff. 1. pag. 5.

But to the end that we may now render this business, yet something more easie to be believed, that the Intelligent Pagans did thus suppose all their Gods save One, to have been Made or Generated, and consequently acknowledged only One $\delta\iota\acute{\omega}\nu\ \acute{\alpha}\gamma\gamma\epsilon\iota\lambda\acute{\omicron}\varsigma\ \kappa\epsilon\ \alpha\upsilon\tau\omicron\upsilon\tau\omicron\pi\acute{\iota}\sigma\tau\omicron\varsigma$, One Unproduced and Self-existent Deity, we shall in this place further observe, that the Theogonia of those Ancient Pagans, their Genesis and Generation of Gods, was really one and the same thing with the Cosmogonia, the Genesis and Generation of the World, and indeed both of them understood of a Temporary Production both of these Gods and the World. And this we shall first prove from Plato in his *Timæus*; where he being to treat of the Cosmogonia, premiseth this Distinction, concerning Two Heads of Being; That Some were Eternal and never Made, and Some again Made or Generated, the former whereof he calls $\psi\acute{\omicron}\iota\alpha$ or Essence, the latter $\eta\gamma\acute{\epsilon}\nu\epsilon\varsigma$ or Generation: adding also this difference betwixt them, that the Eternal and Immutable things, were the proper Objects of Science and Demonstration, but the other Generated things of Faith and Opinion only; $\epsilon\ \tau\iota\ \pi\epsilon\rho\epsilon\varsigma\ \eta\mu\acute{\iota}\nu\omega\upsilon\ \psi\acute{\omicron}\iota\alpha$, $\tau\omicron\upsilon\tau\omicron\ \pi\epsilon\rho\epsilon\varsigma\ \tau\iota\sigma\iota\upsilon\ \acute{\alpha}\lambda\lambda\acute{\omicron}\gamma\alpha$, For what Essence is to Generation, the same is certainty of Truth or Knowledge to Faith. And thereupon he declares that his Reader was not to expect the same Evidence and Certainty of Truth from him, where he was now to treat of things Generated (namely the Gods and the Visible World) as if he had been to discourse about things Immutable and Eternal, in these words, $\acute{\epsilon}\alpha\upsilon\ \acute{\epsilon}\nu$, $\tau\omicron\ \zeta\acute{\alpha}\lambda\alpha\kappa\tau\epsilon\iota\varsigma$, $\pi\omega\lambda\acute{\alpha}\ \pi\omega\lambda\acute{\alpha}\ \epsilon\pi\acute{\iota}\sigma\tau\omega\upsilon\ \sigma\omega\phi\iota\ \delta\epsilon\tau\iota$, $\acute{\epsilon}\nu\ \kappa\epsilon\ \tau\omicron\ \tau\omicron\ \pi\alpha\upsilon\tau\epsilon\ \gamma\acute{\iota}\nu\omicron\sigma\tau\omicron\varsigma$, &c. If therefore, O Socrates, many things having been spoken by many men, concerning the Gods, and the Generation of the Universe, we be not able to discourse Demonstratively concerning the same, you ought not at all to wonder at it, or be displeased with us, but

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on the contrary, to rest well satisfied with our performance, if upon this Argument we do but deliver Probabilities. Where the Gods are by Plato plainly referred to ἡμίους and not to ὅσια, to Generation and not to Eternal or Immutable Essence, as they are also joyned with the Generation of the World, as being but a Part thereof. Neither is this at all to be wondred at in Plato, since first the whole Visible World; was no less to him, than it was to the other Pagans, a God; he calling it θεὸν εὐδαίμονα, a Happy God, and before it was yet Made, θεὸν ἐσθλόν, a God about to be Made. Not as if Plato accompted the Senseless Matter of this Corporeal World, whether as perfectly Dead and Stupid, or as endued with a Plastick Nature only, to be a God, (for no Inanimate thing was a God to Plato) but because he supposed the World to be an Animal, endued with an Intellectual Soul, and indeed the best of all Animals compounded of Soul and Body, ὅπως ἐν δὲ καὶ λόγον τ. 301 εἰκότα εὐδαίμονα, τὸ δὲ τὸ νόον, ζῶν ἐμψυχον ἵππον τε τῇ ἀλυσσῇ διὰ τὴν τῷ θεῷ ῥηθῆαι περὶ τὸν. Wherefore we are thus according to Probability to conclude, that this World was really made by the Providence of God, an Intellectual Animal; whence from an Animal forthwith it became a God. So that here we are to take notice, of Two Gods in Plato, very different from one another, One a Generated God, this whole World Animated, and another that God, by whose Providence this World was Generated, and thus made an Animal and a God; which latter must needs be an Unmade, Self-existent Deity, and not belong to ἡμίους but to ὅσια, not to Generation but to Immutable Essence. Again those greater Parts of the World, the Sun, the Moon and the Stars, (as supposed also to be Animated with Particular Souls of their own) were as well accompted by Plato, as by the other Pagans, Gods, he plainly calling them θεοὶ καὶ ἡμιθεοὶ θεοὶ, Visible and Generated Gods. Besides which Celestial Gods, the Earth it self also is supposed by him, to be either a God or Goddess, according to those Ancient Copies of the *Timæus*, used both by Cicero and Proclus: γυνὴ, τροχὸν μὲρ ἡμπερ, εὐδαίμων ἢ καὶ τὸ διὰ πάντας πόλον περιμήδον, φύλακα καὶ δημιουργόν τῆς τῆς ἡμέρας, ἐμμετρίαν, πρὸς τὴν καὶ περιστροφῇ διακρίνεται ὁ κόσμος ὡς ἀνὰ γῆαν. God Fabricated the Earth also, which is our Nurse, turning round upon the Axis of the World, and thereby causing and maintaining the Succession of Day and Night, the First and Oldest of all the Gods, Generated within the Heavens. Where since that Philosopher seems the rather to make the Earth an Animal and a God, because of its Diurnal Circumgyration upon its own Axis, we may conclude that afterwards when in his old age, (as Plutarch records from Theophrastus) he gave entertainment also to that other part of the Pythagorick Hypothesis, and attributed to the Earth a Planetary Annual Motion likewise about the Sun, (from whence it would follow, that as Plotinus expresth it, the Earth was ἐν τῇ ὄσῳ, one of the Stars) he was therefore still so much the more inclin'd, to think the Earth to be a God as well as the other Planets, or at least as the Moon; that having been formerly represented in the Orphick Tradition, but as another Habitable Earth. For these Verses of Orpheus, are recorded by Proclus, to that purpose;

μῖστος δ' ἄλλω γαῖαν ἀπεργίον, ἢν τι σελήνη
 Ἀθάνατος κλέπτει, ἑπταθῆνοι δὲ τι μῖνον,
 ἢ πᾶν ἔρι' ἔχει, πᾶν ἔσται, πολλὰ μέλλειν.

The sense whereof is this; *That God in the Cosmogonia or Cosmogonia, besides this Earth of ours, fabricated also another Vast Earth, which the Immortal Gods call Selene, but mortal men Mene, or the Moon; that bath many Hills and Vallies, many Cities and Houses in it. From whence Proclus, though as it seems a Stranger to the Pythagorick System, yet being much addicted to these Orphick Traditions, concluded the Moon to be, γῆν αἰθέριαν, an Ethereal Earth.*

See Marck.
 Rom. Scip. L. 1.
 c. 11.

After all this, *Plato*, that he might be thought to omit nothing in his *Timæan Cosmogonia*, speaks also of the *Genesis, Ortus or Generation* of the *Poetick Gods*, under the name of *Demons*, such as *Tethys* and *Phorcys*, *Saturn* and *Rhea*, *Jupiter* and *Juno*, and the like; which seem to be really nothing else, but the other *Inanimate Parts* of the *World* and *Things of Nature* *ὑποκείμενα*, that is, *Fiditiously Personated and Deified* (as is elsewhere declared.) Which whole business was a *Thing* set off by those *Poets* with much *Fiction* and *Physiological Allegory*. And though *Plato*, out of a seeming compliance with the *Laws* of his *City*, pretends here to give credit to this *Poetick Theogonia*, as *Tradition* delivered down from the *Sons of the Gods*, who must not be supposed to have been ignorant of their *Parents*; yet as *Eusebius* well observeth, he doth but all the while silyly jar it, plainly insinuating the *Fabulosity* thereof, when he affirmeth it to have been introduced not only *ἀνδρῶν ἀναγκαῖον ἀποδείξας without necessary Demonstrations*, but also *ἀνδρῶν εὐδοκίαν, without so much as Probabilities*. Nevertheless *Proclus* suspecting no such matter, but taking *Plato* in all this, to have been in very good earnest, interprets these *Poetick Gods or Demons* mentioned by him, to be the *Gods below the Moon*, (notwithstanding that the *Earth* was mentioned before by *Plato*) calling them *ὑπομήνεους θεούς, the Gods that cause Generation*, and seeming to understand thereby the *Animated Elements*; *Jupiter* being here not taken, as he is often elsewhere, for the *Supreme God*, but only for the *Animated Ether*, as *Juno* for the *Animated Air*. And upon this occasion, he runs out into a long *Dispute*, to prove, that not only the *Stars* were *Animated*, but also all the other *Sublunary Bodies or Elements*: εἰ γὰρ ὅλον ὁ κόσμος θεὸς ἀδιαμύχῃ ἐστὶ ἐὶν ἢ ἢ συμπληρούται αὐτῷ μορίων, αἰθερῶν, καὶ ἀπορροῦντων, εἰ ἢ καὶ θεὸς πάντα μετρίχῃ καὶ περιούσιᾳ, θεῶν ἔλαχε θῆλον, εἰ ἢ τῶν, καὶ οὐκ αὖτε τῶν ἐστῆσαν αὐτοῖς, εἰ γὰρ καὶ ὁ ἕρως διὰ μὲν ψυχῶν καὶ νοῦν μετρίχῃ ἢ μῖας ψυχῆς, καὶ τῶν ἑὸς νοῦ, τί χρὴ τοῦτο οἰεσθαι ὅτι εὐχόμεν· πῶς ὁ πολλὸν μᾶλλον ταῦτα διὰ διπλοῦν μὲν θεῶν τάξιν μετρίχῃ ἢ μῖας τῶν κόσμου θεότητος. For if the whole World be a Happy God, then none of the Parts of it are Godless, or devoid of Providence; but if all things partake of God and Providence, then are they not unfurnisht of the Divine Nature, and if so, there must be some peculiar Orders of Gods presiding over them. For if the Heavens by reason of particular Souls and Minds, partake of that one Soul and one Mind; why should we not conclude the same, concerning the Elements, that they also by certain

certain intermedium Orders of Gods, partake of that One Divinity of the whole World. Wherefore a little before, the same Proclus highly condemns, certain Ancient Physiologers, whom he supposeth Aristotle to have followed : πολλοὺς γὰρ φυσιολόγων ἀψυχὰς ἐκ τῆς φρεσίνος, καὶ ἀπροσβίου τούτων ὄναι τὰ στοιχεῖα νοτίζουσιν· καὶ μὲν γὰρ ἑρμηνεύει διὰ τινος αὐτοῖς τάξιν, ὡς καὶ θεῶν μετέχον ὁμοιοῦσιν, τινὸς δὲ γένεσιν, ὡς πολυμαθέων, καὶ ἀόριστον, καὶ ἀπροσβίον ἀπέλπιον, οἷα δὲ Ἀριστοτέλης ὑπερὶ ἰδέεσθαι, τοῖς θεοῖς περιεφερέως μόνως ὑπαινίσσας, τοῖς ἀνοήτοις αἰτίας· ἐπὶ αὐτοῖς οὖν, ὡς πλείους· ἀψυχὰς δὲ τὰ στοιχεῖα ταῦτα καταλείπον· The Elements were thought by most of the Ancient Physiologers to be Inanimate, and to be moved Fortuitously without Providence. For though they acknowledged the Heavenly Bodies, by reason of that Order that appears in them, to partake of Mind and Gods; yet they left this Sublunary World (or Genesis) to Float up and down without Providence. And these Aristotle afterwards followed, appointing immovable Intelligences to preside over the Celestial Spheres only, (whether Eight or more) but leaving all the lower Elements Dead and Inanimate

Lastly, besides all those other Mundane Gods before mentioned, as Generated together with the World, though Proclus seem to be of another Opinion, yet it is manifest that Plato doth not there in his *Timæus*, altogether forget those properly called *Dæmons* (elsewhere so much insisted upon by him) but in the very next following words, he plainly insinuates them, after this manner ; ὅσοι φανοῦνται καὶ ὅσοι ἀνιδέονται θεοῖς, the Gods which appear visibly to us as often as they please, or which can appear and disappear at pleasure, speaking also of their Genesis or Generation as part of the Cosmogonia; and then again afterwards calling them νεώτεροι θεοί, Junior Gods, he describes them as those, whose particular Office it was, to superintend and preside over Humane Affairs, καὶ κατὰ δύναμιν ὅτι κακῶς καὶ ἀρεστὰ τι δύνανται διακυβεσθῆναι ζῶον, ὅτι μὴ κακῶν αὐτοῖς ἰαυτοῖς γίνονται αἴτιον, and to govern this mortal Animal, Man, after the best manner possible, so that he should no otherwise fail of doing well or being happy, than as he became a cause of Evil and Misery to himself, by the abuse of his own Liberty.

And thus much out of Plato's *Timæus*; but the same thing might be proved also out of his other Writings, as particularly from that Passage in his Tenth Book of Laws, where he takes notice again of the Theogonia of the Ancients, and that as it had been depraved and corrupted by a great mixture of Impious and Immoral Fables. Ἐπειὶ ἡμῶν οὐ γράμμασι λόγοι κείμενοι. οἱ μὲν ἐν ποταμίῳ, οἱ δὲ ἐν ἀλάττει· λίγους δὲ θεῶν, οἱ μὲν παλαιότατοι, ὡς γέγονεν ἢ πρῶτη φάσις ἔρασθαι τὴν ἑλάνην· περιόπτης δὲ τὴν ἀρχὴν ἐκ πολλῶν θεογονιῶν διεξέχεσθαι, ἡρώδης δὲ πᾶσι πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἀμύδανται· There are, faith he, extant amongst us Athenians, certain stories and traditions, very ancient, concerning the Gods, written partly in Metre and partly in Prose, declaring how the Heaven, and the other Gods were at first made, or Generated, and then carrying on their fabulous Theogonia farther, how these Generated Gods, afterward conversed with one another, and ingendering after the manner of men, begat other Gods. Where that Philosopher taking off his vizard, plainly discovers his great dislike of that whole Fabulous Theogonia (however he acknowledges elsewhere

elsewhere that it did contain *ὑποπόας*, that is, *Physiological Allegories* under it) as a thing that was destructive of all Piety and Vertue, by reason of its attributing all Humane Passions and Vices to the Gods. However it plainly appears from hence, that the *Theogonia* and the *Cosmogonia* were one and the same thing, the *Generation of the Gods* being here, the *Generation of the Heaven*, and of the Sun, Moon, and Stars, and the like.

Moreover this same thing is sufficiently manifest also, even from *Hesiod's own Theogonia*, which doubtless was that which *Plato* principally aimed at, and if it were not absolutely the First, yet is it the most ancient Writing now extant, in that kind. For there in the beginning of that Poem, *Hesiod* invokes his Muses after this manner ;

Χαίρετε Παιῶν Δίος, δότι ἢ μιν ἔρξασαν ἀοιδῶν·
 κλέει δ' ἀθανάτων ἱερὸν γένος αἰὲν ἰδύται,
 οἱ γὰρ ἐξηγούτο καὶ οὐρανὸν ἀσπερίοντες,
 Νυκτὶς ἢ Ἄσπεριος, ὅς δ' ἄλμυρος ἔτρεφε πόδας.
 Εἰπατέ δ', ἄς τὰ πρῶτα οἶοι καὶ γαῖαν γένοντο,
 καὶ ποταμοὶ, καὶ πόδες ἀπείροτες οἰσμοσι δῶσα,
 Ἄσπερ τι λαμπύρεται, καὶ οὐρανὸς ἄρ' ἔσπερεται,
 οἱ τ' ὅα τ' ἐξηγούτο δίοι δαΐτιρες ἰδύν.

*Salvete nate Jovis, date verò amabilem cantilenam :
 Celebrate quoq; immortalium drivinum genus semper existentium,
 Qui Tellure prognati sunt, Caelo stellato,
 Noctēq; caliginosā, quorū item salus nutritivus Pontus.
 Dicite insuper, ut primum Dii & Terra facti fuerint,
 Et flumina, & Pontus immensus æstu fervens,
 Astraq; fulgentia, & Cælum latum supernū,
 Et qui ex hīs nati sunt Dii datores bonorum.*

Where we see plainly, that the *Generation of the Gods*, is the *Generation of the Earth, Heaven, Stars, Sea, Rivers*, and other things begotten from them (as probably amongst the rest Demons and Nymphs which the same *Hesiod* speaks of elsewhere.) But immediately after this Invocation of the Muses, the Poet begins with *Chaos* and *Tartara* and *Loe*, as the First Principles, and then proceeds to the Production of the Earth, and of *Night* out of *Chaos*, of the *Ether* and of *Day* from *Night* ; of the *Starry Heavens, Mountains and Seas, &c.* All which *Genesis* or *Generation of Gods* is really nothing but a Poetical Description of the *Cosmogonia* : as throughout the Sequel of that whole Poem, all seems to be *Physiology*, veiled under Fiction and Allegories. And thus the Ancient *Scholia* upon that Book begin, ἰστέον ὅτι ὁ ὅλος ὁ εὐγενίας λόγος φησὶν ὑπὸ τῆς ἐκείνης ὑπογραφῆς, *we must know, that the whole Doctrine of the Theogonia, contains under it, in way of Allegory, a Physiological Declaration of things.* *Hesiod's Gods* being not only the Animated Parts of the World, but also all the other *Things of Nature*, fictitiously Personated and Deified, or Abusively called *Gods* and *Goddesses*.

Neither

Neither was this only the Doctrine of the Greeks, that the World was thus *Made* or *Generated*, and that the *Generation* of the World, was a *Theogonia* or a *Generation of Gods* (the World it self and its several Parts being accounted such by them) but also in like manner of the other *Barbarian Pagans*. For *Diogenes Laertius* hath recorded, In Presomp. 2.
concerning the Persian Magi, ἀπαρτίζουσι περὶ τὴν οὐσίαν θεῶν καὶ γυνόντων, ὡς καὶ πῦρ ἕναι καὶ γῆ καὶ ὕδωρ, That they did both assert the Being and Generation of Gods, and also that these Gods were Fire and Earth and Water, that is, That the Animated Elements were Gods, (as Proclus also before declared) and that these together with the World, were Generated, or had a Beginning. And both Laertius and Diodorus represent it as the Opinion of the ancient Egyptians, that the World was Generated or had a Temporary Production; as also that the Sun and Moon and other Parts of the World, were Gods. But whereas the same Diodorus writes of certain Egyptian Gods, οἱ γένοντι ἀίδιον ἰχθυόεντες, which had an Eternal Generation, he seems to mean thereby, only the Celestial Gods the Sun, Moon and Stars, as distinct from those other Hero's and Men-Gods, which are again thus described by him, οἱ θνήσκοντες ὑπὸ ἀσφαλείας, διὰ τὴν φύσιν καὶ κατὰ ἀνθρώπων διαγνώσαν, τὴν ἀθανάτων ἡ ἀθανασία, who though naturally Mortal, yet by reason of their Wisdom, Vertue and Beneficence toward Mankind, had been advanced to Immortality.

In the Prefixed
 Sacrifices,
 which are
 offered to
 the Gods,
 one
 of the Magi
 sang the Theo-
 gonies (i.e. The
 Cosmogonia)
 Herod. in lib.
 2. c. 125.

And by this time we think it doth sufficiently appear, that the *Theogonia* of the Ancients, is not to be understood merely of their *Heroes* and *Men-gods*, or of all their *Gods*, as supposed to have been nothing else but *Mortal Men*, (*Dii Mortalibus nati Matribus*, as *Cotta* in *Cicero* speaks) who according to the more Vulgar signification of the Word, had been Generated, (*Humano More*) as some, otherwise Learned Men, have seemed to suppose; but that it extends to all the Inferiour *Pagan Gods*, some whereof were Parts of the Visible World Animated, as the Sun, Moon, Stars, and Earth; so that their *Theogonia*, was the very same thing with the *Cosmogonia*, or at least a Part thereof. Notwithstanding which, we deny not but that there was also in the Paganick Fables of the Gods, a certain Mixture of *History* and *Herology* interferred, and complicated all along together with *Physiology*.

We are in the next place to observe, that both this *Theogonia* and *Cosmogonia* of the Ancient Pagans, their *Generation* of the World and Gods, is to be understood of a Temporary Production of them, whereby they were Made *ἐκ μὴ ὄντων*, or from an Antecedent Non-existence brought into Being. For this was the General Tradition amongst the Pagans, that the World was made out of an antecedent *Chaos*, as shall be afterwards further declared. And *Aristotle* affirmeth, that before his time, this *Genesis* and Temporary Production of the World had been Universally entertain'd by all, and particularly that *Plato* was an Assertor of the same. Nevertheless, the generality of the latter *Platonists*, endeavour with all their might, to force a contrary sense upon his *Timæus*. Which is a thing that *Plutarch*, long since observed, after this manner; οἱ πλεῖστοι τῶν χρωμένων πλάττειν, σοφισμένοι, καὶ ἑλ-
 X
 λυπέμενοι,

De Pisyng.
Plat. P. 1013.
P.

ἀνέμῳ, πάντα μεταβάλλει, καὶ ἀεὶ ἀναλλοττοῖται καὶ σφραγίσσεται, ὡς τι δ' ἐνὶ αὐτῷ εἰς αὐτὸν δ' ἐν ἀεὶ μεταβάλλεται καὶ ἀναλλοττοῖται, τὸν τι τὸ κόσμος τὴν τι τὸ πᾶν αὐτῷ πᾶσι καὶ εὐσταθίῃ, καὶ ἐξ αὐτῆς συνεστῶτος, ἐπὶ τὸ ἀπὸ χρόνου ὅπως ἐχθρῶν. The most of Plato's Followers, being infinitely troubled and perplexed in their minds, turn themselves every way, using all manner of Arts, and offering all kind of violence to his Text, as conceiving, that they ought by all means possible, to hide and conceal that Opinion (as insand and detestable) of the Generation of the World, and of the Soul of it, so as not to have continued from Eternity, or through a succession of Infinite Time. Notwithstanding which, we conceive it to be undeniably evident, that Plato in his *Timæus*, doth assert the Genesis of the World in this sense, to wit of a Temporary Production of it, and as not having existed from Eternity or without Beginning. First, because in the entrance of that Discourse, he opposeth these Two things to one another, τὸ αἰεὶ εἶναι, that which always is, and τὸ γένεσθαι, that which is Generated or Made, and therefore in affirming the World to have been Generated, he must needs deny the Eternity thereof. Again, the Question is so punctually stated by him afterwards, as that there is no possibility of any Subterfuge left, πότε καὶ ὡς αἰεὶ ἡμετέρας ἀρχῆς ἔχον ἡδημαίαν, ἢ γένεσθαι, ἀπ' ἀρχῆς τι τοῦ ἀεὶ ἀνέμῳ; Whether the World always were, having no Beginning or Generation, or whether it was Made or Generated, having commenced from a certain Epocha? To which the Answer is, γένεσθαι, that it was Made or had a Beginning. Moreover this Philosopher, there plainly affirms also, that Time it self was Made, or had a Beginning, χρόνος δ' ἐν μετ' ἐργῶν γέγονεν, ἵνα ἅμα θρημβήσῃ, ἅμα καὶ καθύστερον, ἵνα πᾶσι χρόνος τις αὐτῷ γένεσθαι Time was made together with the Heaven, that being both Generated together, they might be both dissolved together likewise, if at least there should ever be any dissolution of them. Besides which, he plainly declares that before this Orderly World was produced, the Matter of it did move disorderly, πᾶν ὅσον ὡς ἐρετὸν, ἀναλλοττοῖται, καὶ ἰσχυρῶς ἀγῶν, ἡμῶς παρὰ τοὺς πλημμελὲς καὶ ἀτάκτους, ὡς τάξῃ αὐτὸ ἵσχυρῶς ἐκ τῆς ἀταξίας. God taking all that Matter, which was, (not then resting, but moving confusedly and disorderly) be brought it into Order, out of Confusion. Which is no more than if he should have said, God made this World, out of an antecedent Chaos; which, as we said before, was the constant Tradition of the Ancient Pagans. Now as to Authority, we may well conclude, that Aristotle was better able to understand both Plato's Philosophy, and Greek, than any of those Junious Platonists, who lived hundreds of years after. And yet we are not quite destitute of other Suffrages besides Aristotle's neither, not only Philo the Jew, but also Plutarch and Antioch, who were both of them Platonic Pagans, voting on this side, besides Alexander Aphrodisiæus a judicious Peripatetic. The only Objection considerable, is from what Plato himself writes in his Third and Sixth Book of *Laws*. In the former whereof Clinias, and the Athenian Nages, discourse together after this manner, concerning the Original or First Beginning of Common-wealths: πολιτείας δ' ἀρχὴν τίνα περὶ φάμεθαι γαγόναι; καὶ λέγεις ὅτι πάρι; λέω. οἵμαι μὲν ἀπὸ χρόνου μικρῶς τὴν καὶ ἀπείρας, καὶ τῆς μεταβολῆς αὐτῆς τῆς πάσης. καὶ πᾶς λέγεις; λέω. τίς; ἀπ' οὗ πάρι; ὅτι καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ πολιτείας ἀρχῆς, δευτέρως αὖτε περὶ κατὰ.

κατανοῶσι χρεῖνα πλῆθος ὅσον γέγονεν ; ΚΑ. Οὐκ ἔστιν ἔτι ὁδοῦ. ΑΘ. Τὸ δὲ γὰρ ὡς ἀπείρου τι καὶ ἀμύχανον ἂν ᾖ. ΚΑ. Πάνω μὲν ἐν τῇ γὰρ. ΑΘ. μὲν γὰρ ἐν τῷ μωρίαι μὲν ἐπὶ μωρίαις ἡμῶν γενομένη πόλεις ὡς τότε τὰ χρεῖνα ; ΧΤ. ὁ αὐτὸν ὅτι πλῆθος λέγου, ὡς ἐλάττωσι φασαυμῶν ; πεπολιδωμῶν δ' αὖ πάσας πολέας πολλὰς καὶ κατὰ χρόνον ; καὶ τότε μὲν ἐξ ἐλαττωσιν, μάλιστα, τὴν ὅδε μὲν ὄντα, ἐλάττωσιν ; καὶ χρεῖνα ὡς βελτιόνων γενομένη, καὶ βελτίους ὡς χρεῖνα. Ath. *What beginning shall we say there was of Common-wealths ?* Cl. *Whence would your self derive them ?* Ath. *I suppose from a great length and Infinity of time, through Successive Changes.* Cl. *I understand not well what you mean.* Ath. *Thus therefore, Do you think that you are able to determine, what Length or Quantity of Time there hath been since Cities and Politics of Men first began ?* Cl. *This is by no means easie to be done.* Ath. *Wherefore there is a kind of Infinity and Inestimability of this time.* Cl. *It is very true.* Ath. *Have there not then been Innumerable Cities constituted within this time, and as many again destroyed, of all several Forms ; they being changed from Greater to Lesser, and from Lesser to Greater, from Better to Worse and from Worse to Better ?* Now we say that if Plato intended here, to assert an Absolute Infinity of Time Past, then it must needs be granted, that in his old age, when he wrote his Book of Laws, he changed his Opinion from what it was before when he wrote his *Timæus* ; and if so, he ought in all reason to have retracted the same, which he does not here do. But in very truth, the meaning of this Philosopher, in those words cited, seems to be this ; not that there was an Absolute Infinity of Time past (as *Proclus* contends, taking advantage of that word ἀπείρα) but only that the World had lasted such a Length of Time, as was in a manner inestimable to us, or uncomputable by us, there having happened, as he addeth, in the mean time, several Successive Destructions and Consumptions of Mankind, by means of various Accidents, as particularly, One most remarkable Deluge and Inundation of Waters. The Latter place, in his Sixth Book of Laws, runs thus ; *ἢ τῷ ἀνθρώπων γένεσις ἢ τῷ παρὰ πᾶσι ἀρχὴν ἔδωκεν ἔδωκεν, ἢ ἔτι πᾶσι γὰρ πλάττειν. ἢ ἂν τὸ αἰεὶ καὶ ἔτι πάντως. ἢ μὲν δὲ πᾶσι ἀρχὴν ἀφ' ὧν γέγονεν, ἀμύχανον ἂν χρόνον ὅσον γέγονεν ἂν ᾖ.* *Either the Generation of Men had no Beginning at all, and will have no End, but always was and always will be, or else, there has been an Inestimable Length of Time, from the Beginning of it.* Which place affordeth still more light to the former, for we may well conclude that by ἀπείρου τι καὶ ἀμύχανον there, was not meant an Absolute Infinity of Time, but only such as had a very remote or distant Beginning, because ἀμύχανον here, is plainly taken in that sense. We conceive therefore, that this was Plato's Opinion in his Old Age, when he wrote his Book of Laws, that though the World had a Beginning, yet it had continued a very long Time, not computable by us ; or at least, he thought fit to declare himself after that manner, perhaps by reason of the Clamours of Aristotle, or some others against his *Timæus*, that so he might thereby somewhat mollifie that Opinion of the *Novity of the World*, by removing the *Epocha* and Date thereof to so great a distance.

Now it is very true, what we have several times before suggested, that there have been amongst the Pagans, both *Theogonists* and *Cosmogonists*

nists too, that were *Atheists*. They abusing the word *Gods* several ways; Some of them, as *Anaximander*, understanding thereby *Inanimate Worlds* successively Generated out of Senseless Matter, and Corrupted again into it; others, as *Anaximenes* and *Democritus*, allowing that there were certain Animals and Understanding Beings Superior to Men, but such only as were *Native* and *Mortal*, in like manner as Men, and calling these by the Name of *Gods*. Of the former of which Two Philosophers, *St. Austin* gives us this account; *Anaximenes omnes rerum causas Infinito Aeri dedit, nec Deos negavit et tunc, non tamen ab ipsis Aerem factum, sed ipsos ex Aere ortos credidit: Anaximenes made Infinite Air, to be the first Original and Cause of all things, and yet was he not therefore silent concerning the Gods, much less did he deny them; nevertheless he did not believe the Air to have been Made by the Gods, but the Gods to have been all generated out of the Air*. These were therefore such *Theogonists*, as supposed all the *Gods* without exception, to be *Generable* and *Corruptible*, and acknowledged no *Div. ἀρχή* at all, no Understanding Being *Unmade* and *Self-existent*, but concluded *Senseless Matter* to be the only *ἀρχή* and Original of all things, which is *Absolute Atheism*. Notwithstanding which, it is certain that all the *Pagan Theogonists* were not *Atheists*, (no more than all their *Cosmogonists Theists*) but that there was another sort of *Theogonists* amongst them, who supposed indeed all the *Inferior Mundane Gods* to have been *Made* or *Generated* in one Sense or other, but asserted One *Div. ἀρχήν καὶ ἀσθενήσαν*, One *Supreme Unmade Self-existent Deity*, who was the Cause of them all, Which *Theogonists* for distinction sake, from those other *Atheistical* ones; may be called *Divine*.

And that *Plato* was such a *Divine Theogonist*, is a thing as we conceive out of question. But if there had been any doubt concerning it, it would have been sufficiently removed from those Passages before cited out of his *Timæus*. To which nevertheless, for fuller satisfaction sake, may be added these Two which follow. The first, pag. 34. *Ἐπεὶ δὲ πᾶς ὁ κόσμος αἰὲν λογιστὸς οὖν, καὶ ἡ περὶ κόσμον Διὸς λογιστὴς*. For thus it ought to be read *ὅτι* as it is also in *Aldus* his Edition, and not *ὅτι*, as in *Stevens*, following an error in that of *Ficinus*. And accordingly the words are thus rendred by *Cicero*; *Hæc Deus is qui semper erat, de Aliquando Futuro Deo cogitans, lævem eum effecit, & undique æquabilem, &c.* This was the *Ratiocination* or *Resolution* of that *God*, which *Always Is*, concerning that *God* which was sometime about to be made; that he should be *Smooth* and *Spherical*, &c. Where again, it presently follows in *Cicero's* Version, *Sic Deus ille Æternus, Hunc Perfectè Beatum Deum procreavit*, Thus that *Eternal God*, procreated this perfectly *Happy God*, the *World*. Where there is plainly mention made, of *Two Gods*, one a *Generated God*, the *Animated World*, called elsewhere in *Plato* *ὁ αἰὼν ἡμετέριος*, and another *Eternal and Unmade God*, *Innate & Inflexible Deus*, who was the Cause of the *Worlds* Generation or *Production*. Or to keep close to *Plato's* own Language, One *God* who belonged to *Genesis*, or that head of Being which he calls *Generation*, and therefore must needs have an Antecedent Cause of his Existence; since nothing can be *Made* without a Cause; and

and another God, that was truly and properly *ἄσπετος*, *Immutable Essence*; who was the Cause of that *Generated God*, the *Universe*, and therefore of All things. The other Passage of *Plato's* is pag. 41. of his *Timæus*, ἐπεὶ δὲ πάντες ὄντι τὴν ἀποβολὴν φανερὰς καὶ ὄντι φαννομένοι καὶ ὄντι ἀνέκλιντον θεοὶ, ἥσαν ἔχοντες, λέγει περὶ αὐτῶν ὁ τῶν πάντων δημιουργὸς, τὰς δὲ θεῶν ἀνέκλιντον δημιουργοὺς, πάλιν τὴν ἑξῆς, καὶ δὲ ἐκὸς ἡρώμεμα. When therefore all the Gods, both those which move visibly about the Heavens, and those which appear to us as often as they please (that is both the Stars & Demons) were Generated or Created; that God which made this whole Universe, bespake these Generated Gods, after this manner, Ye Gods of Gods (whom I myself am the Maker and Father of) attend. Where the words *θεῶν ἀνέκλιντον*, notwithstanding *Proclus* his other differing conjectures, seem to have been very well rendred by *Cicero*, *Dii qui Deorum Satn orti estis*, Ye Gods which are the Progeny or Off-spring of the Gods. And the Gods whose Off-spring these Generated Gods (the Animated Stars and Demons) are said to be, must needs be those *ἄσπετοι θεοὶ*, those *Eternal Gods*, elsewhere mentioned in the same *Timæus*, as where the Philosopher calls the World, *ἡ ἀσπετος θεῶν γένεσις ἀκαχμα*, a Generated or Created Image of the Eternal Gods; as *Cicero* also is to be understood of these, when he speaks of the Worlds being, *made by The Gods*, and by the *Counsel of The Gods*. Now these *Eternal Gods* of *Plato*, called by his Followers *θεοὶ ὑπερκόσμιον*, the *Supramundane Gods*, though according to that stricter Notion of the word *ἥσαν*, as it is used both in *Plato* and *Aristotle*, for a Temporary Production of things ἐξ ἡν ὄντων, they were indeed all ἀγέννητοι, because they never were not, and had no beginning of their Existence; yet notwithstanding were they not therefore supposed by that Philosopher, to be all αὐτῶντοι and αὐτογενήματα so many Self-originated and Self-subsistent Beings, or First Principles, but only One of them such; and the rest derived from that One: it being very true, as we conceive, what *Proclus* affirms, ἐπὶ ὁ πλάτων ὅτι μίαν ἀρχὴν ἀνέγει πάντων, That *Plato* reduces all things to One Principle, even Matter it self; but unquestionable, that he deriveth all his Gods from One. Wherefore all those *Eternal Gods* of *Plato* (One only excepted) though they were not ἥσαντοι or Generated in one fence, that is ἐξ ἑξῆς, as to a Temporary beginning, yet were they notwithstanding as *Proclus* distinguisheth, ἡρώμετα ἀπ' αἰτίας, Generated in another fence, as produced from a Superiour Cause, there being only One such ἀγέννητος One Ingenerate or Unproduced Deity. Thus according to *Plato*, there were Two sorts of Secondary or Inferiour and Derivative Gods, First the *θεοὶ ἐκόσμιον* or *Mundane Gods*, such as had all of them a Temporary Generation with the World, and of whom *Plato's Theogonia* and *ἡρώμετος θεῶν* is properly to be understood; And Secondly the *ὑπερκόσμιον* and *ἄσπετοι θεοὶ*, the *Supramundane and Eternal Gods*, which were all of them also, save only One, produced from that One, and dependent on it as their Cause. But of these Inferiour *Eternal Gods*, of the Platonists and Pythagoreans, we are to speak again afterwards. In the mean time it is evident, that in that Passage of *Plato's* before-cited, there is plain mention made, both of *θεοὶ ἥσαν ἔχοντες*, of *Dii Orti*, Gods who were made or Generated with the World, and of ὁ τῶν πάντων δημιουργός, of One God who was the maker of them, and of the Whole Universe, who therefore is himself every way ἀγέννητος Unmade or Unproduced.

And accordingly he afterwards subjoyns, *ὃς ὁ μὲν διὰ ταῦτα πάντα διὰ τὰς τάξας, ἔμεινεν ὡς τὰς ἑαυτοῦ καὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἡδὲ μὲντοι καὶ νομοθετῆς οἱ πάντες τῶν τοῦ πατρὸς τῶν, ἐκείνου αὐτῶν* which *Cicero* thus renders, *Atque in quidem (Deus) qui cuncta composuit, constanter in suo manebat statu, qui autem erant ab eo creati (Dii) cum Parentis ordinem cognovissent, hunc sequebantur, &c.* Then that God who framed all things, remained constantly in his former State; and his Sons, or the Gods that were Created by him, observed his Order and Appointment.

Neither was *Plato* singular in this, but the Generality of the other Pagan Theists who were more Intelligent, all along agreed with him herein, as to the Generation of the Mundane Gods, and so were both Theists and Theogonists, they indeed understanding nothing else by their Theogonia or Generation of Gods, than a Divine Cosmogonia or Creation of the World by God; forasmuch as they supposed the World it self as Animated, and its several Parts, to be Gods. So that they asserted these Three Things, First a Cosmogonia the Generation of the World, that it was not from Eternity, but had a Novity or Beginning. Secondly, that this Cosmogonia or Generation of the World, was also a Theogonia or Generation of Gods, the World it self and several of its Parts Animated being esteemed such. And Lastly, that both these Gods and the World, were Made and Produced by One *Θεὸς ἀγέννητος καὶ ἀωτέρητος*, One Unproduced and Self-originated Deity. All which Particulars, we may here briefly exemplify in *P. Ovidius Naso*, whose Paganity sufficiently appears, from his *Fastorum* and all his other Writings, and who also went off the Stage, before Christianity appeared on it, and may well be presumed, to represent the then generally received Doctrine of the Pagans. First therefore, as for the Generation and Novity of the World, and its First Production out of a Chaos, we have it fully acknowledged by him in these following Verses.

Metam. l. 1.

*Ante Mare & Terras, &, quod tegit omnia, Cælum,
Unus erat toto Nature Vultus in orbe,
Quem dixeret Chaos; rudis indigestaque moles,
Nec quicquam nisi pondus iners, congestaque eodem
Non bene junctarum discordia semina rerum.
Nullus adhuc mundo præbebat lumina Titan,
Nec nova crescendo reparabat cornua Phæbe,
Nec circumfuso pendebat in æere Tellus,
Fonderibus librata suis; nec brachia longo
Margine terrarum porrexerat Amphitrite.
Quaque erat & Tellus, &c.*

Which in *Mr. Sandys* his English, with some little alteration, speaks thus:

*Before that Sea and Earth and Heaven was fram'd,
One face had Nature which they Chaos nam'd.
No Titan yet the World with Light adorns,
Nor waxing Phæbe fills her wained Horns;*

Nor

*Nor hung the self-poiz'd Earth in thin Air plac'd,
Nor Amphitrite the vast shore embrac'd;
Earth, Air and Sea Confounded, &c.*

In the next place, when there was a *World* made out of this *Chaos*, that this *Cosmogonia* or *Generation* of the *World*, was also a *Theogonia* or *Generation* of *Gods*, is plainly intimated in these Verses.

*Nun Regio foret ulla suis Animalibus orbs,
Astra tenent cæleste solam, Formæque Deorum.*

To this sence,

*That nought of Animals might unfurnish'd lie,
The Gods, in Forms of Stars, possess the Skie.*

And that all this was effected, and this *Orderly Mundane System* produced out of a disorderly confused *Chaos*, not by a *Fortuitous Motion* of Matter, or the *Jumbling of Atoms*, but by the *Providence* and *Command* of *One Unmade Deity*, which was also that that furnish'd all the several Parts of the *World* with respective *Animals*; the *Sea* with *Fishes*, the *Earth* with *Men*, and the *Heaven* with *Gods*; is thus declared also by the Poet;

*Hanc Deus & Melior litem Natura diremit,
Nam Cælo Terras, & Terris abscidit Undas:
Et liquidum spisso secrevit ab Aere Cælum, &c.
Sic ubi dispositam, Quisquis fuit Ille Deorum,
Congeriem secuit, scilicet in membra redexit;
Principio terram, ne non æqualis ab omni
Parte foret, magni speciem glomeravit in orbis:
Tum freta diffudit, rapidisque tumescere ventis
Jussit, &c.
Sic onus inclusum, numero distinxit eodem
Cura Dei, &c.*

*This Strife (with Better Nature) God decides,
He Earth from Heaven, the Sea from Earth divides:
He Ether pure extracts from Grosser Air.
All which unfolded by His Prudent Care,
From that blind Mass, the happily disjoyn'd
With strifeless peace, He to their seats confin'd, &c.
What God soever this Division wrought,
And every part to due proportion brought,
First lest the Earth unequal should appear,
He turn'd it round in figure of a Sphere.
Then Seas diffus'd, Commanding them to roar
With ruffling Winds, and give the Land a shore.
To those he added Springs, Ponds, Lakes immense,
And Rivers whom their winding borders fence.*

Where

Where though that learned Paraphrast, supposed (and not without some probability neither) that *Deus & Melior Natura, God and the Better Nature*, were one and the self same thing, yet we rather conceived them to be distinct, but one of them subordinate to the other as its Instrument, *God and the Plastick Nature*, accordingly as *Aristotle* writes in his *Physicks*, *Νῦς καὶ φύσις αἰτίαι τῆς τοῦ κόσμου*, *That Mind and Nature, were both together, the Cause of this Universe.*

Nevertheless we cannot but observe in this place, that though that Poet speak more than once of *God Singularly*, as also calls him *Mundi Fabricator*, and *Ille Opifex Rerum*, and *Mundi melioris Origo*, yet notwithstanding, where he writes of the making of Man, Pagan-like, he affirms him, though to have been made by God, yet according to the *Image or Likeness of The Gods, which govern all things.*

*Sanctus his Animal, mentisque capaxius alte
Deerat adhuc, & quod dominari in cetera posset :
Natus homo est : sive hunc divino semine fecit,
Ille Opifex rerum, mundi melioris Origo :
Sive recens tellus, seductaque nuper ab alto
Æthere, cognati retinebat semina cæli.
Quam satus Iapeto, missam fluvialibus undis,
Finxit in effigiem Moderantum cuncta Deorum.*

*The Nobler Being, with a Mind possess,
Was wanting yet, that should command the rest.
That Maker, the best Worlds Original,
Either him fram'd of seed Celestial ;
Or Earth which late he did from Heaven divide,
Some sacred seeds retain'd to Heaven allied :
Which with the living stream Prometheus mixt,
And in that Artificial Structure fixt,
The Form of all the All-ruling Deities.*

And because some may probably be puzzled with this seeming Contradiction, that *One God* should be said to be the Maker of the *whole World* and of *Man*, and yet the *Government of all* should be attributed to *Gods, Plurally* ; and *Man* said to be made in the *Image and Likeness of the Gods* ; we shall therefore add here, that according to the tenor of the *Pagan Theology*, the *Inferiour and Minor Gods* were supposed also, to have all of them, their several share in the Government of things below them : For which cause they are called not only by *Maximus Tyrinus* *συνάρχοντες Θεῶν*, *Co-rulers with God*, but also by *Plato* himself, *τὰς μεγίστας καὶ αἰώνιας συνάρχοντες*, the *Co-governours and Co-reigners with the Supreme God*. So that the Government of this *Inferiour World*, was by the Pagans often attributed to them joyntly, the *Supreme and Inferiour Gods* both together, under that one general name of *Gods*. But the chief of those *Inferiour Deities*, in whose Image Man is also said to have been made, as well as in the Likeness of the *Supreme*, were either those *Celestial Gods and Animated Stars*, before mentioned by the Poet, or else the *Eternal Gods of Plato*, which were look'd upon likewise as *Co-makers of the World subordinate.*

Besides

Besides *Ovid*, we might instance here in many more of the Pagan Theogonists, clearly acknowledging in like manner *One Unmade Deity*, which Generated both the World, and all the other Gods in it; as for example, *Strabo*, who affirming that the World was $\alpha\beta$ φύσις ἁμα καὶ $\alpha\beta$ προνοίας ἔργον, *The joint work both of Nature and Providence*, as it was before ascribed by *Ovid*, to *Deus & Melior Natura*; adds concerning *Providence* or the *Deity* in this manner: τὸ γ $\alpha\beta$ προνοίας, ὅτι βελόνηται καὶ αὐτὴ πικροτέρως τις ἔσται, καὶ μάλιστα ἔργον δημιουργός, ἐν τοῖς πλείους ἔλα σφαιρῶν, ὡς πολὺ διαφέρει τῶν ἄλλων; καὶ τὰς τοιαύτας οὐσίας τι καὶ Ἀνθρώπους, ἐν ἑκαστῇ καὶ τὰ ἅλλα συνίσταται. τοῖς μὲν οὖν οὐρανοῖς ἀπέδωκεν ἡ ἑσπερὶς, τοῖς δ' Ἀνθρώπους τῶν γ $\alpha\beta$. That having a multiform Fecundity in it, and delighting in variety of works, it designed principally to make Animals, as the most excellent things, and amongst them chiefly those Two Noblest kinds of Animals, Gods and Men; for whose sakes the other things were made; and then assigned Heaven to the Gods, and Earth to Men, the Two extreme parts of the World, for their respective Habitations. Thus also *Seneca* in *Laetantius*, speaking concerning God, *Hic cum prima Fundamenta molis pulcherrima jaceret*, & hoc ordiretur quo neque majus quicquam novit Natura nec melius; ut omnia sub Ducibus irent, quamvis ipse per totum se corpus intenderat, tamen Ministros regni sui Deos genuit. God when he laid the Foundations of this most beautiful Fabrick, and began to erect that Structure, than which Nature knows nothing greater or more excellent; to the end that all things might be carried on under their respective Governours orderly, though he intended Himself through the whole, as to preside in chief over all, yet did he Generate Gods also; as subordinate Ministers of his Kingdom under him. We shall forbear to mention the Testimonies of others here, because they may be more opportunely inserted elsewhere, only we shall add, as to *Hesiod* and *Homer*, that though they seem to have been sometimes suspected, both by *Plato* and *Aristotle*, for *Atheistical Theogonists*, yet as *Aristotle* did upon maturer thoughts, afterwards change his Opinion concerning both of them, so is it most probable that they were no *Atheists* but *Divine Theogonists*, such as supposed indeed Many Generated Gods, but One Supreme Unmade Deity, the Maker both of the World and Them. And this not only for the Grounds before alledged concerning *Hesiod*, and because both of them do every where affirm, even their Generated Gods to be Immortal, (which no *Atheists* did) but also for sundry other Reasons, some of which may be more conveniently inserted elsewhere. Moreover it hath been already intimated, that the Generated Gods of *Hesiod* and *Homer*, extend farther than those of *Plato's*, they being not only the Animated Parts of the World, but also all the other Things of Nature Fictionally Personated, and Improperly or Abusively called Gods and Goddesses, whereof a farther account will be afterwards given.

Neither ought it at all to be wondered at, if these *Divine Theogonists* amongst the Pagans, did many times as well as those other *Atheistical ones*, make *Chaos* and the *Ocean*, *Seniour* to the Gods, and *Night* the *Mother* of them. The former of these being not only done by *Hesiod* and *Homer*, but also by the Generality of the ancient Pagan Theists in *Epichur-*

Epicharmus : and the Latter by *Orpheus* an undoubted *Theist*, in his Hymn of the Night,

Νύκτα θεῶν γαῖν' ἔργα, ἀέσσωμαι, ἔθ' ἐν ἀνδράων·

Noctem concebro Genetricem Hominūmq; Deūmq;.

They not understanding this Absolutely and Universally, of all the *Gods* without exception, as the other *Atheistick Theogonists* did, as if there had been no *Unmade Deity* at all, but *Chaos* and *Night*, (that is, *Senseless Matter*, blindly and fortuitously moved) had been the Sole Original of all things, but only of the εἰ οἰοῖ, *The Gods*, so called by way of Distinction from *God* or the *Supreme Deity*, that is, the *Inferiour Mundane Gods* Generated together with the *World*. The Reason whereof was, because it was a most ancient and in a manner Universally received Tradition amongst the Pagans, as hath been often intimated, that the *Cosmogonia* or Generation of the *World* took its first Beginning from a *Chaos*, (the *Divine Cosmogonists* agreeing herein with the *Atheistick* ones;) this Tradition having been delivered down, from *Orpheus* and *Linus* (amongst the Greeks) by *Hesiod* and *Homer* and others; acknowledged by *Epicharmus*; and embraced by *Thales*, *Anaxagoras*, *Plato*, and other Philosophers, who were *Theists*: The Antiquity whereof was thus declared by *Enripides*;

οὐκ ἔμμεν ὁ μῦθος, ἀλλ' ἔμμεν μῆτορ πάρος,
ἅς ἄργαίος τι γαῖα τ' ἦν μετὰ μία,
ἔπει δ' ἐχρηάσθησαν ἀλλήλων δόξα,
τίκτεν πάντα, κἀνέδωκαν εἰς φάος,
τὰ δύνειν, ἥνικα, δῖος, ἐς δ' ἄλμυ τρέφει,
γένος τι θνητῶν·

*Non hic Mens, sed Matris est sermo mea,
Figura ut Una fuerit & Cæli & Soli,
Secreta quæ mox ut receperunt Statum,
Cuncta ediderunt hæc in oras Luminis;
Feras, Volucres, Arbores, Ponti Gregem,
Homines quoque ipsos.*

Neither can it reasonably be doubted, but that it was Originally *Mosaic*, and indeed at first a *Divine Revelation*, since no man could otherwise pretend to know, what was done before Mankind had any Being. Wherefore those *Pagan Cosmogonists* who were *Theists*, being *Polytheists* and *Theogonists* also, and asserting besides the One *Supreme Unmade Deity*, other *Inferiour Mundane Gods*, Generated together with the *World* (the Chief whereof were the *Animated Stars*) they must needs according to the Tenor of that Tradition, suppose them as to their Corporeal Parts at least, to have been Juniors to *Night* and *Chaos*, and the Off-spring of them, because they were all made out of an Antecedent *Dark Chaos*. τῷ μεγάλῳ ἀπεδείχθαι λέγουσιν (saith *Plutarch*) ὑπὲρ Αἰγυπτίων τυφλῶ δοσαν, ἐπὶ τῷ σκοτίῳ τῷ φάτις ἠγένετο περιέσσωσιν·
The Mus Araneus being blind, is said to have been deified by the Egyptian,

ans, because they thought, that Darkness was older than Light. And the Cause was the same concerning their Demons likewise, they being conceived to have their Corporeal Vehicula also; for which Cause as Porphyrius from Numenius writeth, the ancient Egyptians pictured them in Ships or Boats floating upon the Water: τὰς δὲ Αἰγυπτίους διὰ τὴν τὸν Πλάτωνος ἀποκρίσιν καὶ ἐρῶναι ἐπὶ τοῖς ὕδατι, ἀλλὰ πολλὰς ἐπὶ πολλοῖς: The Egyptians therefore represented all their Demons, as notwithstanding upon firm Land, but in Ships upon the Water. But as for the Incorporeal Part or Souls of those Inferiour Gods, though these Divine Theogonists could not derive their Original from Chaos or Matter, but rather from that other Principle called Love, as being Divinely Created, and so having God for their Father, yet might they notwithstanding, in another sense, phancy Night to have been their Mother too, inasmuch as they were all made ἐξ οὐκ ὄντος, from an antecedent Non-existence or Nothing, brought forth into Being. For which Cause there seems to have been in Orpheus, a Dialogue betwixt the Maker of the World and Night. For that this ancient Cabala, which derived the Cosmogonia from Chaos and Love, was at first Religious and not Atheistical, and Love understood in it not to be the Off-spring of Chaos; may be concluded from hence, because this Love as well as Chaos, was of a Mosaiical Extraction also, and plainly derived from that Spirit of God, which is said in the Scripture, To have moved upon the waters, that is, upon the Chaos: whether by this Spirit be to be meant God Himself, as acting immediatly upon the Matter, or some other Active Principle derived from God and not from Matter (as a Mundane Soul or Plastic Nature.) From whence also it came, that as Porphyrius testifieth, the ancient Pagans thought the Water to be Divinely inspired, ἡγάρτοι ἔχοντες αὐτὴν τὰ ὕδατα τὰς ψυχὰς διεπνεύει οἷον ὡς φησὶ ὁ Νουμίνιος· διὰ τὴν Αἰγύπτου καὶ τὴν περὶ τὴν εὐφροσύνην, ἐκφράσσειν ἰσχυρὰ τὸ ὕδατος ἐξ πνεύματος They thought that Souls attended upon the Water or resorted thenceunto, as being Divinely Inspired, as Numenius writeth, adding the Prophet also, therefore to have said, That the Spirit of God moved upon the Water.

De Aut.
Symph. 296.

And that this Cabala was thus understood by some of the ancient Pagan Cosmogonists themselves, appears plainly, not only from Simmi-as Rhodius and Parmenides, but also from these following Verses of Orpheus, or whoever was the Writer of those Argonauticks, undoubtedly ancient, where Chaos and Love are thus brought in together;

πρῶτα μὲν ἀρχαῖς χάος μελέωντο θυμῷ,
'εἰς ἐμπνεύσει φίλος, ὡς τ' ἀργεῖς εἰς πέλας ἤλθε,
γῆς τ' ἀερίεσσιν ἄλλαν, πάλαι μὲν τι θαλάσσης,
πρὸς ὅσῳ τι καὶ αὐτοπαλὴ πάλαι μιν ἔργον,
'ὅσα τ' ἔργον ἀπῆλθε, δίδασκε δ' ἄλλαν ἀπ' ἄλλου.

Es. 27. Ed. Steph.

To this Sense; We will first sing a pleasant and delightful Song, concerning the ancient Chaos, how Heaven, Earth and Sea, were framed out of it, as also concerning that Much-wise and Sagacious Love, The Oldest of all, and Self-perfect, which actively produced all these things, separating one thing from another. Where this Love is not only called πάλαι μιν ἔργον of Much-counsel or Sagaciousness, which implies it to have been

Lik. I. a. 6. p.
849.

been a *Substantial and Intellectual-Thing*, but also *πρωτότατος* the *Oldest of all*, and therefore *Senior to Chaos*, as likewise *αὐτοπαὺς*, *Self-perfect* or *Self-originated*. From whence it is manifest, that according to the *Orphick Tradition*, this *Love* which the *Cosmogonia* was derived from, was no other than the *Eternal Unmade Deity* (or an Active Principle depending on it) which produced this whole *Orderly World*, and all the *Generated Gods* in it, as to their *Material part*, out of *Chaos* and *Night*. Accordingly as *Aristotle* determines in his *Metaphysics*, not only in the place before-cited, but also afterward; *ἐνεστὶ δὲ τις, ὅθεν ἢ ἀρχὴ τῶν κινήσεων, ὅθεν ἢ Νύξ ἢ Ἔραται τούτων ἀρχαί* • *Others, besides the Material Cause of the World, assign an Efficient, or Cause of Motion, namely whosoever make, either Mind (and Intellect) or Love a Principle*. Wherefore we conclude that that other *Atheistick Cabala*, or *Aristophanick Tradition* before-mentioned, which accordingly as *Aristotle* also, elsewhere declareth concerning it, did *ὅς περὶς πάντων γὰρ, Generate all things whatsoever*, even the *Gods themselves* universally out of *Night and Chaos*; making *Love* it self likewise, to have been produced from an *Egg of the Night*. I say, that this was nothing else but a mere *Depravation* of the ancient *Mosaick Cabala*, as also an *Absolutely Impossible Hypothesis*, it deriving all things whatsoever in the Universe, besides the *Bare Substance of Senseless Matter*, in another Sence then that before-mentioned, out of *Non-entity* or *Nothing*; as shall be also farther manifested afterwards.

We have now represented the Sence and generally received Doctrine of the ancient *Pagan Theologers*, that there was indeed a *Multiplicity of Gods*, but yet so that One of them only was *ἀγένετος*, *Ingenerate* or *Unmade*, by whom all the other *Gods* together with the *World* were Made, so as to have had a *Novity of Being* or a *Temporary Beginning* of their Existence. *Plato* and the *Pythagoreans* here only differing from the rest in this, that though they acknowledged the *World* and all the *Mundane Gods*, to have been Generated together in Time, yet they supposed certain other *Intelligible* and *Supramundane Gods* also, which however produced from one *Original Deity*, were nevertheless *Eternal* or without *Beginning*. But now we must acknowledge, that there were amongst the *Pagan Theists* some of a different persuasion from the rest, who therefore did not admit of any *Theogonia* in the sence before declared, that is, any *Temporary Generation* of *Gods*, because they acknowledged no *Cosmogonia*, no *Temporary Production* of the *World*, but concluded it to have been from *Eternity*.

That *Aristotle* was one of these, is sufficiently known, whose *Inferior Gods* therefore; the *Sun*, *Moon* and *Stars*, must needs be *ἀγγόμενοι* or *Ingenerate*, in this sence, so as to have had no *Temporary Production*, because the *Whole World* to him was such. And if that *Philosopher* be to be believed, himself was the very *First*, at least, of all the *Greeks*, who asserted this *Ingenerateness* or *Eternity* of the *World*, he affirming that all before him, did *γενῆσαι τὸ κόσμον*, and *κοσμοποιῶν*, *Generate* or *Make the World*, that is attribute a *Temporary Production* to it, and consequently to all those *Gods* also, which were a Part thereof. Notwithstanding

standing which, the Writer *de Placitis Philosophorum*, and *Sto- baeus*, impute this Dogma of the *Worlds Eternity*, to certain others of the Greek Philosophers before *Aristotle*, (besides *Ocellus Lucanus*, who is also acknowledged by *Philo* to have been an assertor thereof.) And indeed *Epicurismus*, though a Theist, seems plainly to have been of this Persuasion, that the World was *Unmade*, as also that there was no *Theogonia* nor *Temporary Production* of the *Inferiour Gods*, from these Verses of his, according to *Grotius* his Correction.

Ἄλλ' αἰετὶ τοὶ θεοὶ παρῆσσι, ὑπέλπιον δ' ἑ πάπταξ.
τάδε δ' αἰ παρ' ἐσθ' ἴμοια, διὰ δ' ἑ τῆ' αὐτῆ' αἰε.
Ἄλλὰ λέγειν μὲν ἔστι πρῶτον ἡγεσθαι τῆ' ἀΐας.
πῶς δ' ἀμύχαντοι γ' ἀπὸ μηδενίης ὅ, τι πρῶτον μέλτοι.
οὐκ ἔξεσθαι πρῶτον εἶναι, ὅδε μὲν αἰε δεύτερον,
τῶν δὲ γ' ὅν ἡμῶν νῦν λέγεται ὡς ἔσθαι μέλτοι τάδε.

Excerpt p. 478.

*Nempe Di semper fuerunt, atque nunquam intercedunt :
Hec quæ dico semper nobis rebus in isdem se exhibent.
Exstitisse sed Deorum Primum perhibetur Chaos :
Quinam verò ? nam de nihilo nil pote primum existere.
Ergo nec Primum profecto quicquam, nec fuit Alterum :
Sed quæ nunc sic appellantur, alia sicut postmodum.*

Where, though he acknowledges this to have been the *General Tradition* of the ancient *Theists*, That *Chaos* was before the *Gods*, and that the *Inferior Mundane Gods*, had a *Temporary Generation* or *Production* with the World, yet notwithstanding does he conclude against it, from this Ground of Reason, because *Nothing could procede from Nothing*, and therefore, both the *Gods*, and indeed whatsoever else is Substantial in the World, was from *Eternity Unmade*, only the Fashion of things having been altered.

Moreover *Diodorus Siculus* affirms, the *Chaldeans* likewise to have asserted this Dogma of the *Worlds Eternity*, οἱ δ' ἐν χαλδαίων τῶ μὲν τῷ κόσμῳ εἶναι αἰδίδειν φασι εἶναι, καὶ μὴτι ἐξ ἀρχῆς ἡβήσιν ἐκ γενέσεως, μὴ ὕστερον φθορῶν ἐπιδέξασθαι. *The Chaldeans affirm, the Nature of the World to be Eternal, and that it was neither Generated from any Beginning, nor will ever admit Corruption.* Who, that they were not *Atheists* for all that (no more than *Aristotle*) appears from those following words of that *Historiographer*, τῶν τι τῆ' ἰδίας φύσεως καὶ διακρίσεως, δεῖα τῇ προνοίᾳ γινώσκειν, καὶ νῦν ἔσθαι τῆ' αἰετοῦ γινώσκοντες, ὅς τις ἐπιχειρῶν, ὅς αὐτομάτως, ἄλλ' ὡς ἐξ ἀρχῆς τῇ καὶ βεβαίως κατασκευάζει θεῶν κρίσει, συντελεσθαι. *They believe also, that the Order and Disposition of the World, is by a certain Divine Providence, and that every One of those things which come to pass in the Heavens, happens not by chance, but by a certain determinate and firmly ratified Judgment of the Gods.* However, it is a thing known to all, that the Generality of the later *Platonists* stiffly adhered to *Aristotle* in this, neither did they onely assert the *Corporeal World*, with all the *Inferior Mundane Gods* in it, to be ἀβλήτους, or *Ingenerate*, and to have existed from *Eternity*, but also maintained the same concerning the *Souls of Men* and all other *Animals*;

L. 2. p. 82.

mals; (They concluding that *no Souls were Younger than Body or the World*) and because they would not seem to depart from their Master *Plato*, therefore did they endeavour, violently to force this same sence upon *Plato's* words also.

- Notwithstanding which, concerning these *Latter Platonists*, it is here observable, that though they thus asserted, the *World*, and all *Inferior Gods and Souls*, to have been ἀρχαίτες, according to that stricter sence of the Word declared, that is, to have had no *Temporary Generation or Beginning*, but to have Existed from *Eternity*, yet by no means did they therefore conceive them to be αὐτογενεῖς καὶ αὐτο존속τες, *Self-originated, and Self-existing*, but concluded them to have been all derived from one sole *Self-existent Deity* as their Cause, which therefore, though not in order of *Time*, yet of *Nature*, was before them. To this purpose *Plotinus*, τὸν πρὸ αὐτῶ ἵσαι ἔχ' ὡς χρόνος πρὸ γενεῶν αὐτῶ ἵστα, ἀλλ' ὅτι οὐδ' ἔστι καὶ πρὸς τὸ πρῶτον ἡ ἀρχὴ, καὶ αἰὼν τὰ ταῦτα, ἀρχετοπιῶν οὖν καὶ ἀρχοῦ ἡμῶν ἐκείνου· καὶ δὲ ἐκείνου ὅλ' καὶ ὑποσφίγγει αὐτῶν τὸ τ' ἐξέπει· *Mind or God, was before the World, not as if it existed before it in Time, but because the World proceeded from it, and that was in order of Nature First, as the cause thereof, and its Archetype or Paradigm; the World also always subsisting, by it and from it. And again* elsewhere to the same purpose, τὰ πάντα ἡρώεα, ἀλλ' ἐγένετο καὶ ἡρώεσται, ὅσα γινώσκει λήγειν, ὅ ὃ φεαροῦται, ἀλλ' ἢ ὅσα ἐχέει ἐς αἶ· *The things which are said to have been made or Generated, were not so Made, as that they ever had a Beginning of their Existence, but yet they were Made and will be always Made, (in another sence;) nor will they ever be destroyed, otherwise than as being dissolved into those Simple Principles, out of which some of them were compounded. Where though the World he said never to have been Made, as to a Temporary beginning, yet in another sence, is it said to be always Made, as depending upon God perpetually, as the Emanative Cause thereof. Agreeably whereunto, the Manner of the Worlds Production from God, is thus declared by that Philosopher; οἱ ἐξ ὧν οἱ φεαρον καὶ γινώσκον αὐτῶν, ἔστι γὰρ ἐξέπει· τὸ ποιήσας ταύτης, οἱ ἐκείνου συνίσταται, ἐστὶ ἴσασιν, ὅτι ἐστὶ οὐκ αἰὼν ἐλάμψας, ὁ μὴ πρὸ τῶ αἵμα ἡμέμιν· *They do not rightly, who Corrupt and Generate the World, for they will not understand what Manner of Making or Production the World had, to wit, by way of Effulgency or Radiation from the Deity. From whence it follows, that the World must needs have been so long as there was a God, as the Light was coeve with the Sun. So likewise Proclus concludes, that the World was αἰὼν γινώμενον, καὶ ἐκλαμπόμενον ἀπὸ τοῦ ὅλ'· always Generated or Eradiated from God, and therefore must needs be Eternal, God being so. Wherefore these Latter Platonists, supposed the same thing concerning the Corporeal World, and the Lower Mundane Gods, which their Master *Plato* did, concerning his Higher Eternal Gods; that though they had no Temporary Production, yet they all depended no less upon one Supreme Deity, than if they had been made out of Nothing by Him. From whence it is manifest, that none of these Philosophers apprehended any Repugnancy at all, betwixt these Two Things; Existence from Eternity, and Being Caused or produced by Another. Nor can we make any great Doubt, but that if the Latter Platonists, had been fully convinced**

convinced of any *Contradictions Inconsistency* here, they would readily have disclaimed, that their so beloved *Hypothesis*, of the *Worlds Eternity*; it being so far from Truth what some have supposed, that the Assertors of the *Worlds Eternity*, were all *Atheists*, that these Latter *Platonists*, were led into this Opinion no otherwise than from the sole Consideration of the *Deity*; to wit, its *ἀγαθοειδὲς βούλησις, καὶ γενναῖος δυνάμις*, its *Essential Goodness*, and *Generative Power*, or *Emanative Fecundity*, as *Proclus* plainly declares upon the *Timæus*.

Pag. 116.

Now though *Aristotle* were not Acted with any such *Divine Enthusiasm*, as these *Platonists* seem to have been, yet did he notwithstanding, after his sober Manner, really maintain the same thing; That though the *World* and *Inferior Mundane Gods*, had no *Temporary Generation*, yet were they nevertheless, all Produced from One *Supreme Deity* as their Cause. Thus *Simplicius* represents that Philosopher's Sense. *Ἀριστοτέλης δὲ γινώσκει ἀξιότιμον καὶ ἀμείνων, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἄλλον τρεῖς* In Arist. Phys. L. 8.
ἵπτοι ὑπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐκγεγεννημένοι. *Aristotle would not have the World to have been made* (so as to have had a Beginning) *but yet nevertheless to have been produced from God after some other manner.* And again afterward; *Ἀριστοτέλης τοῦ αἵτιος τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ ὅτι αἰετὸς καὶ ἀσυνεργὸς αὐτῷ θεῷ λόγον, ὅμως ἀφ' ἑαυτοῦ αὐτὸν ἀποδείκνυσι.* *Aristotle though making God the Cause of the Heaven and its Eternal Motion, yet concludes it notwithstanding to have been Ingenerate or Unmade, that is, without Beginning.* However, we think fit here to observe, that though *Aristotle* do for the most part express, a great deal of Zeal and Confidence, for that Opinion of the *Worlds Eternity*, yet doth he sometimes for all that, seem to flag a little, and speak more Languidly and Sceptically about it; as for Example, in his Book *De l'artibus Animalium*, where he treats concerning an *Artificial Nature*, *μᾶλλον εἰκός ἐστι ζῴων γενέσθαι, ὑπὸ τοιαύτης αἰτίας, ἢ γίνεσθαι, καὶ εἶναι διὰ τοιαύτω αἰτίας, μᾶλλον ἢ ζῆα τοῖς θηρίοι.* L. 1. C. 1.
It is more likely that the Heaven was made by such a Cause as this (if it were Made) and that it is maintained by such a Cause, than that Mortal Animals should be so; which yet is a thing more generally acknowledged. Now it was before declared, that *Aristotle's Artificial Nature*, was nothing but the mere Executioner or Officer of a *Perfect Mind*, that is, of the *Deity*, which Two therefore he sometimes joyns together in the *Cosmopœia*, affirming that *Mind* and *Nature*, that is, *God and Nature*, were the Cause of this Universe.

And now we see plainly, that though there was a Real Controversie amongst the *Pagan Theologers*, (especially from *Aristotle's* time downward) concerning the *Cosmogonia* and *Theogonia*, according to the Stricter notion of those words, the *Temporary Generation* or *Production* of the *World* and *Inferior Gods*; or whether they had any Beginning or no; yet was there no Controversie at all, concerning the *Self-existence* of them, but it was Universally agreed upon amongst them, That the *World* and the *Inferior Gods*, however supposed by some to have existed from Eternity, yet were nevertheless all derived, from one *Sole Self-existent Deity*, as their Cause; *ἢν δὲ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἢ ἐκκαμπύεσθαι, being either Eradiated or Produced from God.* Wherefore it is observable, that these *Pagan Theists*, who asserted

Simplr. in d.
ripl. Phys. fol.
205.

the *Worlds Eternity*, did themselves distinguish concerning the word *γένεσις* *Ortum, Natum, & Factum*, as that which was Equivocal, and though in one sense of it, they denied that the World and Inferior Gods were *γένεσις*, yet notwithstanding did they in another sense clearly affirm the same. For the word *γένεσις* (say they) strictly and properly taken, is τὸ ἀπὸ μίαν χρόνον πρὶν εἶναι πρὸς εἶναι λαχόν, *that which in respect of time, passed out of Non-existence into Being*, or ὁ τὸ πρὸς εἶναι μὴ ὄν, ὕστερον ὃ ὄν, *that which being not before, afterwards was*. Nevertheless they acknowledge, that in a larger sense, this Word *γένεσις* may be taken also for τὸ ὅπουθεν ἀπ' αἰτίας ὑφισταμένη, *that which doth any way depend upon a Superior Being as its Cause*. And there must needs be the same Equivocation in the word ἀγένεσις, so that this in like manner may be taken also, either *χρόνου*, for that which is *Ingenerate* in respect of Time, as having no Temporary Beginning; or else for that which is, ἀπ' αἰτίας ἀγένεσις, *Ingenerate or Unproduced from any Cause*; in which latter sense, that word ἀγένεσις or *Unmade* is of equal force and extent, with αὐτοκίνητος or αὐτόγενεσις, *that which is Self-subsistent or Self-originated*; and accordingly it was used by those Pagan Theists, who concluded ὅτι ὁ κόσμος ἀγένεσις, i. e. *That Matter was Unmade*, that is, not only existed from Eternity without Beginning, but also was Self-existent, and Independent upon any Superior Cause. Now as to the Former of these two senses of those words, *γένεσις* and ἀγένεσις, the Generality of the ancient Pagans, and together with them Plato, affirmed, the World and all the Inferior Gods to be *γενεσις*, to have been Made in Time, or to have had a Beginning; (for whatever the Latter Platonists pretend, this was undoubtedly Plato's Notion of that word and no other, when he concluded the World to be *γενεσις*, forasmuch as himself expressly opposes it to αἰδιον, *that which is Eternal*.) But on the contrary, Aristotle and the Later Platonists, determined the World and all the Inferior Gods, to be in this sense ἀγένεσις, such as had no Temporary Beginning, but were from Eternity. However according to the later Sense of those words, all the Pagan Theologers agreed together, that the World and all the Inferior Gods, whether having a Beginning, or Existing from Eternity, were notwithstanding *γενεσις* ἀπ' αἰτίας, *produced or derived from a Superior Cause*; and that thus, there was only One *θεὸς ἀγένεσις*. One Unproduced and Self-existent Deity, who is said by them to be αἰτίας κρείττων καὶ πρεσβύτερος, *superior to a Cause and Older than any Cause*, he being the Cause of all things besides himself. Thus Crantor and his Followers in Proclus, zealous Assertors of the Worlds Eternity, determined, *γένεσις* λέγεσθαι τὸ κόσμον ὡς ἀπ' αἰτίας ἄλλης παρ' ἑαυτοῦ, καὶ ὅτι οὐκ αὐτόγενεσις ἔστι αὐτοκίνητος. *that the World (with all the Inferior Mundane Gods in it) notwithstanding their Being from Eternity, might be said to be γενεσις that is ortu or made, as being produced from another Cause, and not Self-originated or Self-existing*. In like manner Proclus himself, that grand Champion for the Worlds Eternity, plainly acknowledged notwithstanding, the Generation of the Gods and World in this sense, as being produced from a Superior Cause, λέγοντες θεῶν γένεσις, πρὶν ἀρξῆσθαι αὐτῶν πρὸς εἶναι αὐδ' ἑαυτοῦ, καὶ πρὶν αὐτῶν διδόναι ἵστανται, πρὸς τὰς αἰτίας αὐτῶν. *We call it the Generations of the Gods, meaning thereby, not any Temporary Production*

In Timæ. pag.
85.

duction of them, but their Ineffable Procession, from a Superior First Cause. Thus also *Salustius*, in his Book *de Divis & Mundo*, where he contends the World to have been from Eternity or without Beginning, yet concludes both it, and the other Inferiour Gods to have been made by One Supreme Deity, who is called by him, ὁ πρῶτος θεός, the First God. For saith he, μάλιστα ἢ δυνάμει ἔσται, ἢ ἀνθρώπων ἰσὶς ἢ ζῴων μὲν πῶς, ἀλλὰ θεὸς τι ἢ δαίμωνας. God or the First Cause, having the greatest power or being Omnipotent, ought therefore to make, not only Men, and other Animals, but also Gods and Demons. And accordingly this is the Title of his 13. Chapter, πῶς τὰ αἰδια λέγεσθαι γινώσκαι, How Eternal things may be said to be Made or Generated. It is true indeed (as we have often declared) that some of the Pagan Theists asserted, God not to be the only ἀγέννητος ἢ ἀωδυσέμενος, the only Unmade and Self-existent Being, but that Matter also was such; nevertheless, this Opinion was not so generally received amongst them, as is commonly supposed: and though some of the ancient Fathers confidently impute it to *Plato*, yet there seems to be no sufficient ground for their so doing; and *Porphyrus*, *Jamblichus*, *Proclus*, and other Platonists, do not only professedly oppose the same, as false, but also as that which was dissonant from *Plato's* Principles. Wherefore according to that larger Notion of the Word ἀγέννητος, as taken synonymously with αὐτήναις and ἀωδυσέμενος, there were Very many of the Pagan Theologers who agreed with Christians in this, ὅτι αὐτὸς ὁ ἀγέννητος ὁ θεός, ἢ ἐξ αὐτοῦ ὡς ἀν ἑαυτοῦ τῆς αὐτοῦ ἁγνότητος, That God is the only Ingenerate or Unmade Being, and that his very Essence is Ingenerability or Innascibility; all other things, even Matter it self, being made by him. But all the rest of them (only a few Ditheists excepted) though they supposed Matter to be Self-existent yet did they conclude, that there was only, ὁ εἰς οὐδὲν ἀγένητος, only One Unmade or Unproduced God, and that all their other Gods, were γινώσκαι, in One sence or other, if not as Made in Time, yet at least as Produced from a Superior Cause.

Nothing now remaineth, but onely that we shew, how the Pagans did distinguish, and put a difference, betwixt the One Supreme Unmade Deity, and all their other Inferior Generated Gods. Which we are the rather concerned to do; because it is notorious that they did many times also confound them together, attributing the Government of the Whole World to the Gods promiscuously, and without putting any due Discrimination, betwixt the Supreme, and Inferior; (the true reason whereof seems to have been this, because they supposed the Supreme God, not to do all immediatly, in the Government of the World, but to permit much to his Inferior Ministers) One Instance of which we had before in *Ovid*, and innumerable such others might be cited out of their most sober Writers. As for Example *Cicero*, in his First Book of Laws; *Decorum Immortalium vi, ratione, potestate, mente, numine, Natura omnis regitur, The Whole Nature, or Universe, is governed by the Force, Reason, Power, Mind, and Divinity of the Immortal Gods.* And again in his Second Book, *Deos esse Dominos ac Moderatores omnium rerum, eaque quæ geruntur, eorum geri iudicio atque Numine, eisdemque optimè de genere hominum mereri, & qualis*

quisque sit, quid agat, quid in se admittat, qua mente, qua pietate Religionem colat, intueri; piorumque & impiorum habere Rationem; à Principe Civibus suum esse debet: The Minds of Citizens, ought to be first of all imbued with a firm persuasion, that the Gods are the Lords and Moderators of all things, and that the Conduct and Management of the whole World is directed and over-ruled by their Judgment and Divine Power; that they deserve the best of mankind, that they behold and consider what every man is, what he doth and takes upon himself, with what Mind, Piety and Sincerity he observes the Duties of Religion; and Lastly, that these Gods have a very different regard to the Pious and the Impious. Now such Passages as these, abounding every where in Pagan Writings, it is no wonder if many, considering their Theology but slightly and superficially, have been led into an Error, and occasioned thereby to conclude, the Pagans not to have asserted a Divine Monarchy, but to have imputed both the making and Governing of the World to an Aristocracy or Democracy of Co-ordinate Gods, not only all Eternal, but also Self-existent and Unmade. The contrary whereunto, though it be already sufficiently proved, yet it will not be amiss for us here in the Close, to shew how the Pagans, who sometimes jumble and confound the Supreme and Inferior Gods all together, do notwithstanding at other times, many ways distinguish, betwixt the One Supreme God, and their other Many Inferior Gods.

First therefore, as the Pagans had Many Proper Names for One and the same Supreme God, according to several Particular Considerations of him, in respect of his several different Manifestations and Effects in the World; which are oftentimes mistaken for so many Distinct Deities; (some supposing them Independent, others Subordinate;) so had they also besides these, other Proper Names of God, according to that more full and comprehensive notion of him, as the Maker of the Whole World, and its Supreme Governour, or the Sole Monarch of the Universe. For thus the Greeks called him Ζεύς and Ζην, &c. the Latins Jupiter and Jovis, the Babylonians Belus and Bel, the Persians Asthras and Oromasdes, the Egyptians and Scythians (according to Herodotus) Ammon and Pappus. And Celſus in Origen, concludes it to be a Matter of pure Indifferency, to call the Supreme God by any of all these Names, either Ζεύς or Ammon or Pappus or the like, Κέλ. C. οὐτετι μὲν διαφέρει, διὰ τὴν ψῆφον, καλῶν ἢ Ζηνά, ἢ Ἀδωναῖον, ἢ Σαβαώθ ἢ (ὡς Αἰγυπτίων) Ἀμμων, ἢ (ὡς Σκυθῶν) Παππῶν. Celſus thinks it to be a matter of no moment, whether we call the Highest and Supreme God, Adonai and Sabaoth, as the Jews do; or Dia and Zena, as the Greeks; or as the Egyptians Ammon; or as the Scythians Pappus. Notwithstanding which, that Pious and Jealous Father expresseth a great deal of Zeal, against Christians then using any of those Pagan Names. Ent we will rather endure any torment (saith he) than confess Zeus (or Jupiter) to be God; being well assured that the Greeks often really worship, under that Name, an Evil Demon, who is an enemy both to God and Men. And we will rather suffer death, than call the Supreme God Ammon, whom the Egyptian Enchanters thus Invoke; λεγέμεται ὁ Ζεύς Σκιδου ἢ Παπῶν, οὗν εἶναι τὸ ἐπὶ πάντων ἄλλ' ἡμῶς ἢ παρὰ μεθεα, πᾶντις

Lib. 5. C. Celſus.

μὲν

μὴ τ' ἐπὶ τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὡς ἡ φίλον τοῖς λαχοῦσι τῷ Σαυδῶν ἱερῶν, ἢ τὸ
 ἰσχυρὸν αὐτοῦ, ἢ διὰ τὴν τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὡς καὶ ἐν ὀνόματι τοῦ Παπαίου.
 Σαυδῶν γὰρ τὸ προσγεγονὸς τὸ οὖν, ἢ λίγυσι, ἢ πῶς διαλέξαι, ἢ ἵκετος
 αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ ὀνόματι, ὅς ἑμαρτύνεται. *And though the Scythians call the*
Supreme God Pappæus, yet we acknowledging a Supreme God, will ne- L. p. 261.
ver be persuaded, to call him by that name, Which it pleased that De-
mon (who ruled over the Scythian Desert, People and Language) to im-
pose. Nevertheless he that shall use the Appellative name for God, either
in the Scythian, Egyptian, or any other Language, which he hath been
brought up in, will not offend. Where *Origen* plainly affirms, the *Scy-*
thians to have acknowledged *One Supreme God*, called by them *Pap-*
pæus, and intimates that the *Egyptians* did the like, calling him *Am-*
mon. Neither could it possibly be his intent, to deny the fame of
 the *Greeks* and their *Zeus*, however his great Jealousie, made him to
 call him here a *Demon*, it being true in a certain sence, which shall
 be declared afterward, that the *Pagans* did oftentimes, really worship
 an *Evil Demon*, under those very Names, of *Zeus*, and *Jupiter*, as
 they did likewise under those of *Hammon* and *Pappæus*.

In the mean time we deny not, but that both the *Greeks* used that
 word *Zeus*, and the *Latins* *Jupiter*, sometimes φεωκῶς, for the *Æther*,
Fire, or *Air*, some accordingly etymologizing *Zeus* from *Zeō*, others
Zeus from *Zeō*: Whence came those *Formes of Speech*, *Sub Jove*, and
Sub Dio. And thus *Cicero*, *Jovem Ennius nuncupat ita dicens*,

De nat. D. d. 4.
 213: *Lamb.*

Aspice hoc sublime candens, quem invocant omnes Jovem.

Hunc etiam Augures nostri cum dicunt, Jove Fulgente, Jove Tonante;
dicunt enim in Cælo Fulgente, Tonante, &c. The reason of which
 speeches seems to have been this, because in ancient times, some had sup-
 posed the *Animated Heaven*, *Æther* and *Air*, to be the *Supreme Deity*. We
 grant moreover, that the same words have been sometimes used
 ἱερεῶν also, for an *Hero* or *Deified Man*, said by some to have been
 born in *Crete*, by others in *Arcadia*. And *Callimæchus* though
 he were very angry with the *Cretians*, for affirming *Jupiter's* Sepul-
 chral Monument, to have been with them in *Crete*, as thereby making
 him *Mortal*,

Κρήτης ἀδ' ἰδύσαι, ἢ γὰρ τέφροι, φ' αἶνα, σῶω,
 Κρήτης ἐπικτήσαντο· σὺ δ' ἔσθ' ὅστις, ἐὰν γὰρ αἶα.

Cretes semper mendaces, tuum enim, Rex, sepulchrum
Extruxerunt: Tu verò non es mortuus, semper enim es.

Himself nevertheless (as *Athenagoras* and *Origen* observe) attributed
 the beginning of death to him, when he affirmed him to have been
 born in *Arcadia*; ἀρχὴ γὰρ θανάτου ἐστὶν γῆς γένεσις, because a *Terrene*
Nativity is the *Beginning of Death*. Wherefore this may pass for a
 general Observation here, that the *Pagan Theology*, was all along Con-
 founded with a certain Mixture, of *Physiology* and *Herology* or *History*
 blended together. Nevertheless it is unquestionable, that the more
 intelligent,

intelligent of the Greekish Pagans, did frequently understand by *Zeus*, that *Supreme Unmade Deity*, who was the *Maker of the World*, and of all the *Inferiour Gods*. *Porphyrins* in *Eusebins* thus declares

Prop. Eu. L. 3.

their sence, *ὁ δὲ Ζεὺς ὁ πάντων ἀρχαὶς*, *ὅς τ' αὖ αὐτῷ ἰδμενέρονται, ἔχον τὸ κόσμον*. By *Zeus*, the *Greeks* understand that *Mind of the World* which framed all things in it, and containeth the whole *World*. Agreeable whereunto is that of *Maximus Tyrinus*, *κάλεσεν τὸ μὲν Δία, νοῦν προσέθεντο, καὶ ἀρχαὶς*, *ὅς πάντα ἐπίλοιπ' ἐπελάττει*. By *Jupiter* you are to understand, that most *Ancient* and *Princely Mind*, which all things follow and obey. And *Eusebins* himself, though not forward to grant any more than needs he must to Pagans, concludes with this acknowledgment hereof, *ἔστι δὲ Ζεὺς μετὰ τὴν ἀρχὴν καὶ αἰθέριον ὅλον, ὡς καὶ τοῖς παλαιαῖς ἀπομνηστέον, καὶ τὸ πλάττειν*, *ἀλλ' αὐτὸς ὁ ἀναπλάττων Νῦν, ὁ τ' ὅλον δημιουργεῖ*. Let *Jupiter* therefore be no longer, that *Fiery and Ethereal Substance*, which the ancient Pagans according to *Plutarch* supposed him to be; but that *Highest Mind*, which was the *Maker of all things*. But *Phorntus* by *Jupiter* understands the *Soul of the World*, he writing thus concerning him; *ὡς καὶ ἡ φύσις ἀπὸ ψυχῆς διακρίνεται, ὅτι καὶ ὁ κόσμος ψυχῇ ἔχει τὴν συνέχουσαν αὐτῶν, καὶ αὐτὴ καλεῖται Ζεὺς, αἰτία ὅτι τοῖς ζῶντι τῷ ζῶντι, καὶ διὰ τὸ τοῦ βασιλέως ὁ Ζεὺς λέγεται τ' ὅλον*. As we our selves are governed by a *Soul*, so hath the *World* in like manner a *Soul* that containeth it; and this is called *Zeus*, being the *Cause of Life* to all things that live; and therefore *Zeus* or *Jupiter*, is said to reign over all things. However, though these were two different Conceptions amongst the Pagans concerning God, some apprehending him to be an *Abstract Mind* separate from the *World* and *Matter*. but others to be a *Soul of the World* only, yet nevertheless they all agreed in this, that *Zeus* or *Jupiter* was the *Supreme Moderator* or *Governour of all*. And accordingly *Plato* in his *Cratylus*

Prop. Eu. L. 3.
c. 13.

taking these Two Words, *Ζῆα* and *Δία*, both together, etymologizeth them as one, after this manner: *συντινόμενα εἰς ἓν διότι τῷ φύσει τῷ Ζεῷ, ὁ γὰρ ὅτι καὶ ἡμῶν καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις πᾶσι, ὅς ἐστι αἰτία πάντων τῷ ζῶντι, ὁ ἀρχὸν τοῦ καὶ βασιλέως τ' ὅλον πάντων. συμβαλὴν ἔνι ἑκαδὲς ἀπομνηστέον ὅτι, τὰς οὐδὲς εἶναι δι' ὅτι ζῶν ἀπὸ πάντων τοῖς ζῶντι ὑπάρχει, ἀπλυστῆναι δὲ διὰ (ὡς καὶ λέγει) ἐν ὅν τὸ ὄνομα, τὰς διὰ καὶ Ζῆα. These Two words compounded together, declare the Nature of God; for there is nothing, which is more the Cause of Life both to our selves and all other Animals, than He who is the Prince and King of all things, so that God is rightly thus called; He being that by whom all things Live. And these are really but one Name of God, though divided into Two Words. But because it was very obvious, then to object against this Position of *Plato's*, that *Zeus* or *Jupiter* could not be the Prince of all things, and First Original of Life, from the *Theogonia* of *Hesiod* and other ancient Pagans, in which himself was made to have been the Son of *Crochus* or *Saturn*; therefore this Objection is thus preoccupied by *Plato*, *τῶν δὲ καὶ Ζῆα καὶ Ζῆα, ὅς ἐστι καὶ μὲν αὐτῷ διὰ τὸ δόξαν εἶναι ἀνέστηναι ἑκαδὲς*. Whosoever shall hear this, (saith he) will presently conclude it, to be contumelious to this *Zeus* or *Jupiter* (as he hath been described by us) to be accounted the Son of *Crochus* or *Saturn*. And in answer hereunto, that *Philosopher* stretcheth his Wits, to false that *Poetick Theogonia*, and reconcile it with his own *Theological Hypothesis*; and thereupon he interprets that *Hesiodian**

P. 396. Supp.

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Jodan ζῆς or *Jupiter*, into a Compliance with the *Third Hypothesis* of his *Divine Triad*, so as properly to signify the *Superiour Soul* of the *World*; διλογον ὃ, μεγάλῃς τινος διαποίας ἔκγονοι εἶται ὃ δία· κρείττω· ὃ δὲ καὶ αὐτῷ καὶ ἀκρότερον τῷ νῦν· ἔστι δὲ ἑστῶ· οὐρανὸς ὧς, ὡς λόγος· Nevertheless it is reasonable to suppose, *Zeus* or *Jupiter* to be the *Offspring* of some *Great Mind*: and *Chronos* or *Saturn* signifieth a *pure and Perfect Mind Eternal*; who again is said to be the *Son* of *Uranus* or *Cælius*. Where it is manifest, that *Plato* endeavours to accommodate this *Poetick Trinity* of Gods, *Uranus*, *Chronos* and *Zeus*; or *Cælius*, *Saturn* and *Jupiter*, to his own *Trinity* of *Divine Hypotheses*, τ' ἀρχόν, ὧς and ψυχῇ, the *First Good*, a *Perfect Intellect*, and the *Highest Soul*. Which Accommodation, is accordingly further pursued by *Plotinus* in several places, as *Enn.* 5. l. 1. c. 4. and *Enn.* 5. l. 8. c. 13. Nevertheless these *Three Archical Hypotheses* of the *Platonick Trinity*, though look'd upon as Substances distinct from each other, and Subordinate; yet are they frequently taken all together by them for the *Whole Supreme Deity*. However the Word ζῆς is by *Plato* severally attributed, to each of them; which *Proclus* thus observed P. 298. upon the *Timæus*: λέγωμεν ὅτι πολλὰ μὲν εἰν τάξεις ἐς αὐτὸν πλάττει τῷ δία· ἄλλος ὃ δὲ δημιουργὸς ζῆς, ὡς αὐ κατεπύλω γέγραπται, καὶ ἄλλος ὁ πρῶτος ὁ κρείττων τελεῖται, ὡς αὐ ταυτὶ λέγεται, καὶ ἄλλος ὁ ἀπλοῦς, ὡς αὐ τῷ ταυτὶ αὐτῷ λέγεται, καὶ ἄλλος ὁ ὁρατός, ἔτι ὅτι τῷ ἀπλοῦς ἔστι ὁ αὐ τῷ διατὸς αὐτῷ· We say therefore, that there are several Orders, Ranks or Degrees of *Zeus* or *Jupiter* in *Plato*; for sometimes he is taken for the *Demiurgus* or *Opificer* of the *World*, as in *Cratylus*, sometimes for the *First* of the *Saturnian Triad*, as in *Gorgias*, sometimes for the *Superiour Soul* of the *World*, as in *Phædrus*, and lastly sometimes for the *Lower Soul* of the *Heaven*. Though by *Proclus* his lieve, that *Zeus* or *Jupiter* which is mentioned in *Plato's Cratylus* (being plainly the *Superiour Psyche* or *Soul* of the *World*) is not properly the *Demiurgus* or *Opificer*, according to him, that Title rather belonging to ὧς or *Intellect*, which is the *Second Hypothesis* in his *Trinity*.

As for the *Vulgar* of the *Greekish Pagans*, whether they apprehended *God* to be νῦν ἐξχωριστὸν τῷ κόσμῳ, a *Mind* or *Intellect* separate from the *World*, or else to be a *Soul* of the *World* only; it cannot be doubted, but that by the word *Zeus*, they commonly understood the *Supreme Deity* in one or other of those senses, the *Father* and *King* of *Gods*: he being frequently thus stiled in their solemn *Nuncupations* of *Vows*, ζεῦ πάτερ, ζεῦ ἄνα, O *Jupiter Fathers*, and O *Jupiter King*. As he was invoked also ζεῦ βασιλεῦ, in that excellent *Prayer* of an ancient *Poet*, not without cause commended in *Plato's Alcibiades*.

ζεῦ βασιλεῦ, τὰ μὲν ἐσθλά καὶ ἀγαθὰ καὶ ἀνέμους

ἄμμι δίδου, τὰ δὲ δεινὰ καὶ ἀκαρτέρους ἀπολέσθαι·

O *Jupiter King*, give us good things whether we pray or pray not for them, but withhold evil things from us, though we should pray never so earnestly for them. But the Instances of this kind being innumerable, we shall forbear to mention any more of them. Only we shall observe, that *Zeus Sabazius* was a name for the *Supreme God*, sometime introduced

duced amongst the Greeks, and derived in all probability, from the Hebrew *Sabaſth*, or *Adonai Tſebaſth*, the *Lord of Hoſts*, (that is of the Heavenly Hoſts) or the Supreme Governour of the World. Which therefore *Ariſtophanes* took notice of, as a ſtrange and foreign God, lately crept in amongst them, that ought to be baniſh'd out of *Greece*; theſe ſeveral Names of God being then vulgarly ſpoken of, as ſo many diſtinct Deities; as ſhall be more fully declared afterwards. We ſhall likewiſe elſewhere ſhow, that beſides *Ζεύς*, πᾶρ alſo was uſed by the Greeks, as a Name for that God, who is the ſupreme Moderator and Governour of the whole World.

That the Latins did in like manner, by *Jupiter* and *Jovis*, frequently denote the *Supreme Deity*, and *Monarch of the Univerſe*, is a thing unqueſtionable; and which does ſufficiently appear from thoſe Epithets that were commonly given to him, of *Optimus* and *Maximus*, the *Beſt* and the *Greateſt*, as alſo of *Omnipotens* frequently beſtowed upon him by *Virgil* and others. Which word *Jupiter* or *Jovis*, though *Cicero* etymologize it à *Juvando*, or from *Juvans Pater*, as not knowing how to do it otherwiſe, yet we may rather conclude it to have been of an Hebraical Extraction, and derived from that *Tetragrammaton* or Name of God, conſiſting of Four Conſonants; whoſe Vowels (which it was to be pronounced with) though they be not now certainly known, yet muſt it needs have ſome ſuch ſound as this, either *Jovab*, or *Jabvob*, or 'Iſſa or 'tāw, or the like: and the abbreviation of this Name was *Jab*. For as the Pagan Nations, had beſides Appellatives, their ſeveral Proper Names for God, ſo alſo had the Hebrews theirs, and ſuch as being given by God himſelf, was moſt expreſſive of his Nature, it ſignifying *Eternal and Neceſſary Exiſtence*.

But in the next place we ſhall ſuggeſt, that the Pagans did not only ſignifie the *Supreme God*, by theſe *Proper Names*, but alſo frequently by the *Appellatives* themſelves, when uſed not for a *God* in General, but for *the God*, or God κατ' ἰſοχρῶ, and by way of eminency. And thus *ὁ Θεός* and *Θεός* are often taken by the Greeks, not for *Θεὸν πῆ, a God*, or one of the Gods, but for *God*, or the *Supreme Deity*. We have ſeveral Examples hereof, in Paſſages before cited occaſionally in this very Chapter, as in that of *Ariſtotle's*, τί ἐν αὐτῷ κρείττον ἐστὶν ὅτις πολλὸς ὁ Θεός; *What is there therefore, that can be better than Knowledge, but only God*: As alſo that other of his, that Happineſs conſiſteth principally in Virtue, ἵνα συνωμολογημένοι ἡμεῖς μακάριον πᾶσι θεῶν χάρις μερόμεν, *it is a thing that ought to be acknowledged by us from the Nature of God*. So likewiſe in that of *Thales*, πρὸ πάντων ὁ Θεός, ἀγέννητον γάρ, *God is the oldeſt of all things, becauſe he is Unmade*, and that of *Maximus Tyrius*, πολλοὶ θεοὶ πᾶνθε θεῷ καὶ συνάγουσις θεῷ, *Many Gods the Sours of God and Co-reignors together with God*. Beſides which, there have been others alſo mentioned, which we ſhall not here repeat. And innumerable more Inſtances of this kind might be added, as that of *Antiphanes*, θεὸς ὅτινι ἴσται, ὅτι περ αὐτῷ ὁ θεός ἐμμενὸν ἐστὶν εἰκότι δυνάει, *God is like to nothing, for which cauſe he cannot be learnt by any, from an Image*: This of *Socrates*, εἰ ταύτη φάνηται θεῷ, ταύτη γινώσκω, *If*
God

God will have it so, let it be so. And that of *Epiſtetus*, *ὃ μόνον μέμνη-
σθαι καθολικῶν, τί ἐμὸν, τί οὐκ ἐμὸν; τί ὅλη με πῶς ὁ θεὸς νῦν;
Do thou only remember, these Catholick and Universal Principles; What
is Mine and what is not Mine? What would God have me now to do?
and what would he have me not to do?* But we shall mention no more
of these, because they occur so frequently in all manner of Greek
Writers, both Metrical and Prosaical.

Wherefore we shall here only add, that as the Singular *θεός*, was
thus often used by the Greeks for *God κατ' ἑξοχὴν* or *in way of Emi-
nency*, that is, for the *Supreme Deity*, so was likewise the Plural *θεοὶ*
frequently used by them, for the *Inferiour Gods* by way of Distinction
from the *Supreme*. As in that usual Form of Prayer and Exclama-
tion *ὦ Ζεῦ καὶ θεοί, ὦ Jupiter and the Gods*, and that Form of Obtesta-
tion, *πρὸς θεὸν καὶ θεούς, By Jupiter and the Gods*. So in this of *Eu-
ripides*,

Ἄλλ' ὄρνι, ἔρ· κἀν τις ἐγὼ λαὸν λογῶ
Ζεὺς καὶ θεοί, βερέτῃα λῶσά περ.

*Est, (sint licet qui rideant) est Jupiter,
superique; Casus qui videns Mortalium.*

In which Passages, as *Jupiter* is put for the *Supreme God*, so is *θεοὶ*
likewise put, for the *Inferiour Gods*, in way of distinction from him.
Thus also *θεός* and *θεοὶ* are taken both together, in *Plato's Phædo*, *θεός*
for the *Supreme*, *Unmade and Incorruptible Deity*, and *θεοὶ* for the
Inferiour Gods only, ὁ δὲ γὰρ θεός (οἷμα) ἐφ' ὃ σωκράτης, καὶ αὐτὸ τὸ π
ζωὴς αὐτοῦ ὅλη πᾶν ἂν ὁμολογήσειν, μὴ πῶς ἀπὸλλυμῃ. παρὰ πᾶν
τῶν μάλιστα νῦν αἰ (ἐφ' ὃ) ἀνθρώπων γὰρ καὶ ἐπὶ μᾶλλον, ὡς ἐγὼμαι, ὅλη οὖν.
*I suppose, said Socrates, that God and the very Species, Essence or Idea
of Life, will be granted by all to be Incorruptible. Doubtless by all men
(said Cebes) but much more as I conceive, by the Gods. But a further
Instance will be propounded afterwards, of the word θεοὶ thus used
by way of distinction, for the Inferiour Gods only; as it was before
declared, that the Theogonia or Generation of Gods was accord-
ingly understood by the Greeks universally, of the θεοὶ, that is, the
Inferiour Gods.*

P. 1061

Plato de Rep.
ἐξ ὧν οὗτος ὁ
τὸ ἀσώματος, ὃ
τὸ ἀσώματος ἔ-
στιν ἡ φύσις τῆς
οὐσίας, οὐ καὶ
ἀσώματος ἀσώματος
ἵστανται θεοὶ.
He will never be
mutilated of the
Gods, who radiate
virtue, as much as
it is possible for a
many to be like to
God. p. 101.

Moreover as the word *θεός* was taken κατ' ἑξοχὴν, or *by way of emi-
nency*, for the *Supreme God*, so was *δαίμων* likewise. As for exam-
ple, in this Passage of *Callimachus* before cited imperfectly,

Εἰ θεὸν οἶδα,
ἴσθ' ὅτι καὶ εἴμαι δαίμων πᾶν δυνάτω.

*Si Deus est tibi notus,
Hoc etiam noris, omnia posse Deum.*

Where *θεός* and *δαίμων* are used both alike *signanter*, for the *Supreme
God*. And thus also in that famous Passage of another Poet,

—Τοῖς

τοῖς γὰρ ἄλλοις,
εἰς ἀλλὴ καὶ γαίᾳ, κακὰ μύρεα θύματα δαίμων.

Homer likewise, in one and the same place, seems to use θεὸς and δαίμων both together, after the same manner, for the Supreme God,

"Ὅπποτ' ἀνὴρ ἰθὺλα πρὸς δαίμονα φατὶ μάχεσθαι,
"Ὅν καὶ θεὸς τιμᾷ, τάχα οἱ μύρεα πῆμα καλῶνται."

*Quoties homo vult, adverso Numine, cum viro pugnare
Quem Deus honorat, mox in eum magna clades devolvitur.*

Again we conceive, that Jupiter or the Supreme God, was sometimes signified amongst the Pagans, by that expression, θεὸς αὐτὸς Deus Ipse, as in that of Homer's Ninth Iliad,

οὐδ' ἔτι κέ μοι ὑπερβαῖν θεὸς αὐτός,
Γῆρας ἀπεβύζας, θῆσαν νῶν ἰσάοντα.

*Neque se mihi promitteret Deus Ipse,
Senectutem abradsens, effluurum me juvenem pubescentem.*

Contra Job.
L. 1.

So Job.
Mari. Ad Gra.
esh. p. 22.

And thus St. Cyril of Alexandria interprets Homer here, ὅ γάρ τις φησὶ, εἰ καὶ οὐδὲν τις ὑπὲρ τοῦ μοι τῷ μὲν γέρας ἀπαιτῶν, παλαιά γερον ἢ τὴν νεότητα, πτήρηκα ἢ τὸ χεῖμα μόνον τῷ ἔπι πάντας θεῶν, &c. τὸ γὰρ τι θεὸς αὐτός, καὶ ἐφ' ἑκάστῳ αὐτῶν μάλιστα πεπλάσμενον τιτὰ, αὐτὸν ἢ δὴ μόνον καὶ ἀπομνησθῆναι ἂν τὸ ἀνδρῶς οὐκ οἶναι. Homer doth not say, If any of the Gods would promise me freedom from old Age and restitution of Youth, but he reserves the matter only to the Supreme God; neither doth he refer it to any of the Fictitious Poetical Gods, but to the true God alone. The same Language was also spoken, in the Laws of the Twelve Tables; Deos adempto caste, Opes amovento: Si secus faxint, Deus ipse vindex erit: Let the Gods be worshipp'd chastely, superfluity of Riches and Pomp being removed: If men do otherwise, God Himself will be the Avenger. Where though the word Gods be used generally, so as to comprehend both the Supreme and Inferiour Gods under it, yet Deus Ipse, God himself, denotes the Supreme God only. In like manner ὁ δαίμων αὐτός also seems to be taken for the Supreme God in that of Euripides,

λόγῳ με ὁ δαίμων αὐτός, ὅταν ἐγὼ θέλω,

Which was thus rendred by Horace,

Ipse Deus, simulatque vult, me solvet.

Notwithstanding which, δαίμων and δαίμονες, are often distinguished from θεὸς and θεοί, they being put for an Inferiour rank of Beings below the Gods, vulgarly called Demons, which word in a large sense

sence comprehends also *Heroes* under it. For though these *Demons* be sometimes called *Gods* too, yet were they rather accounted *ἡμίθεοι*, *Demi-gods*, than *Gods*. And thus οἱ καὶ δαίμονες, *Gods and Demons*, are frequently joyned together, as things distinct from one another: which Notion of the word *Plato* refers to, when he concludes, *Love* not to be a *God*, but a *Demon* only. But of these *Demons* we are to speak more afterwards.

Furthermore, the *Pagan Writers* frequently understand the Supreme *God* by the τὸ θεῖον, when the word is used Substantively. As for example, in this of *Epicharmus*,

οὐδὲν ἀκρόβυτον τὸ θεῖον, τὸ τοῦτο καὶ χαίρει καὶ δαί-
μονος ἑσὶ ἡμῶν ἐπίτηδες. ἀδυνατῶ δ' εἶδέν σε εἶναι.

Res nulla est Deum quæ lateat, scire quod te convenit :
Ipse est noster Introspector, tum Deus nil non potest.

So likewise in this of *Plato's*, πῶς ἡδονῆς καὶ λύπης τέρεται τὸ θεῖον, *God is far removed both from Pleasure and Grief*. And *Plotinus* calls the Supreme *God*, τὸ ἐν τοῦ παντὶ θεῖον, *The Divinity that is in the Universe*. But because the Instances hereof are also Innumerable, we shall decline the mentioning of any more, and instead of them, only set down the Judgment of that diligent and impartial Observer of the Force of words, *Henricus Stephanus*, concerning it; *Redditur etiam τὸ θεῖον sæpe Deus, sed ita tamen ut intelligendum sit, non de quolibet Deo, ab ipsis etiam profanis Scriptoribus dici, verum de eo quem intelligerent, cum θεῖον dicebant quasi xoc' ἱεροῦ, ad differentiam eorum, qui multi, appellatione θεῖον includebantur, summum videlicet supremumque Numen, & quasi dicas θεῖον θεῶν ὑπεῖλον καὶ ἀριστον, ut loquitur de Jove Homerus.*

Lastly, as τὸ θεῖον so likewise was τὸ δαιμόνιον used by the Greeks, for the Supreme *Numen*, or that Divinity which governs the whole World. Thus whereas it was commonly said (according to *Herodotus*) ὅτι τὸ θεῖον φθόνεον, *That God was envious*; the meaning whereof was, that he did not commonly suffer any great Humane Prosperity, to continue long, without some check or counterbuff; the same Proverbial speech is expressed in *Aristotle*, φθόνεον τὸ δαιμόνιον. And in this sense the word seems to be used in *Isocrates ad Dæmonicum*, τίμα τὸ δαιμόνιον ἀεὶ μέν, μέλιτι καὶ μέλιτι καὶ πόλει, *Worship God always, but especially with the City, in her Publick Sacrifices*. And doubtless it was thus taken by *Epictetus* in this Passage of his, μία ὁδὸς ἐστὶ δεινῶν, τὸ τοῦτο εἶναι, καὶ μετ' ἡμέραν καὶ νύκτα, ἔσθω περὶ χεῖρας, ἀπὸ τοῦ τοῦ αἵματος, τὸ μηδὲν ἰδίον ἡγῶμαι, τὸ ἀποδοῦναι πάντα τῷ δαιμονίῳ, καὶ τῇ τύχῃ. *There is but one way to Tranquillity of Mind and Happiness, Let this therefore be always ready at hand with thee, both when thou wakest early in the morning, and all the day long, and when thou goest late to sleep; to account no external things thine own, but to commit all these to God and Fortune.* And there is a very remarkable Passage in *Demosthenes* (observed by *Eudæmus*) that must not be here omitted; in which we have εἰ σοὶ plainly for the *Inferiour* or *Minor Gods* only, and τὸ δαιμόνιον for

Att. Lib. 4. c. 4. p. 387.

P. 27 Supl.

the Supreme God, both together ; ἑσθλα οἱ θεοὶ καὶ τὸ δαιμόνιον, ἃ μὴ τὰ δίκαια ἴσχυσι μόνον. *The Gods and the Deity will know or take notice of him that gives not a righteous sentence ; that is, both the Inferior Gods and the Supreme God himself.* Wherefore we see, that the word δαιμόνιον, as to its Grammatical Form, is not a Diminutive, as some have conceived, but an Adjective Substantiv'd ; as well as τὸ θεόν is. Nevertheless in Pagan Writings, δαιμόνιον also, as well as δαίμων from whence it is derived, is often used for an Inferiour Rank of Beings below the Gods, though sometimes called Gods too ; and such was Socrates his δαιμόνιον so commonly known. But the Grammar of this Word, and its proper Signification in Pagan Writers, cannot better be manifested, than by citing that Passage of Socrates his own, in his Apology, as written by Plato ; who though generally supposed to have had a *Dæmon*, was notwithstanding by Melitus accused of Atheism ; ἔγωγε ὅστις ἀνθρώπων, ὧ μάλιστα, ἀνθρώπων μὲν νομίζει πράγματα εἶναι, ἀνθρώπων ἢ ἢ νομίζει ; ἢ ὅστις ἰσχυρὸς μὲν ἢ νομίζει, ἰσχυρὰ ἢ πράγματα ; &c. καὶ ἔγωγε ὧ ἀνθρώπων ἀνθρώπων, ἀλλὰ τὸ ἐπὶ πάντων ἀπόλασσαι, ἔσθ' ἔστι δαιμόνια μὲν νομίζει πράγματα εἶναι, δαίμονας ἢ νομίζει ; καὶ ἔγωγε. ἀλλ' ὅτι δαιμόνια γὰρ νομίζω καὶ τὸ σπλάγχνον. εἰ ἢ δαιμόνια νομίζω, καὶ δαίμονας ὅστις πολλοὶ ἀνέχον νομίζοντες ἔστιν. τίς ἢ δαίμονας ἐχέει ἡμεῖς θεός γὰρ ἡγούμεθα εἶναι, ἢ θεῶν παῖδας ; &c. *Is there any one, O Melitus, who acknowledging that there are Humane things, can yet deny that there are any Men ? or confessing that there are Equine things, can nevertheless deny that there are any Horses ? If thou cannot be, then no man who acknowledges Demonial things, can deny Demons. Wherefore I being confessed to assert δαιμόνια, must needs be granted, to hold δαίμονας also. Now do we not all think, that Demons are either Gods, or at least Sons of the Gods. Wherefore for any one to conceive that there are Demons, and yet no Gods, is altogether as absurd, as if one should think that there are Mules, but yet neither Horses nor Asses. However, in the New Testament, according to the Judgment of Origen, Eusebius, and others of the Ancient Fathers, both those words δαίμονες and δαιμόνια, are alike taken, always in a *Worse sense*, for Evil and Impure Spirits only.*

But over and besides all this ; the Pagans do often characterize the Supreme God, by such *Titles, Epithets, and Descriptions*, as are Incommunicably proper to him : thereby plainly distinguishing him from all other Inferiour Gods. He being sometimes called by them, ὁ δημιουργός, the *Opifex Architect* or *Maker of the World*, ὁ ἡγούμενος τῶ παντός καὶ ἀρχηγός, the *Prince and chief Ruler of the Universe* ; ὁ πρῶτος and ὁ πρῶτος θεός (by the Greeks) and (by the Latins) *Primus Deus*, the *First God* ; ὁ πρῶτος νοῦς, the *First Mind* ; ὁ μέγας θεός, the *Great God* ; ὁ μέγας δαίμων, and ὁ μέγας θεός, the *greatest God and the greatest of the Gods* ; ὁ ὑψίστος, the *Highest* ; and ὁ ὑπερθεός, the *Supreme of the Gods* ; ὁ ἀνωτάτω θεός, the *Uppermost, or most Transcendent God* ; *Princeps ille Deus*, that *Chief or Principal God* ; θεός θεῶν, the *God of Gods* ; and ἀρχὴ ἀρχῶν, the *Principle of Principles* ; τὸ πρῶτον αἶνον, the *First Cause* ; ὁ τοῦ τοῦ πᾶν δημιουργός, He that *Generated or Created this whole Universe* ; ὁ κρατῶν τὸ πᾶν, He that *ruleth over the whole World* ; *Summus Rex* or *Dominus*, The *Supreme Governour and Lord of all* ; ὁ ἐπὶ πάντων θεός, the *God over all* ; ὁ θεός ἀβυσσῶν, αὐτοβυσσῶν, αὐτοφῶν, αὐθῶν.

ἀγενετός, *The Ingenerate or Unmade Self-originated and Self-subsisting Deity*; μονάς a *Monads* τὸ ἐν αὐτῷ ἀγαθόν, *Unity and Goodness it self*; τὸ ἐπέκεινα τῆς οὐσίας, and τὸ ὑπερῶς, *that which is above Essence or Super-essential*; τὸ ἐπέκεινα τῆς, *that which is above mind and Understanding*; *Summum illud & Eternum, neque mutabile neque interitum*, *That Supreme and Eternal Being, which is Immutable and can never perish*; ἀρχή, ἔκ τελευτῃ, ἔκ μέσῃ ἀπάντων, *The Beginning, and End, and Middle of all things*; ἐν ἑνὶ παντί, *One and all things*; *Deus Unus & Omnes, One God and All Gods*; And Lastly, to name no more, is Πρὸνοια, or *Providence*, as distinguished from ⁴⁶Θύς *Nature*, is often used by them also, as a Name for the Supreme God, which because it is of the Feminine Gender, the Impious and Atheistical Epicureans, therefore took occasion, to call God ridiculously and jeeringly, *Anum fatidicam Frontonem*. Now all these, and other such like Expressions, being found in the Writings of Professed Pagans (as we are able to shew) and some of them very frequently, it cannot be denied, but that the Pagans did put a Manifest Difference betwixt the *Supreme God*, and all their other *Inferiour Gods*.

X V. What hath been now declared, might, as we conceive, be judged sufficient, in order to our present Undertaking; which is to prove, that the more Intelligent of the Ancient Pagans, notwithstanding that *Multiplicity of Gods* worshipped by them, did generally acknowledge, *One Supreme, Omnipotent, and Only Unmade Deity*. Nevertheless, since men are commonly so much prepossess'd with a contrary Perswasion; (the reason whereof seems to be no other than this, that because the *Notion* of the Word *God*, which is now generally received amongst us Christians, is such as does essentially include *Self-existence in it*, they are therefore apt to conceit, that it must needs do so likewise amongst the Pagans;) we shall endeavour to produce yet some further Evidence for the Truth of our Assertion. And first we conceive, This to be no small Confirmation thereof, because after the Publication of *Christianity*, and all along during that Tugging and Contest which was betwixt it and *Paganism*, none of the Professed Champions for *Paganism*, and Antagonists of Christianity (when occasion was now offered them) did ever assert any such thing, as a *Multiplicity of Understanding Deities Unmade (or Creators)* but on the contrary, they all generally disclaimed it, professing to acknowledge *One Supreme Self-existent Deity, the Maker of the whole Universe*.

It is a thing highly probable, if not unquestionable, that *Apollonius Tyanicus*, shortly after the Publication of the Gospel to the World, was a Person made choice of by the Policy, and assisted by the Powers of the Kingdom of Darkness, for the doing of some things Extraordinary; merely out of design, to derogate from the Miracles of our Saviour Christ, and to enable *Paganism* the better, to bear up against the assaults of Christianity. For amongst the many Writers of this Philosophers Life; some, and particularly *Philostratus*, seem to have had no other aim in this their whole undertaking, then only to dress up *Apollonius*, in such a garb and manner, as might make him best seem

to be a fit Corival, with our Saviour Christ, both in respect of *Sanctity* and *Miracles*. *Eunapius* therefore telling us, that he mis-titled his Book, and that in stead of Ἀπολλωνίου βίβλος, *the Life of Apollonius*, he should have called it θεὸς εἰς ἀνθρώπους ἐκιδρυμῆναι, *The Coming down, and Converse of God with Men*; forasmuch as this *Apollonius* (saith he) was not a bare Philosopher or Man, ἀλλὰ τι θεῶν καὶ ἀνθρώπων μέσον, *but a certain middle thing betwixt the Gods and Men*. And that this was the use commonly made by the Pagans, of this History of *Apollonius*, namely to set him up in way of opposition and Rivalry to our Saviour Christ, appears sundry ways. *Marcellinus*, in an Epistle of his to St. *Austin*, declares this as the Grand Objection of the Pagans against Christianity, (therefore desiring St. *Austin's* answer to the same;) *Nil aliud Dominum, quàm alii homines sacre potuerunt, secisse vel egisse mentiuntur*; *Apollonium siquidem suum nobis, & Apuleium, aliisque Magicæ artis homines, in medicum proferunt, quorum majora contendunt extitisse miracula*: *The Pagans pretend, That our Saviour Christ did no more, than what other men have been able to do, they producing their Apollonius and Apuleius, and other Magicians, whom they contend to have done greater miracles*. And it is well known that *Hierocles* to whom *Eusebius* gives the commendation of a very Learned man, wrote a Book against the Christians (entitled τὸ ἀληθὲς, or λόγος φιλαλήθης) the chief design whereof was to compare this *Apollonius Tyanæus* with, and prefer him before our Saviour Christ: Ἄνω καὶ κάτω θευμένεσι, σιμύοντες τὸ ἱερεῖον, ὡς τυφλοὺς ἀναγέλλουσι τὸ ἄσπερον, καὶ τὰ τοιαῦτα ἐράσπειρα διαμύματα. *they are Hierocles his own words in Eusebius*; *The Christians* (saith he) *keep a great deal of stir, crying up of one Jesus, for restoring sight to the blind, and doing some such other Wonders*. And then mentioning the *Thaumaturgi* or *Wonder-workers* amongst the Pagans, but especially *Apollonius Tyanæus*, and insisting largely upon his Miracles, he adds in the close of all, τίνας ἐν ἡμῶν τῶν ἰσχυρῶν; ἢ ἐξ ὧν συγκρίναι τὴν ἡμετέραν ἀρετὴν καὶ βεβαίαν ἐφ' ἡμῶν κριθεῖν, καὶ τὴν τοῦ Χριστοῦ κατὰ κράτος καυχήματα. Ἐπεὶ ἡμεῖς μὴ τὸ τοιαῦτα πεποιημένα, ὅθεν ἀλλὰ θεοὶ καὶ κατὰ κράτος ἀνδρῶν ἡγούμεθα: οἱ δὲ δὴ ἀνδρῶν προτέρας τινὰς τ' ἡμεῖς θεοὺς ἀναγέλλουσιν. *To what purpose now have we mentioned all these things? but only that the solid Judgement of us* (Pagans) *might be compared with the Levity of the Christians*; forasmuch as we do not account him a God, who did all these Miracles, but only a Person beloved of the Gods; whilst they declare Jesus to be a God, merely for doing a few Wonders. Where, because *Eusebius* is silent, we cannot but subjoyn an Answer out of *Lactantius* (which indeed he seems to have directed against those very words of *Hierocles*, though not naming of him) it being both pertinent and full; *Apparet nos sapientiores esse, qui mirabilibus factis, non statim fidem Divinitatis adjunximus, quàm vos, qui ob exigua portentia Deum credidistis* — *Disce igitur, si quid tibi cordis est, non solum idcirco à nobis Deum creditum Christum, quia mirabilia fecit, sed quia vidimus in eo facta esse omnia quæ nobis annunciata sunt, Vaticinia Prophetarum. Fecit mirabilia; Magum putassemus, ut & vos nuncupatis; & Judæi tunc putaverunt; si non illa ipsa facturum Christum, Prophetæ omnes uno spiritu prædicassent. Itaque Deum credimus, non magis ex factis, operibusque mirandis; quàm ex illa ipsa Cruce, quam vos sicut Canes lambitis; quoniam simul & illa prædicta est. Non igitur Suo*
Tefimo-

Ep. 4.

De Trinitate,
c. 3.

Testimonio, (cui enim de se dicenti potest credi ?) sed Prophetarum Testimonio, qui omnia quæ fecit ac posuit est, multo ante ceciderunt ; fidem Divinitatis accepit ; quod neque Apollonio neque Apuleio, neque cuiquam Magorum potest aliquando contingere. It is manifest that we Christians are wiser than you Pagans, in that we do not presently attribute Divinity to a person, merely because of his Wonders ; whereas a few Fortuitous things, or Extraordinary actions, will be enough with you, to make you Deify the Doer of them ; (and so indeed did some of them, however Hierocles denies it, Deify Apollonius.) Let this writer against Christianity therefore learn, (if he have any Understanding or Sense in him) that Christ was not therefore believed to be a God by us Christians, merely because of his Miracles, but because we saw all those things done by, and accomplished in him, which were long before predicted to us, by the Prophets. He did miracles, and we should therefore have suspected him for a Magician (as you now call him, and as the Jews then supposed him to be ;) had not all the Prophets, with one voice foretold, that he should do such things. We believe him therefore to be God, no more from his Miracles, than from that very Cross of his, which you so much quarrel with, because that was likewise foretold. So that our Belief of Christ's Divinity, is not founded upon his own Testimony (for who can be believed concerning himself ?) but upon the Testimony of the Prophets, who sang long before of all those things, which he both did and suffered. Which is such a peculiar advantage and privilege of his, as that neither Apollonius nor Apuleius, nor any other Magician, could ever share therein. Now as for the Life and Morals of this Apollonius Tyanæus, as it was a thing absolutely necessary, for the carrying on of such a Diabolical Design, that the Person made use of for an Instrument, should have some colourable and plausible pretence of Vertue, so did Apollonius accordingly take upon him the profession of a Pythagorean, and indeed act that part externally so well, that even Sidonius Apollinaris, though a Christian, was so dazzled with the glittering show and lustre of his counterfeited Vertues, as if he had been enchanted by this Magician, so long after his death. Nevertheless whosoever is not very dim-sighted in such matters as these, or partially affected, may easily perceive, that this Apollonius was so far from having any thing of that Divine Spirit which manifested it self in our Saviour Christ (transcending all the Philosophers that ever were) that he fell far short of the better moralized Pagans, as for example Socrates, there being a plain appearance of much Pride and Vain-glory (besides other Foolery) discoverable both in his Words and Actions. And this Eusebius undertakes to evince from Philostratus his own History (though containing many Fallhoods in it) ὅτι ὁ βίαντις ὁ καὶ μετρίως ἀνδραγαθὸν ἔχον ἑρμηνεύει, καὶ τὸν τῶν σοφιστῶν ἡμῶν, καὶ τῶν ἑλλήνων ἑκείνων, ὅτι ἄνθρωπος, That Apollonius was so far from deserving to be compared with our Saviour Christ, that he was not fit to be ranked amongst the moderately and indifferently Honest men. Wherefore as to his reputed Miracles, if credit be to be given to those Relations, and such things were really done by him, it must for this reason also be concluded, that they were done no otherwise than by Magick and Necromancy; and that this Apollonius was but an Archimago or grand Magician. Neither ought this to be suspected for a mere slander cast upon him, by partially affected Christians only, since, during his Life-

Gen. Coll. L. 6.
p. 302.

Hist. l. 4. p. 117.

time, he was generally reputed, even amongst the Pagans themselves, for no other than a *γίνης*, or *Infamous Inchanter*, and accused of that very Crime before *Domitian the Emperour*; as he was also represented such, by one of the Pagan Writers of his Life, *Macrægenes*, senior to *Philostrophus*; as we learn from *Origen*; *ὅτι μαγείας φαιρόμενος, ὑπὸ τοῦ βουλομένου ἐξετάσσει, τίποτε περὶ καὶ φιλόσοφοι ἀλατὰ εἰσι αὐτῇ, εἰ μὴ, ἀκαγώτως τὰ γεγραμμένα μοιρασθέντι τῷ Ἀπολλωνίῳ τῷ Τυανίῳ μάγας καὶ φιλοσόφου ἀπεκρινόμενός τινος· εἰ οἷς ὁ μὴ χειριστὴς ἀλλὰ φιλόσοφος, ἔφασκε ἀλῶσαι ὑπὸ τῷ εἰς Ἀπολλωνίῳ μαγείας, ὅτι ἀγνοῦντες πᾶσι φιλοσόφους, ὡς πρὸς πάντα αὐτῷ ἐπέθετο· εἰ οἷς, οἶμαι, καὶ ὅτι Εὐφράτης πάντῃ διηγῆσθαι, καὶ πρὸς Ἑπικυρεῖς.* As concerning the *Infamous and Diabolical Magick*, be that would know whether or no a *Philosopher* be temptable by it, or illaqueable into it, let him read the *Writings of Macrægenes*, concerning the memorable things of *Apollonius Tyanæus*, the *Magician and Philosopher*; in which he that was no *Christian*, but a *Pagan Philosopher* himself, affirmeth, some not ignoble *Philosophers* to have been taken, with *Apollonius* his *Magick*, including (as I suppose) in that number *Euphrates* and a certain *Epicurean*. And no doubt but this was the reason why *Philostrophus* derogates so much from the authority of this *Macrægenes*, affirming him to have been ignorant of many things concerning *Apollonius* (καὶ τῷ μοιρασθέντι τῷ προειρημένῳ, &c.) Because *Macrægenes* had thus represented *Apollonius* in his true colours, as a *Magician*; whereas *Philostrophus* his whole business and design was, on the contrary, to vindicate him from that Imputation: the Truth whereof notwithstanding, may be sufficiently evinced, even from those very things that are recorded by *Philostrophus* himself. And here by the way we shall observe, that it is reported by good *Historians*, that *Miracles* were also done by *Vespasian* at *Alexandria*, Per *his menses* (they are the words of *Tacitus*) *multa miracula evenere, quibus cælestis favor, & quedam in Vespasianum inclinatio numinum ostenderetur.* Ex plebe *Alexandrinâ* quidam, oculorum tabe notus, genua ejus advolvitur, remedium cæcitatis exposcens gemitu; monitu *Serapidis Dei*, quem dedita superstitionibus gens ante alios colit; precabaturque Principem, ut genas & oculorum orbes dignaretur respergere oris excremento. Alius manu ager, eodem Deo auctore, ut pede ac vestigio *Cælaris* calcaretur orabat. At that time many *Miracles* happened at *Alexandria*, by which was manifested the *Heavenly Favour*, and *Inclination of the Divine Powers* towards *Vespasian*. A *Plebeian Alexandrian*, that had been known to be blind, casts himself at the feet of *Vespasian*, begging with tears from him a remedy for his sight (and that according to the suggestion of the God *Serapis*) that he would deign but to spit upon his Eyes and Face. Another having a *Lame hand* (directed by the same Oracle) beseeches him but to tread upon it with his foot. And after some debate concerning this business, both these things being done by *Vespasian*, statim conversa ad usum manus, & cæco relaxit dies, the *Lame hand* presently was restored to its former usefulness, and the *Blind man* recovered his sight: Both which things (saith the *Historian*) some who were Eye-witnesses, do to this very day testify, when it can be no advantage to any one to lye concerning it. And that there seems to be some reason to suspect, that our *Archimago Apollonius Tyanæus*, might have some Finger in this business also, because he was not only familiarly and intimately acquainted with

with

with *Vespasian*, but also at that very time (as *Philostatus* informeth us) present with him at *Alexandria*, where he also did many Miracles himself. However we may here take notice of another Stratagem and Policy of the Devil in this, both to obscure the Miracles of our Saviour Christ, and to weaken mens Faith in the *Messiah*, and baffle the Notion of it; that whereas a Fame of Prophecies had gone abroad every where, that a King was to come out of *Judea*, and rule over the whole World (by which was understood no other than the *Messiah*) by reason of these Miracles done by *Vespasian*, this Oracle or Prediction might the rather seem to have its accomplishment in him, who was first proclaimed Emperour in *Judea*, and to whom *Josiphus* himself basely and flatteringly had applied it. And since this business was started and suggested by the God *Serapis*, that is, by the Devil; (of whose Counsel probably *Apollonius* also was :) this makes it still more strongly suspicable, that it was really a Design or Policy of the Devil, by imitating the Miracles of our Saviour Christ, both in *Apollonius* and *Vespasian*, to counter-work God Almighty in the Plot of Christianity, and to keep up or conserve his own Usurped Tyranny in the Pagan World still. Nevertheless we shall here show *Apollonius* all the favour we can, and therefore suppose him, not to have been one of those more foul and black Magicians, of the common sort, such as are not only grossly sunk and debauched in their Lives, but also knowingly do Homage to Evil Spirits as such, for the gratification of their Lusts; but rather one of those more refined ones, who have been called by themselves *Theurgists*, such as being in some measure freed from the grosser Vices, and thinking to have to do only with good Spirits; nevertheless being Proud and Vainglorious, and affecting Wonders, and to transcend the Generality of Mankind, are by a Divine Nemesis, justly exposed to the illusions of the Devil or Evil Spirits, cunningly insinuating here, and aptly accommodating themselves to them. However concerning this *Apollonius*, it is undeniable, that he was a zealous Up-holder of the Pagan Polytheism, and a stout Champion for *The Gods*, he professing to have been taught by the Samian *Pythagoras* his Ghost how to Worship these Gods, Invisible as well as Visible, and to have converse with them. For which cause he is stiled by *Vopiscus*, *Amicus verus Deorum*, A true Friend of the Gods, that is, a hearty and sincere Friend, to that old Pagan Religion, now assaulted by Christianity, in which not One only True God, but a Multiplicity of Gods, were Worshipped. But notwithstanding all this, *Apollonius* himself was a clear and undoubted Asserter of One Supreme Deity, as is evident from his Apologetick Oration in *Philostatus*, prepared for *Domitian*, in which he calls him $\tau\epsilon\lambda\epsilon\iota\sigma\tau\omicron\varsigma\ \theta\epsilon\omicron\varsigma$, and $\tau\epsilon\ \pi\alpha\upsilon\sigma\tau\omicron\varsigma\ \delta\eta\mu\iota\upsilon\epsilon\gamma\epsilon\tau\omicron\iota\ \beta\iota\omicron\upsilon$; that God who is the Maker of the whole Universe, and of all things. And as he elsewhere in *Philostatus* declares both the Indians and Egyptians to have agreed in this Theology; insomuch that though the Egyptians condemn'd the Indians for many other of their Opinions, yet did they highly applaud this Doctrine of theirs, $\kappa\alpha\iota\ \mu\omicron\lambda\lambda\omicron\ \theta\epsilon\omicron\varsigma\ \chi\eta\mu\iota\omicron\upsilon\sigma\alpha\varsigma\ \tau\epsilon\ \kappa\alpha\iota\ \tau\omicron\varsigma\ \beta\iota\omicron\upsilon\varsigma\ \delta\eta\mu\iota\upsilon\epsilon\gamma\epsilon\tau\omicron\iota\ \epsilon\iota\tau\alpha\iota$, $\tau\omicron\upsilon\tau\omicron\theta\iota\ \alpha\iota\tau\iota\ \delta\iota\omicron\upsilon\mu\omicron\theta\eta\iota\tau\alpha\iota\ \tau\alpha\upsilon\tau\alpha$, $\alpha\lambda\lambda\omicron\tau\omicron\iota\ \tau\omicron\ \alpha\gamma\alpha\theta\omicron\upsilon\varsigma\ \epsilon\iota\tau\alpha\iota\ \alpha\upsilon\tau\omicron\iota$, That God was the Maker both of the Generation and Essence of all things, and that the cause of his making them, was his Essential

Essential

Philof. P. 142.

Effential Goodnefs: So doth he himfelf very much commend this Philofophy of *Jarchas* the Indian *Brachman*, viz. That the whole World was but *One Great Animal*, and might be refembled to a *Vaft Ship*, wherein there are many Inferiour fubordinate Governours, under *One Supreme*, the *Oldeft* and *Wifeft*; as alfo expert *Mariners* of feveral forts, fome to attend upon the *Deck*, and others to climb the *Masts* and order the *Sails*, ας η τω μὲν πρῶτῳ εἰς πλεονεκτήν ἔδραν ἀποδεῖκται θεῶν ἡγέμευε τὸν τῷ ζῶντος, τῷ δ' ὑπ' ἐκείνῳ, τοῖς οἱ τὰ μέρη αὐτοῦ κυβερνῶσι· εἰς τῇ πικρῇ ἀποδείγματι, ἐπιδὼν πολλὰς μὲν φάσκουσιν ας τὰς θεῶν θεὸς εἶναι, πολλὰς δ' ας βασιλῆς ἢ η, πολλὰς δ' ας πῶς τι εἰς τὰ μαζι, πολλὰς δ' εἰς τῷ γυν, ὡς ας εἰς ὑπὸ γυν τας· *In which the first and higheft seat is to be given to That God, who is the Generatour or Creator of this great Animal, and the next under it, to thofe Gods that govern the feveral parts of it refpectively*; fo that the *Poets* were to be approved of *here*, when they affirm, that there are *Many Gods* in the *Heavens*, *Many* in the *Seas*, *Many* in the *Rivers* and *Fountains*, *Many* alfo upon the *Earth* and *some* under the *Earth*. Wherein we have a true representation of the old *Paganick Theology*, which both *Indians*, and *Egyptians*, and *European Poets* (*Greek and Latin*) all agreed in; That there is *One Supreme God*, the *Maker* of the *Univerfe*, and under him *Many Inferiour Generated Gods*, or *Understanding Beings* (*Superiour to Men*) appointed to govern and preſide over the feveral parts thereof, who were alfo to be religiously honoured and worſhipped by *Men*. And thus much for *Apollonius Tyaneus*.

Orig. p. 17, 18.

The *first Pagan Writer* againſt *Chriftianity*, was *Celfus*; who lived in the times of *Adrian*, and was fo profefſed a *Polytheiſt*, that he taxes the *Jews* for having been ſeduced by the *Frauds* of *Mofes* into this Opinion of *One God*, ἐπὶ τῇ ἰστορικῇ εὐφῶς ἐπὶ μὲν τοῦ μωϋϋς αἰ-πλοῖ εἰς πῶς, ἀγχινοῖς ἀποταῖς ψευδαγορεύειν, ἵνα αὐτοῖς αὐτοῖς εὐδὲ· *Thoſe ſilly Shepherds and Herdſmen*, following *Mofes* their *Leader*, and being ſeduced by his *Ruflick frands*, came to entertain this *Belief*, that there was but *One only God*. Nevertheless this *Celfus* himſelf plainly acknowledged, amongſt his *Many Gods*, *One Supreme*, whom he ſometimes calls τὸ πρῶτον θεόν, the *First God*; ſometimes τὸ μέγιστον θεόν, the *Greateſt God*; and ſometimes τὸ υπερεξουσιῶν θεόν, the *Superceſſial God*, and the like; and he doth ſo zealouſly aſſert the *Divine Omnipotence*, that he caſts an imputation upon the *Chriftians* of derogating from the ſame, in that their *Hypotheſis* of an *Adverſary Power*, ἐκείνῳ αἰνιγματικῶς πεπλαιωμένην, ποιοῦντες τὰς θεῶν ἐναντίον· τὰς, διάβολον τι εἰς γλῶττῃ ἐβόρῃ· ὡς αὐτὸν διομάζοντες τὸ αὐτὸν, ἀλλὰς μὲν ἐν πικρῇ αὐτοῖς ταῦτα, εἰς τὸς εἶναι λέγειν, ἐπὶ τὸ μέγιστον· οὖν, βαλόμενός τι ἀντὶθεῶς ἀφελῶνται, τὸ ἀντιπρὸς αὐτὸν εἶναι, εἰς ἀδυναμίαν. *The Chriftians are erroneouſly led into moſt wicked Opinions concerning God, by reaſon of their great ignorance of the Divine Enigms; whilſt they make a certain Adverſary to God, whom they call the Devil, and in the Hebrew Language Satan: And affirm, contrary to all Piety, that the Greateſt God, having a mind to do good to men, is diſabled or withſtood by an Adverſary, reſiſting him.* Laſtly where he pleads moſt for the worſhip of *Demons*, he concludes thus concerning the *Supreme God*, οὗτος ὁ θεὸς μὴ ὁδοῦν αὐτὸν.

Orig. com. Celf. lib. p. 419.

ἀπληρέειν; ἔτι μεθ' ἡμέραν, ἔτι νύκτα, ἔτι ἐς κοινόν, ἔτι ἰδίαν, λόγῳ πῶς παύσι καὶ ἔργῳ διανεκάς, ἀλλὰ γὰρ καὶ μετὰ τῆς ἡμέρας, καὶ νύκτος, ἢ ψυχῇ αἰετῶς ὡς πρὸς τὸ αἰετῶν. *But God is by no means, any where to be laid aside, or left out; neither by Day nor by Night, neither in Publick nor in Private, either in our Words or Actions; but in every thing our Mind ought constantly to be directed towards God.* A Saying that might very well become a Christian.

The next and greatest Champion for the Pagan Cause in Books and Writings, was that Famous Tyrian Philosopher, *Malchus*, called by the Greeks *Porphyrus*; who published a Voluminous and elaborate Treatise (containing Fifteen Books) against the Christians; and yet He notwithstanding was plainly as zealous an Assertor of *One Supreme Deity*, and *One Only ἀγέννητος, Unmade or Self-existent Principle* of all things; as any of the Christians themselves could be; he strenuously opposing that forementioned Doctrine of *Plutarch* and *Atticus*, concerning Three Unmade Principles, a *Good God*, an *Evil Soul* or *Demon*, and the *Matter*, and endeavouring to demonstrate, that all things whatsoever, even *Matter* it self, was derived from *One Perfect Understanding Being*, or *Self-originated Deity*. The Sum of whose Argumentation to which purpose, we have represented by *Proclus* upon the *Timæus*, Page 119.

After *Porphyrus*, the next eminent Antagonist of Christianity, and Champion for Paganism, was *Hierocles* the Writer of that Book entitled (in *Eusebius*) φιλαλήθης, or a *Lover of the Truth*; which is noted to have been a Modeller Inscription, than that of *Celsus* his ἀληθινὸς λόγος, or *True Oration*. For if *Eusebius Pamphili*, were the Writer of that Answer to this *Philalethes* now Extant, as we both read in our Copies, and as *Photius* also reads; then must it needs be granted, that *Hierocles* the Author of it, was either contemporary with *Porphyrus*, or else but little his Junior. Moreover this *Hierocles* seems plainly to be the person intended by *Lactantius* in these following words,

Di 3. B. L. 9.
c. 2.

Alius eandem materiam mordacius scripsit; qui erat tum è numero Judicium, & qui auctor in primis faciendæ persecutionis fuit: quo scelere non contentus, etiam scriptis eos quos afflixerat, insectatus est. Composuit enim Libellos Duos, non Contrà Christianos, nè inimicè insectari videretur, sed ad Christianos; ut humanè ac benignè consilere videretur. In quibus ita falsitatem Scripturæ Sacræ arguere conatus est, tanquam sibi esset tota contraria. — Precipue tamen Paulum Petrūque laceravit, ceterosque Discipulos, tanquam fallacia seminatores; quos eosdem tamen rudes & indoctos fuisse testatus est. Another hath handled the same matter more smartly; who was First himself one of the Judges and a chief Author of the Persecution; but being not contented with that wickedness, he added this afterwards, to persecute the Christians also with his Pen: He composing Two Books, not inscribed Against the Christians (lest he should seem plainly to act the part of an enemy) but To the Christians (that he might be thought to counsel them humanely and benignly:) in which he so charges the holy Scripture with Falshood, as if it were all nothing else but contradictions: but he chiefly lashes Paul and Peter, as divulgers of lyes and deceits, whom notwithstanding he declares to have

have been rude and illiterate Persons. I say, though Hierocles for some cause or other be not named here by *Laſſantius* in these Cited words, or that which follows, yet it cannot be doubted, but that he was the Person intended by him, for these Two Reasons: First, because he tells us afterward that the main business of that *Christiano-mastix*, was to compare *Apollonius* with our Saviour Christ. *Cum facta Christi mirabilia destrueret, nec tamen negaret, voluit ostendere, Apollonium vel paria, vel etiam majora fecisse. Mirum quod Apuleium pratermiserit, cujus solent & multa & mira memorari. Et ex hoc insolentiam Christi voluit arguere, quod Deum se constituerit: ut ille verecundior fuisse videretur, qui cum majora faceret (ut hic putat) tamen id sibi non arrogaverit: That he might obscure the Miracles of our Saviour Christ, which he could not deny, he would undertake to show that Equal or greater Miracles were done by Apollonius. And it was a wonder he did not mention Apuleius too: of whose many and wonderful things, the Pagans use to brag likewise. Moreover he condemns our Saviour Christ of Insolency, for making himself a God, affirming Apollonius to have been the modestest Person, who though he did (as he supposes) greater miracles, yet arrogated no such thing to himself. The Second Reason is, because *Laſſantius* also expressly mentions the very Title of Hierocles his Book, viz. *Philalethes*. *Cum talia ignorantie suae deliramenta sudisset, cumque Veritatem penitus excidere conatus esset, auarus est Libros suos nefarios, ac Dei hostes, philalethes annotare: Though pouring out so much folly and madness, professedly fighting against the Truth, yet he presumed to call these his wicked Books, and Enemies of God, Philalethes or Friends to Truth. From which words of Laſſantius and those foregoing, where he affirms this *Christiano-mastix* to have written Two Books, the Learned Prefacer to the late Edition of Hierocles, probably concludes, that the whole Title of Hierocles his Book was this, λόγοι φιλαλήθεις πρὸς χριστιανούς. And I conceive that the First of those Two Books of Hierocles insisted upon such things as *Porphyrins* had before urged against the Christians; but then in the Second he added this *de novo* of his own, to compare *Apollonius* with our Saviour Christ: which *Eusebius* only takes notice of. Wherefore *Epphanius* telling us, that there was one Hierocles a Prefect or Governour of Alexandria, in those persecuting times of *Diocletian*, we may probably conclude, that this was the very Person described in *Laſſantius*, who is said to have been First, of the Number of the Judges, and a Principal Actor in the Persecution; and then afterwards to have written this *Philalethes* against the Christians, wherein, besides other things, he ventured to compare *Apollonius Tyaneus* with our Saviour Christ. Now if this Hierocles who wrote the *Philalethes* in defence of the Pagan Gods, against the Christians, were the Author of those two other Philosophick Books, the Commentary upon the Golden Verses, and that *De Fato & Providentia*, it might be easily evinced from both of them, that he was notwithstanding, an Asserter of One Supreme Deity. But *Photius* tells us that that Hierocles who wrote the Book concerning Fate and Providence, did therein make mention of *Jamblicus* and his Junior *Plutarchus Atheniensis*; from whence *Jonsius* taking it for granted, that it was one and the same Hierocles, who wrote against the Christians, and *de Fato*, infers, that it could not be *Eusebius Pamphili***

Dr. Pearson
Ep. of Chester.

phili who Answered the *Philaethes*, but that it must needs be some other *Eusebius* much Junior. But we finding *Hierocles* his *Philaethes* in *Lactantius*, must needs conclude on the contrary, that *Hierocles* the famous *Christiano-mastix*, was not the same with that *Hierocles* who wrote *de Fato*. Which is further evident, from *Aeneas Gazens* in his *Theophrastus*; where first he mentions one *Hierocles* an Alexandrian, that had this Master, whom he highly extols, *ἀλλ' εἶπε μοι, ὅτι περὶ* P. 7.
ἡμῶν εἰσὶν οἱ φιλοσοφίας διηγουμένους τὰς τιμὰς, οἷον ἢ ἱεροκλῆς ὁ διδασκαλός,
But tell me, I pray you, are there yet left amongst you in Egypt, any such
Exponnders of the Arcane Mysteries of Philosophy as Hierocles our Master
was? And this we suppose to be that *Hierocles*, who wrote concern-
 ing Fate and Providence, (if not also upon the Golden Verses.) But
 afterward upon occasion of *Apollonius*, the Cappadocian, or Tyanæ-
 an, he mentions another *Hierocles* distinct from the former; namely
 him, who had so boasted of *Apollonius* his Miracles, in these words,
ὁ Ἀπολλώνιος τὰ ψευδῆ λέγων ἐλέγχεται. ἱεροκλῆς ὅτι οὐ διδασκαλός, ἀλλ' P. 24.
ὁ περὶ Ἀπολλωνίου τὰ θαυμάσια, ἄπειν καὶ τὸ τοῦ περὶ Σόφου, Thus Apol-
lonius is convinced of falsehood; but Hierocles (not our Master) but he
that boasts of the Miracles (of Apollonius) adds another incredible thing.
 And though it be probable, that one of these was the Author of that
 Commentary upon the Golden Verses, (for that it should be written
 by a Christian is but a dream) yet we cannot certainly determine
 which of them it was. However that this *Hierocles*, who was the *Ma-*
stix of Christianity and Champion for The Gods, was notwithstanding,
 a professed asserter of one Supreme Deity, is clearly manifest also from
Lactantius, in these following words, *Quam tandem nobis attulisti Ve-*
ritatem? nisi quod Assertor Deorum, eos ipsos ad ultimum prodidisti:
Prosecutus enim Summi Dei laudes, quem Regem, quem Maximum,
quem Opificem rerum, quem Fontem bonorum, quem Parentem omnium,
quem Factorem Altorumque viventium confessus es; ademisti Jovi tuo
Regnum; cumque Summa potestate depulsum, in Ministrorum numerum
redigisti. Epilogus ergo te tuus arguit Stultitia, Vanitatis, Erroris.
Affirmas Deos esse; & illos tamen subiectis & mancipas ei Deo, cujus
Religionem conaris evertere. Though you have entitl'd your Book *Phila-*
ethes, yet what Truth have you brought us therein, unless only this, that
 being an Asserter of the Gods (contradicting your self) you have at last
 betrayed those very Gods. For in the close of your Book, prosecuting the
 praises of the Supreme God, and confessing him to be the King, the Greatest,
 the Omniplex of the World, the Fountain of Good, the Parent of all things,
 the Maker and Conserver of all Living beings, you have by this means
 dethroned your Jupiter, and degrading him from his Sovereign Power,
 reduced him into the rank of Inferiour Ministers. Wherefore your *Epi-*
logue argues you guilty of Folly, Vanity and Error, in that you both assert
 Gods, and yet subiect and mancipate them under that one God, whose
 Religion you endeavour to overthrow. Where we must confess we under-
 stand not well *Lactantius* his Logick; so far as much as *Hierocles* his *Zeus*
 or *Jupiter*, was one and the same with his Supreme God (as is also
 here intimated) and though he acknowledged all the other Gods to
 be but his Inferiour Ministers yet nevertheless did he contend, that
 these ought to be Religiously Worshipped, which was the thing that
Lactantius should have confuted. But that which we here take notice

rice of, is this, that *Hierocles* a grand Persecutor of the Christians, and the Author of that bitter Invektive against them, called *Philalethes*, though he were so strenuous an asserter of Polytheism and Champion for The Gods, yet did he nevertheless at the same time, clearly acknowledge one Supreme Deity, calling him the King (that is the Monarch of the Universe) the Greatest, the *Opifex* of the World, the Fountain of Good, the Parent of all things, and the Maker and Conferver of all Life.

Origenes Jul.
4. p. 115.

But the greatest Opposer of Christianity every way, was *Julian* the Emperour; who cannot reasonably be suspected to have disguised or blanch'd Paganism, because he was an Emperour, and had so great an Animosity against Christianity, and was so superstitiously or bigotically zealous for the *Worship of the Gods*; and yet this very *Julian* notwithstanding, was an unquestionable Asserter of *One Supreme Deity*. In his Book written against the Christians, he declares the general sence of the Pagans, after this manner; οἱ γὰρ ἡμέτεροι φαίμεν, ὅτι θεομαχὲς ἀπάντων μὲν εἶναι πάντες, καὶ βασιλεῖς, καὶ μηδὲν ἢ τὰ λοιπὰ τῶν ἰσχυρῶν ὑπ' αὐτῶν, ἰσχυρῶς καὶ πολέμοις θεοῖς, ὡς ἱεραὶς ὑπάρκουσιν τῶν αὐτῶν λῆξιν οὐκ εἰς αὐτοῖς. ἐπεὶ δὲ αὐτὸ μὲν τὰ πᾶσι πάντα τέλη, καὶ ἐν πᾶσι, αὐτὸς ὁ τοῦ μετρίου, ἀλλὰ παρ' ἄλλοις κατὰ δύναμιν, &c. Our Theologers affirm, the Maker of all to be a common Father, and King, but that the Nations, as to particular things, are distributed by him to other Inferiour Gods, that are appointed to be Governours over Countries and Cities, every one of which administrators in his own Province agreeably to himself. For whereas in the Common Father, all things are Perfect, and One is All, in the Particular or Partial Deities, one excels in one Power, and another in another. Afterwards in the same Book he contends, that the Pagans did entertain righter Opinions concerning the Supreme God, than the Jews themselves; ὥς ἐι μὲν ὁ περὶ τοῦ εἶναι τὸν κοινὸν θεομαχὲς ὁ κενεθόμηνος ὑπὸ τῶν ἱεραίων, ἡμεῖς ὑπὲρ αὐτῶν βελτίους ἔχοντες δοξάζειν, οἱ καὶ μὲν ἰσχυρῶς ὑπολαμβάνοντες ἀπάντων θεοπότην, ἰσχυρῶς ἢ ἄλλως, οἱ τυγχάνοντες μὲν ὑπ' ἐκείνων, εἰς ἃ εὖ ὑπαρχει βασιλείας, ἕκαστος τῶν αὐτῶν διαφερόντως ἰπποκράτους φροντίδα, καὶ καθίσταμεν αὐτοῖς, εὖ δὲ ἀντιμεριμνῶν τῶν ὑπ' αὐτοῖς θεῶν καθιστάμεν. If that God who is so much spoken of by Moses, be the Immediate Opifex of the whole World, we Pagans entertain better Opinions of him; who suppose him to be the common Lord of all; but that there are other Governours of Nations and Countries under him, as Prefects or Presidents appointed by a King; we not ranking him, amongst those Partial Governours of Particular Countries and Cities, as the Jews do. From both which places, it is evident, that according to *Julian's* Theology, all those other Gods, whose Worship he contended so much for, were but the Subordinate Ministers of that One Supreme God, the Maker of all.

P. 146.

The same thing might be further manifested from *Julian's* Oration made in praise of the Sun as a Great God in this visible World; he therein plainly acknowledging another far more Glorious Deity, which was the Cause of all things, ὥς μὲν ὁ τῶν ἰσχυρῶν θεός, πολλοὶ δὲ εἰς κατ' ἐξουσίαν ἐπεμύοντες θεομαχικοὶ θεοί. There is One God the Ma-
ker

P. 251.

Ep. 43.

as the Original of all things. *Maximus Madaurensis*, a confident and resolved Pagan in *St. Austin's* time, expressed both his own and the general sence of Pagans after this manner; *Equidem Unum esse Deum Summum, sine initio, Naturæ cen Patrem Magnum atque Magnificum, quis tam demens tam mente captus neget esse certissimum? Hujus nos virtutes per Mundanum opus diffusas, multis vocabulis invocamus, quoniam nomen ejus cunctis proprium videlicet ignoramus. It sit, ut dum ejus quasi quedam Membra carptim, variis supplicationibus prosequimur, Totum colere profecto videamur. Truly that there is One Supreme God, without beginning, as the Great and Magnificent Father of Nature; who is so mad or devoid of sense as not to acknowledge it to be most certain? His Vertues diffused throughout the whole World (because we know not what his proper name is) we invoke under many different names. Whence it comes to pass, that whilst we prosecute with our supplications, his as it were divided Members severally, we must needs be judged to worship the whole Deity. And then he concludes his Epistle thus; *Dii tescerent, per quos & Eorum, atque cunctorum mortalium, Commune Patrem, universi mortales quos terra sustinet, mille modis, concordi discordia venerantur: The Gods keep thee, by and through whom, we Pagans, dispersed over the whole World, do worship the common Father, both of those Gods, and all Mortals, after a thousand different manners, nevertheless with an agreeing discord. Longimanus* likewise, another more modest Pagan Philosopher, upon the request of the same *St. Austin*, declares his sence concerning the way of worshipping God and arriving to happiness to this purpose. *Per Minores Deos perveniri ad Summum Deum non sine Sacris Purificatoriis, That we are to come to the Supreme God, by the Minor or Inferior Gods, and that not without Purifying Rites and Expiations; he supposing that besides a vertuous and holy Life, certain Religious Rites and Purifications, were necessary to be observed, in order to that end. In which Epistle, the Supreme God is also stiled by him, Unus, Universus, Incomprehensibilis, Ineffabilis & Infatigabilis Creator.**

Ep. 21.

Lib. 1. p. 19.

Moreover, that the Pagans generally disclaim'd this Opinion of *Many Unmade Self-existent Deities*, appeareth plainly from *Arnobius*, where he brings them in complaining, that they were falsely and maliciously accused by some Christians, as guilty thereof, after this manner; *Frustra nos falso & calumnioso incensitis & appetitis crimine, tanquam inficias camus Deum esse Majorem; cum à nobis & Jupiter nominetur, & Optimus habeatur & Maximus: cùmque illi augustissimas sedes, & Capitolia constituerimus immania; In vain do you Christians calumniate us, Pagans, and accuse us as if we denied, One Supreme Omnipotent God; though we both call him Jupiter, and account him the Best and the Greatest; having dedicated the most august seats to him, the vast Capitols. Where Arnobius in way of opposition, shows first how perplexed and intangled a thing the Pagans Theology was, their Poëtick Fables of the Gods, nonsensically confounding Herology together with Theology; and that it was impossible that that Jupiter of theirs, which had a Father and a Mother, a Grandfather and a Grandmother, should be the Omnipotent God. Nam De-*

us Omnipotens, mente una omnium, & communi mortalitatis assensu, neque Genitus scitur, neque novam in lucem aliquando esse prolatum; nec ex aliquo tempore capisse esse, vel seculo. Ipse enim est Fons rerum, Sator seculorum ac temporum. Non enim ipsa per se sunt, sed ex ejus perpetuitate perpetua, & infinita semper continuatione procedunt. At vero Jupiter (ut vos fertis) & Patrem habet & Matrem, Avos & Avias, nunc nuper in utero matris sue formatus, &c. You Pagans confound your selves with Contradictions; for the Omnipotent God, according to the natural sense of all mankind, was neither begotten or made, nor ever had a Beginning in time, he being the Fountain and Original of all things. But Jupiter (as you say) had both Father and Mother, Grandfathers and Grandmothers, and was but lately formed in the womb; and therefore he cannot be the Eternal Omnipotent God. Nevertheless Arnobius afterwards considering (as we suppose) that these Poetick Fables, were, by the wiser Pagans, either totally rejected, or else some way or other Allegorized, he candidly dismisseth this advantage which he had against them, and grants their Jupiter to be the true Omnipotent Deity, and consequently that same God which the Christians worshipped; but from thence infers, that the Pagans therefore must needs be highly guilty, whilst worshipping the same God with the Christians, they did hate and persecute them after that manner. Sed sint, ut vultis, unum, nec in aliquo, ut numinis, & majestate distantes; ecquid ergo injustis persequimini nos odiis? Quid, ut ominis pessimi, nostri nominis inhorrescitis mentione, si quem Deum colitis, eum & nos? aut quid in eadem causa vobis esse contenditis familiares Deos, inimicos atque infestissimos nobis? Etenim, si una religio est nobis vobisque communis, cessat ira celestium. But let it be granted that (as you affirm) your Jupiter and the Eternal Omnipotent God, are one and the same; Why then do you prosecute us with unjust hatreds? abominating the very mention of our names, if the same God that you worship be worshipped by us? or if your Religion and ours be the same, why do you pretend that the Gods are propitious to you, but most highly provoked and incensed against us? Where the Pagans defence and reply is, Sed non idcirco Dii vobis infesti sunt, quod Omnipotentem colatis Deum: sed quod hominem natum, & quod personis infame est vilibus, crucis supplicio interemptum, & Deum fuisse contenditis, & superesse adhuc creditis, & quotidianis supplicationibus adoratis: But we do not say that the Gods are therefore displeased with you Christians, because you worship the Omnipotent God, but because you contend him to be a God, who was not only born a mortal man, but also died an ignominious death, suffering as a Malefactor; believing him still to survive, & adoring him with your daily prayers. To which Arnobius retorts in this manner: Tell us, now I pray you, who these Gods are, who take it as so great an injury & indignity done to themselves, that Christ should be worshipped? Are they not Janus and Saturn, Asculapius and Liber, Mercurius the son of Maia, and the Theban or Tyrian Hercules, Castor and Pollux, and the like? Hic ergo Christum coli & a nobis accipi & existimari pro Numine, vulneratis accipiunt auribus? & obliiti paulo ante sortis & conditionis sue, et quod sibi concessum est, impertiri alteri nolunt? Hec est Justitia Caelitum? hoc Deorum judicium sanctum? Nonne istud livoris est & avaritiæ genus? non obtrusio quedam sordens, suas eminere solummodo velle fortunæ, aliorum res premi & in contempta humilitate calcari?

Natum hominem colimus; Quid enim, Vos hominem nullum colitis natum? non unum & alium? non innumeros alios? quinimo non omnes quos jam templis habetis vestris, mortalium sustulistis ex numero, & cælo sideribusque donastis? Concedamus interdum manum vestris opinationibus dantes, unum Christum fuisse de nobis, mentis, animæ, corporis, fragilitatis & conditionis unius; nonne dignus à nobis est tantorum ob munus gratiam, Deus dici Deūque sentiri? Si enim vos Liberum quod reperit usum vini; si quod panis, Cererem; si Æsculapium, quod herbarum; si Minervam, quod oleæ; si Triptoleum, quod aratri; si denique Herculem, quod feras, quod fures, quod multiplicium capitum superavit compefcuitque matricem, divorum retulistis in cælum: honoribus quantis afficiendus est nobis, qui ab erroribus nos magnis insinuatâ veritate traduxit? &c. Are these the Gods who are so much offended, with Christ's being worshipped, and accounted a God by us? they who being forgetful of their former condition, would not have the same bestowed upon another, which hath been granted to themselves? Is this the Justice of the Heavenly Powers? This the righteous judgment of Gods? or is it not rather base Envy and Covetousness, for them thus to ingross all to themselves? We worship indeed one that was born a man, What then? Do you worship no such? not one, and another, and innumerable? And are not almost all your Gods, such as were taken from out of the rank of men, and placed among the Stars? And will you account that damnable in us, which you your selves practice? Let us for the present yield thus much to your Infidelity, and grant, that Christ was but an ordinary man, of the same rank and condition with other mortals, yet might we not for all that (according to your Principles) think him worthy, by reason of the great benefits we received from him to be accounted a God? For if you have advanced into the number of your Divi, Bacchus or Liber for inventing the use of Wine, Ceres of Corn, Æsculapius of Herbs, Minerva of the Olive, Triptolemus of the Plow, and Hercules for subduing Beasts, Thieves and Monsters; With how great honours ought he to be affected by us, who by the insinuation of divine truth hath delivered us from such great Errors of mind, &c. Which Argumentation of Arnobius though it were good enough ad homines, to stop the mouths of the Pagans, there being more reason, that Christ should be made a God, for the Benefits that mankind receive from him, than that Bacchus or Ceres or Hercules should be so; yet as the same Arnobius himself seems to intimate, it is not sufficient without something else superadded to it, for the Justification of Christianity. Neither indeed was that the chief quarrel which the Pagans had with the Christians, That they had deified one who was crucified (though the Cross of Christ was also a great offence to them) but that they condemning the Pagans, for worshipping others besides the Supreme Omnipotent God, and decrying all those Gods of theirs, did themselves notwithstanding worship one Mortal man for a God. This Celsus urges in Origen, εἰ μὲν δὲ μὴ τὰ ἀνθρώπων ἐσθλότης ἐστὶν πλεονέκτημα θεῶν, ἢ ἂν τις αὐτοῖς ἴσως πλεονέκτης ἄλλας ἀπὸ τῆς λόγου. καὶ ὅτι ἡ ἐκείνου φανερὰ τῆς τοῦ ἁγίου πνεύματος χάριτος, καὶ ὅτι αὐτὸς ἴσως πλεονέκτης ἄλλων νομίζοντες θεοὶ τὸ θεῶν, εἰ καὶ ὑπερίτερος αὐτῶν θεογονησώμεθα. If these Christians themselves worshipp'd no other but One God, or the pure Divinity, then might they perhaps seem to have some just pretense of censuring us; but now they themselves give divine Honour, to one that lately rose up and

they persuade themselves, that they do not at all offend God in worshipping that supposed Minister of his. Which as Origen makes there a reply to it, so shall it be further considered by us afterwards.

As for the Judgment of the Fathers in this Particular, *Clement Alexandrinus*, was not only of this Opinion, that the Pagans (at least the Greekish) did worship the true God, and the same God with the Christians (though not after a right manner) but also endeavours to confirm it from the Authority of St. Peter: That the Greeks knew God Peter intimates in his Predication. There is One God, saith he, who made the Beginning of all things, and hath power over their End, &c. Worship this God, not as the Greeks do. Wherein he seemeth to suppose, the Greeks to worship the same God, with us, though not according to the right Tradition received by his Son. He does not enjoin us not to worship that God, which the Greeks worship; but to worship him otherwise than they do; altering only the manner of the worship, but not the Object, or preaching another God. And what that is, not to worship God as the Greeks do, the same Peter intimated in those words, They worship him in images of wood and stone, brass and Iron, gold and silver, and sacrifice to the Dead also, as to Gods. Where he adds further out of St. Peter's Predication, Neither worship God as the Jews do, &c. The one and only God (saith Clement) is worshipped by the Greeks Paganically, by the Jews Judaically, but by Us newly and Spiritually. For the same God who gave the two Testaments to the Jews and Christians, gave Philosophy to the Greeks, δι' ἧς ὁ παντοκράτωρ καὶ ἐννοούμενος θεὸς ἀσώζῃται, by which the Omnipotent God, is glorified amongst the Greeks.

Lactantius Firmianus also, in many places affirms, the Pagans to have acknowledged One Supreme Deity; *Summum Deum & Philosophi & Poete, & ipsi denique qui Deos colunt, sapē fatentur*, That there is One Supreme Deity, both Philosophers and Poets, and even the vulgar Worshipers of the Gods themselves, frequently acknowledge. From whence he concludes, that all the other Pagan Gods, were nothing but the Ministers of this One Supreme, and Creatures made by him, (he then only blaming them, for calling them Gods, and giving them religious Worship) *Lib. I.* When he had declared that it was altogether as absurd to suppose, the World to be governed by many Independent Gods, as to suppose the Body of a man to be governed by many Minds or Souls Independent; he adds, *Quod quia intelligunt illi assertores Deorum, ita eos praeesse singulis rebus ac partibus dicunt, ut tantum Unus sit Rex totius universi. Jam ergo ceteri non Dii erunt, sed Satellites ac Ministri, Quos ille Unus, Maximus & Potens omnium, officiis his praefecit, ut ipsi ejus imperio & nutibus serviant. Si universi pares non sunt; non igitur Dii omnes sunt. Nec enim potest hoc idem esse, quod servit & quod dominatur. Nam si Deus est nomen summae potestatis, Incorruptibilis esse debet, Perfectus, Impassibilis, nulli rei subiectus. Ergo Dii non sunt quos parere Uni Maximo Deo necessitas cogit.* Which because the Assertors of Gods well understand, they affirm these Gods of theirs so to preside over the several parts of the World, as that there is only One chief Rector or Governour. Whence it follows, that all their other Gods, can be no other thing than Ministers and Officers, which one Great

P. 28.

est God, who is Omnipotent, hath variously appointed and constituted, so as to serve his command and beck. Now if all the Pagan Gods be not equal, then can they not be all Gods; since that which ruleth, and that which serveth cannot be the same. God is a name of absolute Power, and implies Incorruptibility, Perfection, Impassibility and Subjection to nothing. Wherefore these ought not to be called Gods, whom necessity compels, to obey one Greatest God. Again in the same Book, Nunc satis est, Demonstrare, summo ingenio viros attigisse veritatem ac propè tenuisse; nisi eos retrorsum insatuta pravis opinionibus consuetudo rapuisset, qua & Deos alios esse opinabantur, & ea quæ in usum hominis Deus fecit, tanquam sensu prædita essent, pro Diis habenda & colenda credebant. It is now sufficient to have shown, that the more ingenious and intelligent Pagans, came very near to the truth, and would have fully reach'd it, had not a certain customary Insatiation of Evil Opinions, snatch'd them away, to an acknowledgment of other Gods; and to a belief that those things which God made for the use of men, as endued with sense (or animated) ought to be accompted Gods and Worshipped; namely, the Stars. And afterward, Quod si Cultores Deorum, eos ipsos se colere putant, quos summi Dei Ministros appellamus, nihil est quod nobis faciant invidiam, qui Unum Deum dicamus, Multos negemus; If the Worshippers of the Gods think that they worship no other than the Ministers of the one Supreme God, then there is no cause, why they should render us as hateful, who say, that there is one God and deny Many Gods.

P. 39.

Trag. Evang.
lib. 3. cap. 13.

Ensebius *Cæsariensis* likewise gives us this accompt of the Pagans Creed or the Tenour of their Theology, as it was then held forth by them, *ὅσα ᾗδ ὅσα θεῶν, πάντοιας διαίματι, τὰ πάντα πληροῖ, & διὰ πάντων δύνει, & τὴς πατρὸς ὁμοιωμένης ὁ ἀσώματος ὁ & ἀφανὴς & πᾶσι ἐν ὧν, & διὰ πάντων διηκόντα & τῶν εἰκότας διὰ τῶν διδωμένων σέβειν πάν.* The Pagans declare themselves in this manner, That there is One God, who with his various Powers filleth all things, and passeth through all things, and presideth over all things; but being incorporeally and invisibly present in all things, and pervading them, he is reasonably worshipped By or In those things that are manifest and visible. Which Passage of *Ensebius* will be further considered afterward, when we come to give a more particular accompt of Paganism.

Isf. lib. 5. c. 1.

What *St. Austin's* sence was, concerning the Theology of the Pagans, hath been already declared, namely, That they had not so far degenerated as to have lost the knowledge of One Supreme God, from whom is all whatsoever Nature; and That they derived all their Gods from One. We shall now in the last place conclude with the Judgment of *Pavlus Orosius*, who was his Contemporary, *Philosophi dum intento mentis studio quærunt scrutanturque omnia, Unum Deum, Authorem omnium repererunt, ad quem Unum omnia referrentur; unde etiam nunc Pagani, quos jam declarata Veritas de contumaciâ magis quàm de ignorantia convincit, cum à nobis discutuntur, non se Plures sequi, sed sub Uno Deo Magno, Plures Ministros venerari fatentur. Restat igitur de intelligentia veri Dei, per multas intelligendi suspiciones, Confusa dissensus, quia de Uno Deo, omnium penè una est opinio.* The Philosophers of the Gentiles, whilst with intent study of mind, they enquired and searched after things, found that

that there was One God, the Author of all things, and to which One, all things should be referred. Whence also the Pagans at this very day, whom the declared truth rather convinceth of Contumacy, than of Ignorance; when they are urged by us, confess themselves, not to follow Many Gods, but only under One God to worship Many Ministers. So that there remaineth only a confused dissension concerning the manner of understanding the true God, because about One God, there is almost one and the same opinion of all.

And by this time we think it is sufficiently evident; that the Pagans (at least after Christianity) though they asserted *Many Gods*, they calling all *Understanding Beings Superiour* to men by that Name (according to that of St. Jerom, *Deum quicquid suprase esset, Gentiles putabant*;) yet they acknowledged *One Supreme Omnipotent and only Unmade Deity*.

XVI. But because its very possible, that some may still suspect, all this to have been nothing else but a *Refinement* and *Interpolation* of Paganism, after that Christianity had appeared upon the Stage; or a kind of *Mangonization* of it, to render it more vendible and plausible; the better able to defend it self, and bear up against the Assaults of Christianity; whilst in the mean time the Genuine Doctrine of the ancient Pagans was far otherwise: although the contrary hereunto might sufficiently appear from what hath been already declared, yet however, for the fuller satisfaction of the more strongly prejudiced, we shall by an Historical Deduction made; from the most ancient times all along downwards, demonstrate that the Doctrine of the Greatest *Pagan Polytheists*, as well before Christianity as after it, was always the same, That besides their *Many Gods*, there was *One Supreme, Omnipotent and Only Unmade Deity*.

And this we shall perform not as some have done, by laying the chief stress upon the *Sibylline Oracles*, and those reputed Writings of *Hermes Trismegist*, the Authority whereof hath been of late so much decry'd by Learned Men; nor yet upon such Oracles of the Pagan Deities, as may be suspected to have been counterfeited by Christians: but upon such Monuments of Pagan Antiquity, as are altogether unsuspected and indubitate. As for the *Sibylline Oracles*, there may (as we conceive) be Two *Extremes* concerning them: One, in swallowing down all that is now extant under that Title, as Genuine and Sincere; whereas nothing can be more manifest, than that there is much Counterfeit and Supposititious stuff, in this *Sibylline Farrago* which now we have. From whence, besides other Instances of the like kind, it appears too evidently to be denied, that some pretended Christians of former times, have been for *Pious and Religious Frauds*; and endeavoured to uphold the Truth of Christianity by Fignents and Forgeries of their own devising. Which as it was a thing Ignoble and Unworthy in it self, and argued that those very Defenders of Christianity, did themselves distrust their own Cause; so may it well be thought, that there was a *Policy of the Devil* in it also, there being no other more Effectual way than this, to render all Christianity (at least

least in after-ages) to be suspected. Inſomuch that it might perhaps be queſtion'd, Whether the Truth and Divinity of Chriſtianity appear more, in having prevail'd againſt the open force and oppoſition of its profeſſed Enemies, or in not being at laſt ſmothered and oppreſſed, by theſe *Frauds* and *Forgeries* of its ſeeming Friends and Defenders. The *Other Extreme* may be, in concluding the whole buſineſs of the *Sibylline Oracles* (as any ways relating to Chriſtianity) to have been a mere *Cheat* and *Figment*; and that there never was any thing in thoſe *Sibylline Books*, which were under the Cuſtody of the *Quindecimviri*, that did in the leaſt predict our Saviour Chriſt or the Times of Chriſtianity. For notwithstanding al that the Learned *Blundel* hath written, it ſeems to be undeniably evident, from *Virgil's Fourth Idyllium*, that the *Cumean Sibyl*, waſ then ſuppoſed to have predicted a *New Flouriſhing Kingdom* or *Monarchy*, together with a *Happy State of Juſtice* or *Righteouſneſs*, to ſuccede, in the *Latter Age* of the World.

*Ultima Cumæi venit jam Carminis ætas,
Magnus ab integro ſæclorum naſcitur ordo.
Jam redit & Virgo, redeunt Saturnia Regna,
Jam nova progenies cælo deſcabitur alto, &c.*

Moreover it is certain, that in *Cicero's* time, the *Sibylline Prophecies*, were interpreted by ſome in favour of *Cæſar*, as predicting a Monarchy; *Sibyllæ verſus obſervamus, quos illa furens fuisse dicitur. Quorum Interpres nuper falſa quadam hominum ſama dicturus in ſenatu putabatur, Eum, quem reverà Regem habebamus, appellandum quoque eſſe Regem, ſi ſalvi eſſe vellemus.* We take notice of the *Verſes* of the *Sibyl*, which ſhe is ſaid to have powred out in a *Fury* or *Propheticke Frenzy*, the *Interpreter* whereof, was lately thought to have been about to declare in the *Senate-houſe*, That if we would be ſafe, we ſhould acknowledge him for a *King*, who really was ſo. Which Interpretation of the *Sibylline Oracles* (after *Cæſar's* Death) *Cicero* was ſo much offended with, (he alſo looking upon a Roman Monarchy, as a thing no neceſſary poſſible than undeſirable) that upon this occaſion, he quarrels with thoſe very *Sibylline Oracles* themſelves, as well as the *Readers* and *Expounders* of them, after this manner; *Hoc ſi eſt in Libris, in quem Hominem, & in quod Tempus eſt? Callidè enim, qui illa composuit, perſecit, ut, quodcumque accidiſſet, prædictum videretur, Hominum & Temporum definitione ſublata. Adhibuit etiam latebram obſcuritatis, ut iidem verſus aliis in aliam rem poſſe accommodari viderentur. Non eſſe autem illud Carmen ſurentis, tum ipſum Poema declarat, (eſt enim magis Attis & Diligentia quàm Incitationis & motus) tum verò ea quæ ἀνεργῆς, dicitur, cum deinceps ex primis Verſuum literis aliquid conneſcitur. Quamobrem Sibyllam quidem ſepoſitam & conditam habeamus, ut, id, quod proditum eſt à Majoribus, injuſtu ſenatû: nè legantur quidem Libri. If there be any ſuch thing contained in the *Sibylline Books*, then we demand, concerning what Man is it ſpoken, and of what Time? For whoever framed thoſe *Sibylline Verſes*, he craftily contrived, that whatſoever ſhould come to paſſ, might ſeem to have been predicted in them, by taking away all Diſtinction of *Perſons* and *Times*. He alſo purpoſely affected *Obſcurity*, that*

Cic. Dio. l. 2.

I. Cæſar. Quindecimviri.

D. Dio. l. 2.

the same Verses might be accommodated sometime to one thing, and sometime to another. But that they proceeded not from Fury and Prophetick Rage, but rather from Art and Contrivance, doth no less appear otherwise than from the Acrostick in them. Wherefore let us shut up the Sibyl and keep her close, that according to the Decree of our Ancestors, her Verses may not be read without the expresse command of the Senate. And lastly he addeth, *Cum Antistitibus agamus, ut quidvis potius ex illis libris, quam Regem proferant, quem Romæ posthac nec Dii nec Homines esse patientur*; Let us also deal with the *Quindecimviri*, and Interpreters of these Sibylline Books, that they would rather produce any thing out of them, than a King; whom neither Gods nor Men will hereafter suffer at Rome. Where though *Cicero* were mistaken, as to the Event of the Roman Government, and there were doubtless some Predictions in these Sibylline Books, of a New Kingdom or Monarchy, to be set up in the World; yet that the Roman Empire was not the thing intended in them, doth manifestly appear from that Description in *Virgil's* forementioned Eclogue; wherein there is accordingly another Completion of them expected, though flatteringly applied to *Saloninus*. Wherefore we conclude that the Kingdom and Happy-State or Golden Age, predicted in the Sibylline Oracles, was no other than that of the *Messiah*, or our Saviour *Christ*, and the times of *Christianity*. Lastly, in that other Pallage of *Cicero's*, concerning the Sibylline Oracles, *Valeant ad deponendas potius quam ad suscipiendas Religionēs*; Let them be made use of rather for the extinguishing, than the begetting of Religions and Superstitions; there seems to be an Intimation, as if of themselves they rather tended, to the Lessening than Encreasing of the Pagan Superstitions; and therefore may probably be thought, to have predicted a Change of that Pagan Religion, by the Worship of one Sole Deity to be introduced. Neither ought it to seem a jot more strange, that our Saviour *Christ* should be foretold by the Pagan Sibyl, than that he was so clearly predicted, by *Balaam* the Aramitick Sorcerer. However those things in the Sibylline Verses, might have been derived some way or other, from the Scripture-prophecies; which there is indeed the more probability of, because that Sibylline Prophet made use of those very same Figures and Allegories, in describing the Future Happy State, that are found in the Scripture; as for Example,

—*Nec magnos metuent Armenta Leones;*
Occidet & Serpens, &c.

Now as *Cicero* seems to complain, that in his time these Sibylline Oracles were too much exposed to view, so is it very probable, that notwithstanding they were to be kept under the Guard of the *Quindecimviri*, yet many of them might be copied out, and get abroad, and thereby an occasion be offered, to the ignorantly zealous Christians, who were for *Officious Lyes and Pious Frauds*, to add a great deal more of their own forging to them. Neither indeed is it imaginable, how any such Cheat as this, should either at first have been attempted, or afterwards have proved successful, had there not been some Foundation of Truth, to support

Orig. c. Celf.
lib. 7. p. 308.

and countenance it. Besides which, it is observable, that *Celfus* who would have had the Christians rather to have made the *Sibyl* than our Saviour *Christ* a God; taking notice of their using of those *Sibylline Testimonies* against the Pagans, did not tax them, for counterfeiting the wholebuliness of these *Sibylline Oracles*, but only for inserting many things of their own into them; ὑμεῖς ἡ κἀν εἰδωλῶν, ἢ χρεῖται τις ὑμῶν, εὐδαιος ἢ μᾶλλον περιείπονται, ὡς τῷ θεῷ παῖδα, οὐ ἢ περιφροσῶν μὴ εἰς τὰ εὐδαιος, πᾶσι δὲ βλάσφημα εὐθὺ δυνάσθαι. *You Christians might much rather have acknowledged, even the Sibyl for the Off-spring of God; but now you can boldly insert into her Verses, Many, and those Malevolent things of your own.* Where *Origen*, that he might vindicate as well as he could the honour of Christians, pleads in their defence, that *Celfus* for all that, could not shew what they had foisted into those *Sibylline Verses*, because if he had been able to have produced more ancient and incorrupt Copies, in which such things were not found, he would certainly have done it. * Notwithstanding which it is likely, that there were other ancient Copies then to be found, and that *Celfus* might have met with them too, and that from thence he took occasion to write as he did. However, this would not justify the present *Sibylline Books*, in which there are Forgeries, plainly discoverable, without Copies. Nevertheless it seems that all the ancient Christians did not agree in making use of these *Sibylline Testimonies*, thus much being intimated by *Celfus* himself, in the forecited words, ἢ χρεῖται τις ὑμῶν, which some of you make use of; as they did not all acknowledge the *Sibyl* to have been a Prophetess neither, since upon *Celfus* mentioning a Sect of Christians called *Sibyllists*, *Origen* tells us, that these were such as using the *Sibylline Testimonies*, were called so in way of disgrace, by other Christians, who would not allow the *Sibyl* to have been a Prophetess; they perhaps conceiving it derogatory to the Scriptures. But though their may be some of the ancient *Sibylline Verses* still left, in that *Farrago* which we now have; yet it being impossible for us to prove which are such; we shall not insist upon any Testimonies at all from thence, to evince that the ancient Pagans acknowledged *One Supreme Deity*. Notwithstanding which we shall not omit one *Sibylline Passage*, which we find recorded in *Pausanias* (from whence by the way it appears also, that the *Sibylline Verses* were not kept up so close, but that some of them got abroad) he telling us, that the defeat of the Athenians at *Egos Potamos*, was predicted by the *Sibyl* in these Words (amongst others);

καὶ τὸν Ἀθηναίων βαρύνον κήδρα θηοῖ
Ζεὺς ὑπερβύτης, ὅσῃ νείκερ ὅτι μέγαν, &c.

*Ac tum Cecropidis luctum gemitisque ciebit,
Jupiter Altitonans, rerum cui summa Potestas, &c.*

Whereto might be added also, that of another ancient Peliadean Prophetess, in the same Writer, wherein the Divine Eternity and Immutability, is plainly declared.

Ζεὺς ἔσσι, Ζεὺς ὄντι, Ζεὺς ἑστίων, ὃ μέγα ἐστι Ζεὺς.

Jupiter

Jupiter Est, Fuit, atque Erit : O bone Jupiter alme.

Besides these Sibylline Prophecies, there are also other Oracles of the Pagan Deities themselves, in which there was a clear acknowledgment of *One Supreme and Greatest God*. But as for such of them, as are said to have been delivered since the Times of Christianity, when the Pagan Oracles began to fail, and such as are now extant only in Christian Writings, however diverts of them are cited out of *Porphyrius* his Book of Oracles; because they may be suspected, we shall not here mention any of them. Nevertheless we shall take notice of One Oracle of the Clarian *Apollo*, that is recorded by *Macrobius*, in which One Supreme Deity is not only asserted; but is also called by that Hebrew Name, (or *Tetragrammaton*) *Jao*,

εργάζομαι ὁ πάντων θεῶν Ἰάω ἕμην ἰδοι·

*You are to call the Highest and Supreme of all the Gods, Jao : Though it be very true, that that Clarian Devil there, cunningly endeavour'd to divert this to the Sun, as if that were the Only Supreme Deity and True Jao. To which might be added, another ancient Oracle (that now occurs) of the Dodonean Jupiter, together with the Interpretation of Themistocles, to whom it was delivered; wherein he was commanded *πεῖς ὁ ἰμάνυμεν τῷ θεῷ παύειν*, to repair to him who was called by the same Name with God; which Themistocles apprehended to be the King of Persia, *μεγάλος γὰρ ἀμφοτέρους ὄναι τὸν ἑκάστου βασιλέα*, because both he and God, were alike called (though in different respects and degrees) the Great King or Monarch.*

But as for those Writings, commonly imputed to *Hermes Trismegist*, that have been generally condemned by the Learned of this Latter Age, as wholly Counterfeit and Supposititious, and yet on the contrary are asserted by *Atbanasius Kircherus*, for sincere and Genuine; we shall have occasion to declare our sence, concerning them, more opportunely afterward.

The most Ancient Theologers, and most Eminent Assertors of *Polytheism* amongst the Pagans, were *Zoroaster* in the Eastern Parts, and *Orpheus* amongst the Greeks. The former of which, was of so great Antiquity, that Writers cannot well agree about his Age. But that he was a *Polytheist* is acknowledged by all, some affirming it to be signified in his very Name, as given him after his death; it being interpreted by them *A Worshipper of the Stars*. Neither is it to be doubted, but that *Star* or *Ester* in the Persian Language did signify a *Star*, as it hath been observed also by Learned men, concerning sundry other Words, now familiar in these European Languages, that they derived their Original from the Persian. Notwithstanding which, it may be suspected that this was here but a *Greek Termination*: the Word being not only in the Oriental Languages, written *Zertoost* and *Zaradust*, but also in *Maghiast*, *Zarades*. However *Zoroaster's Polytheism* is intimated by *Plato*;

De A. S. I. 4.
P. 105.

where his *Magick* is defined, to have been nothing else, but *θεῶν θεράπεια*, *The Worship of the Gods*. Whence by the way we learn also, that the word *μαγεία* or *Magick*, was first taken in a good sence, which is confirmed by *Porphyrus* *ὁμοῦ γὰρ μὴν τοῖς Πέρσαις, αἱ αὖτε τῇ Σουν σελήνῃ καὶ τῷ ἑστῷ θεῷ, τοῖς μαγοῖς καὶ περὶ τοῦ θεοῦ*. Amongst the Persians, those who were skilful in the knowledge of the Deity, and Religious Worshipers of the same, were called Magi. And as *Magick* is commonly conceived to be founded in a certain *Vital Sympathy* that is in the Universe, so did these ancient Persian *Magi*, and Chaldeans (as *Pfeller* tells us) suppose *συμπλοὴ ἑνὸς τοῦ αἰῶνος τοῖς κατὰ, that there was a Sympathy, betwixt the Superiour and Inferiour Beings*; but it seems, the only way at first by them approved, of attracting the Influence and Assistance of those Superior Invisible Powers, was by *Piety, Devotion, and Religious Rites*: Nevertheless their Devotion was not carried out only to *One Omnipotent God*, but also to *Many Gods*; neither is it to be questioned but that this *Divine Magick* of Zoroaster, shortly after degenerated in many of his Followers, into the *Theurgical Magick*, and at length into *γυναικεία, downright Sorcery and Witchcraft*; the only thing which is now vulgarly called *Magick*. But how many Gods soever this Zoroaster worshipped, that he acknowledged notwithstanding *One Supreme Deity*, appeareth from the Testimony of *Eubulus*, cited by *Porphyrus* in his *De Antro Nympharum*, *πρῶτα μὲν, ὡς ἐφ' εὐχέλῳ, ταχέως αὐτοῦ πηλασθεὶς οἱ τοῖς πλησίον ἔρεσι τῇ περὶ τοῦ, ἀνδρὸς καὶ πατρὸς ἔχον ἀνελκασάντος, ὡς τῆς τοῦ πᾶντος πινυτὸς καὶ πατρὸς μηδὲ, ἐνὶ αὐτῇ φέρεται αὐτῇ τῇ σπουδαίᾳ τοῦ καὶ τοῦ, ὃν ὁ μηδὲς ἰδμεν ἔχοντες*. Zoroaster first of all, as *Eubulus* testifieth, in the Mountains adjoining to Persia, consecrated a *Native Orbicular Cave, adorned with flowers and watered with fountains, to the honour of Mithras, the Maker and Father of all things*; this Cave being an *Image or Symbol* to him, of the whole World, which was made by *Mithras*. Which Testimony of *Eubulus*, is the more to be valued, because as *Porphyrus* elsewhere informeth us, he wrote the *History of Mithras at large, in many Books*, from whence it may be presumed, that he had thoroughly furnished himself with the knowledge of what belonged to the Persian Religion. Wherefore from the Authority of *Eubulus*, we may well conclude also, that notwithstanding the *Sun*, was generally worship'd by the Persians as a *God*, yet Zoroaster and the ancient *Magi*, who were best initiated in the *Mithraick Mysteries*, asserted * another Deity, Superior to the Sun, for the True *Mithras*, such as was *πᾶντα ποιῶν καὶ πατὴρ, the Maker and Father of all things, or of the whole World*, whereof the Sun is a part. However these also look'd upon the Sun as the most lively Image of this Deity, in which it was worshipped by them, as they likewise worship'd the same Deity Symbolically in *Fire*, as *Maximus Tyrius* informeth us; agreeable to which, is that in the *Magick Oracles*,

* That *Mithras*, which was called *εὐμεινός* or *εὐμεινός*, is, the *thales* *God*, was not the *Visible Sun*.

— πάντα πᾶσι τοῖς θεοῖς ἀγαθόν,

All things are the Off-spring of one Fire; that is, of *One Supreme Deity*. And *Julian* the Emperor was such a Devout Sun-worshipper as this, who acknowledged besides the Sun, another Incorporeal Deity, transcendent to it. Nevertheless we deny not, but that others amongst the

the Persians, who were not able to conceive of any thing Incorporeal, might, as well as *Heraclitus*, *Hippocrates*, and the *Stoicks* amongst the Greeks, look upon the Fiery Substance of the whole World (and especially the Sun) as *Animated* and *Intellectual*, to be the Supreme Deity, and the only *Mithras*, according to that Inscription, *Deo Soli Inviso Mithræ*. However, *Mithras*, whether supposed to be *Corporeal* or *Incorporeal*, was unquestionably taken by the Persians for the Supreme Deity, according to that of *Hesychius*, *Μίθρας, ὁ πρῶτος ὁ πάντων θεός*, *Mithras, The First God among the Persians*; who was therefore called in the Inscription *Omnipotent, Omnipotenti Deo Mithræ*. Which *First, Supreme* and *Omnipotent* God was acknowledged by *Artabanus* the Persian, in his Conference with *Themistocles*, in these words, *ἡμῶν ὃ πολλὰν ἰσχυρὰν καὶ καλὴν εἶλεν, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι τι τιμωρ βασιλείας, καὶ προσκυτῶν ἐν αὐτῇ θεῷ τῷ τοῦ πάντων σωζούτῳ*. Amongst those many excellent Laws of ours, the most excellent is this, that the King is to be honoured and worshipped religiously, as the Image of that God, which conserveth all things. Scaliger with some others (though we know not upon what certain grounds) affirm, that *Mithra* in the Persian Language signified *Great*, and *Mithra*, *Greater* or *Greatest*, according to which, *Mithras* would be all one, with *Deus Major* or *Maximus*, *The Greatest God*. Wherefore we conclude, that either *Herodotus* was mistaken, in making the Persian *Mithras* the same with *Mylitta* or *Venus*; (And perhaps such a mistake might be occasioned from hence, because the Word *Mader* or *Mither* in the Persian Language signified *Mother*, as *Mylitta* in the Syrian did;) or else rather, that this *Venus* of his, is to be understood of the *Αφροδίτη ἡγεσία*, the heavenly *Venus* or *Love*; and thus indeed is she there called in *Herodotus*, *Urania*; by which though some would understand nothing else but the Moon, yet we conceive the *Supreme Deity*, *True Heavenly love* (the *Mother* and *Nurse* of all things) to have been primarily signified therein.

Plut. Themist.

مادر

Genetrix.

But *Zoroaster* and the ancient *Magi* are said to have called the Supreme God also by another name, viz. *Oromasdes* or *Ormisdas*; however *Oromasdes*, according to *Plato*, seems to have been the Father of *Zoroaster*. Thus, besides *Plutarch* and others, *Porphyrins*, in the Life of *Pythagoras*, *παρῆναι μάστιγα δ' ἀποκρίσσειν, τίς το γὰρ μόνον θειοτάτος ἀνθρώπων ποιῶν θεῶν ὁμοπαλινδρος, ἐπὶ καὶ ὁμοῦ τῷ θεῷ, ὡς ὁμοῦ τῷ μάγῳ ἐπὶ θεῷ, ὃν Ὀρομαδέω καλεῖσθαι ἐσθλόν, ὡς οὐκ ἔστι τι μὲν σώμα φέλλῃ τῷ καὶ ψυχῇ ἀλλοτρίῳ*. Which we would understand thus. *Pythagoras* exhorted men chiefly to the Love of Truth, as being that alone which could make them resemble God, he having learn'd from the *Magi* that God, whom they call *Oromasdes*, was as to *Corporals* most like to *Light*, and as to *Incorporeals* to *Truth*. Though perhaps some would interpret these words otherwise, so as to signify *Oromasdes* to have been really compounded of *Soul* and *Body*, and therefore nothing else but the *Animated Sun*, as *Mithras* is commonly supposed also to have been. But the contrary hereunto, is plainly implied in those *Zoroastrian Traditions* or *Fables*, concerning *Oromasdes*, recorded in *Plutarch*, *ὅτι ἀπέστην τῷ ἡλίῳ καὶ ἔσθῃ, ὅσον ὁ ἡλίος ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς ἀπέστην*, that *Oromasdes* was as far removed from the Sun, as the Sun was from the Earth. Wherefore *Oromasdes* was according to the Persians, a Deity superior to the Sun; God

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God properly as the *Fountain of Light* and *Original of all Good*, and the same with Plato's *ἀρχὴν* or *First Good*. From whom the Persians, as *Scaliger* informs us, called the First Day of every Month *Oromasdes*, probably because he was the Beginning of all things. And thus *Zoroaster* and the ancient *Magi*, acknowledged one and the same *Supreme Deity*, under the different names of *Mithras* and *Oromasdes*.

But it is here observable, that the Persian *Mithras* was commonly called *τρεπλάσιος*, *Three-fold* or *Treble*. Thus *Dionysius* the Pseudo-Arcopagite, *ὃς εἰσὶν μέγας τοὶ μνημόσυνα τῷ τρεπλάσιος μίθρας πλησίον*. *The Persian Magi to this very day, celebrate a Festival Solemnity in honour of the Triplasian* (that is, the Three-fold or Triplicated) *Mithras*. And something very like to this, is recorded in *Plutarch*, concerning *Oromasdes* also, *ὁ μὲν τρεπλάσιος τρεῖς ἑαυτὸν αὐξήσας*, *Oromasdes Thrice augmented or Triplicated himself*; from whence it further appears that *Mithras* and *Oromasdes* were really one and the same *Numen*. Now the Scholiasts upon *Dionysius* pretend to give a reason of this Denomination of the Persian *Mithras*, *Triplasian*, or *Threefold*, from the Miracle done in *Hezekiah's* Time, when the Day was encreased, and almost Triplicated; as if the *Magi* then observing the same, had thereupon given the name of *τρεπλάσιος*, or *Threefold*, to their God *Mithras*, that is, the *Sun*, and appointed an Anniversary Solemnity for a Memorial thereof. But Learned men have already shewed the Foolery of this Conceit; and therefore it cannot well be otherwise concluded, but that here is a manifest Indication of a *Higher Mystery*, viz. a *Trinity* in the Persian Theology; which *Gerardus J. Vossius* would willingly understand, according to the Christian *Hypothesis*, of a *Divine Trinity*, or *Three Hypostases* in one and the same Deity, whose Distinctive Characters, are *Goodness*, *Wisdom*, and *Power*. But the *Magical* or *Zoroastrian Oracles*, seem to represent this Persian Trinity, more agreeably to that *Pythagorick* or *Platonick Hypothesis*, of *Three Distinct Substances* subordinate one to another, the Two First whereof, are thus expressed in the following Verses,

πάντα γὰρ ἔκτισεν πατὴρ, ὃς τῷ παρέδωκε
αὐτῷ, ἐν πρώτῳ κληῖται ἰσὺς ἀνδρῶν.

To this Sence: *The Father or First Deity, perfected all things, and delivered them to the Second Mind, who is that, whom the Nations of men commonly take for the First*. Which Oracle *Pfellus* thus glosseth upon; *τῷ πᾶσαν κτίσιν δημιουργήσας ὁ ἄ τριπλῆς πρώτος πατὴρ, παρέδωκε ταύτῃ τῷ ὄντι τῷ τῷ ἔμπροσθεν ὅς τῷ ἀνδρῶν, ἀνοήτους τῷ πνεύματι ἁπλοῦς, οὐδὲν πρώτῳ καλῶν*. *The First Father of the Trinity, having produced this whole Creation, delivered it to Mind or Intellect*. Which Mind, the whole Generation of Mankind being ignorant of the Paternal Transcendency, commonly call the First God. After which, *Pfellus* takes notice of the difference here betwixt this *Magical* or *Chaldaick Theology*, and that of *Christians*: *πλὴν τὸ παρ' ἡμῶν δόγμα ὡσαύτως ἔχει, ὡς αὐτῷ ὁ πρώτος τῶς, ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ μεγάλου πατρός, τῷ κτίει πᾶσαν ἐκτίσιν*, &c. *But our Christian Doctrine is contrary herunto, namely thus; That the First Mind or Intellect, being the Son of the Great Father, made the whole*

whole Creation. For the Father in the Mosaick Writings, speaks to his Son, the Idea of the Creation; but the Son is the immediate Opifex thereof. His meaning is, that according to this Persian or Chaldaick Theology, the First Hypostasis of the Divine Triad, was the δημιουργός or Immediate Architect of the World, whereas according to the Christian as well as Platonick Doctrine, he is the Second. For which cause, Plotinus framed another Interpretation of that Magick Oracle, to render it more conformable both to the Christian and Platonick Doctrine, ὁ γὰρ πατήρ ἀπάντα ἐποίησεν, τὰ ὅντα διὰ τοῦ υἱοῦ (ταῦτα γὰρ ἔστι τὰ ἐκτετακμένα πρὸς τὴν τέλει) καὶ τὸ μὲν αὐτῶν ὁ δεύτερος θεὸς παρέδωκεν, ἔχον διὰ τοῦ υἱοῦ καὶ ἰσχυρὰ ὡς ἔχει, &c. The Father perfected all things, that is the Intelligible Ideas (for these are those things which are complete and perfect) and delivered them to the Second God, to rule over them. Wherefore whatsoever is produced by this God, according to its own Exemplar and the Intelligible Essence, must needs owe its Original also to the Highest Father. Which Second God, the Generations of men, commonly take for the First, they looking up no higher, than to the Immediate Architect of the World. According to which Interpretation of Plotinus (the more probable of the Two) the Second Hypostasis in the Magick (or Persian) Trinity, as well as in the Platonick and Christian, is the Immediate Opifex or Architect of the World; and this seems to be properly that which was called Mithras in Eubulus.

But besides these Two Hypostases, there is also a Third mentioned in a certain other Magick or Chaldaick Oracle, cited by Proclus, under the Name of *Psyche*, or the Mundane Soul;

— ΜΕΤὰ δὲ ΠΑΤΕΡΝΑΙΩΣ ΔΙΑΝΟΙΑΣ,
ΨΥΧῇ ἐνοικεῖται.

After (or next below) the Paternal Mind, I Psyche dwell. Now the Paternal Mind, as Pselus informs us, is the Second Hypostasis before-mentioned; ὁ πατρικός νους, ὁ δεύτερος διὰ τοῦ υἱοῦ, καὶ τὸν υἱὸν προσχέως δημιουργός, The Paternal Mind is the Second God, and the Immediate Demiurgus or Opifex of the Soul. Wherefore though both those Names Oromasdes and Mithras, were frequently used by the Magi, for the τὸ εἶναι, or whole Deity in General, yet this being Triplasan or Threefold, according to their Theology, as containing Three Hypostases in it; the First of those Three, seems to have been that, which was most properly called Oromasdes, and the Second Mithras. And this is not only confirmed by Plotinus, but also with this further Superaddition to it, that the Third Hypostasis of that Persian Trinity, was that which they called Arimanius; he gathering as much even from Plutarch himself; φασι οὖν τρεῖς εἶναι, ὡς τρεῖς καὶ τὰ ὅλα διόλοι. καὶ τῇ μὲν πρώτῃ αὐτῶν μορφῇ, ὀρομασίῳ ἐφιστῇ. τῇ δὲ δ' εἶναι, καὶ ἐπὶ τῇ λογίῳ πατρίδι καλεῖσθαι. τῇ δὲ ἐσχάτῃ ἀριμανίῳ. μέγαν δὲ τῇ μέσῃ, καὶ τῇ δὲ δ' ἐν εἶναι καὶ ἀριμανίῳ νῦν καλεῖσθαι ὑπὸ τῇ λογίῳ. They say that Zoroaster made a Threefold Distribution of Things, and that he assigned the First and Highest Rank of them, to Oromasdes, who in the Oracles, is called the Father; the lowest to Arimanes; and the Middle to Mithras, who in the same Oracles is likewise called the Second Mind. Whereupon he observes,

how

how great an Agreement there was, betwixt the Zoroastrian and the Platonick Trinity, they differing in a manner only in Words. And the Middle of these, namely the Eternal Intellect that contains the Ideas of all things, being, according to the Platonick Hypothesis, the Immediate Δημιουργός and Architect of the World, this probably was that *Mithras*, as we have already intimated, who is called in *Eubulur*, the Demiurgus of the World, and the Maker and Father of all things. Now if that Third Hypothesis of the Magick or Chaldaick Oracles, be the same with that, which the Persians call *Arimanius*, then must it be upon such an account as this, because this Lower World (wherein are Souls Vitally united to Bodies, and Lapfable) is the Region where all manner of Evils, Wickedness, Pains, Corruption and Mortality reign. And herewith *Hesychius* seemeth to agree: Ἀεμίδιος (saith he) ὁ Ἄϊδος ὁ Πλούτων, Arimanius among the Persians, is Hades, that is, either *Orcus* or *Pluto*; wherein he did but follow *Theopompus*, who in *Plutarch* calls *Arimanius* likewise Hades or *Pluto*: which it seems was as well the Third in the Persian Trinity (or Triplasian Deity) as it was in the Homican. And this was that *Arimanius*, whom the Persian King in *Plutarch*, upon *Themistocles* his flight, address'd his Devotion to, κατὰ χάριν αἱ τοῖς πολεμοῖς, τωάντας φεύρας διδόναι τ' Ἀεμίδιον, ὅπως ἐλαθῶν τὰς ἀφ' ἑαυτοῦ, He prayed, that *Arimanius* would always give such a mind to his Enemies, as thus to banish and drive away their best men from them. And indeed from that which *Plutarch* affirms, διὸ καὶ μισθῶν πλείους τ' μεσσίτω διμερίζον, That the Persians from their God *Mithras*, called any Mediator, or Middle betwixt two, *Mithras*; it may be more reasonably concluded, that *Mithras*, according to the Persian Theology, was properly the Middle Hypothesis of that Triplasian or Triplacated Deity of theirs, than that he should be a Middle Self-existent God, or Mediator, betwixt Two Adversary Gods Unmade, one Good, and the other Evil, as *Plutarch* would suppose.

In vit. Them.

Notwithstanding which, if that which the same *Plutarch* and others do so confidently affirm, should be true, that Zoroaster and the ancient Magi, made Good and Evil, Light and Darkness, the Two Substantial Principles of the Universe, that is, asserted an Evil Demon Coeternal with God, and Independent on him, in the very same manner that *Plutarch* himself and the Manicheans afterward did; yet however it is plain, that in this way also, Zoroaster and the Magi, acknowledged One only Fountain and Original of all Good, and nothing to be independent upon that One Good Principle or God, but only that which is so contrary to his Nature and Perfection, as that it could not proceed from him, namely Evil. But we have already discovered a suspicion, that the meaning of those ancient Magi, might possibly be otherwise; they philosophizing only concerning a certain Mixture of Evil and Darkness, together with Good and Light, that was in the Composition of this Lower World, and Personating the same; as also perhaps taking notice especially therein of Evil Demons (who are acknowledged likewise in the Magick Oracles, and called δαίμονες χθονίαι, Beasts of the Earth, and χθόνιοι κύωνες, Terrestrial Dogs;) the Head of which might be sometimes called also Emphatically ὁ πονηρὸς δαίμων πλείων, the Evil Demon of the Persians, as being the very same with the Devil.

Devil : all which was under the immediate Presidency or Government of that God, called by them *Arimanius*, *Hades* or *Pluto*, the *Third Hypostasis* in the *Triplasian Deity* of the Persians. Which suspicion, may be yet further confirmed from hence, because the Persian Theologers, as appears by the Inscriptions, expressly acknowledged the *Divine Omnipotence*, which they could not possibly have done, had they admitted of a *Manichean Substantial Evil Principle*, *Coeternal* with *God*, and *Independent* on him. Besides which it is observable, that whereas the Gnosticks in *Plotinus* time, asserting this World to have been made, not so much from a *Principle Essentially Evil* and *Eternal*, as from a *Lapsed Soul* ; to weigh down the Authority of *Plato* that was against them, did put *Zoroaster* in the other Scale, producing a Book entituled, ἀποκαλύψας Ζαροάστρου, or the *Revelations* of *Zoroaster*, *Porphyrius* tells us, that himself wrote purposely, to disprove those *Zoroastrian Revelations*, as *New* and *Counterfeit*, and forged by those Gnosticks themselves ; therein implying also the Doctrine of the ancient *Zoroaster*, no way to have countenanced or favoured that *Gnostic Heresie*. Moreover the Tenents of these ancient *Magi*, concerning that Duplicity of Principles, are by Writers represented with great Variety and Uncertainty. That Account which *Theodorus* in *Photius* (treating of the Persian Magick) gives thereof, as also that other of *Eudemus* in *Damascius*, are both of them so Nonsensical, that we shall not here trouble the Reader with them ; however, neither of them suppose the Persian *Arimanius* or *Satanas*, to be an *Unmade Self-existing Demon*. But the Arabians, writing of this *Almansih*, or Persian Duplicity of Good and Evil Principles, affirm, That according to the most approved *Magi*, *Light*, was *Kadiman*, the *Most Ancient* and *First God*, and that *Darkness* was but a *Created God* ; they expressly denying the Principle of *Evil* and *Darkness*, to be *Coeve* with *God*, or the Principle of *Good* and *Light*. And *Abulfeda* represents the *Zoroastrian Doctrine* (as the Doctrine of the *Magi Reformed*) after this manner ; That *God* was older than *Darkness* and *Light*, and the *Creator* of them, so that he was a *Solitary Being*, without Companion or Corival ; and that *Good* and *Evil*, *Virtue* and *Vice* did arise from a certain Commixture of *Light* and *Darkness* together, without which this lower World could never have been produced ; which Mixture was still to continue in it, till at length *Light* should overcome *Darkness* ; and then *Light* and *Darkness* shall each of them have their separate and distinct Worlds, apart from one another.

Pecock Spec.
Hyp. de p. 116;
147, 148.

If it were now needful, we might still make it further evident that *Zoroaster*, notwithstanding the Multiplicity of Gods worship'd by him, was an Asserter of *One Supreme*, from his own Description of *God* extant in *Eusebius*. οὐδὲς ἔστιν ὁ πρῶτος ἀφθαρτός, ἀίδιος, ἀβυσσός, ἀμερὲς, ἀνομοιότης, ἡσυχία πάντες καλῶς, ἀδυσχεδύνως, ἀκαδὸν ἀκατάπαυτος, φερύμας φουμάματος, ἔτι ἢ καὶ πατὴρ δυνάμει καὶ δικαιοσύνης, αὐτοδιδόντος, πλὴνους, καὶ ἑστὸς φουμά μόνος δεξιότης. *God is the First Incorruptible, Eternal, Unmade, Indivisible, Most unlike to every thing, the Head or Leader of all Good, Unbribable, the Best of the Good, the Wisest of the Wise ; He is also the Father of Law and Justice, Self-taught, Perfect, and*

Prop. Eu. L. 1)

the only Inventor of the Natural Holy. Which *Ensebius* tells us, that this Zoroastrian Description of God, was contained *verbatim*, in a Book entituled, *A Holy Collection of the Persian Monuments*; as also that *Ostanes* (himself a famous Magician, and admirer of Zoroaster) had recorded the very same of him, in his *Ostanehon*.

Now we having, in this Discourse concerning Zoroaster and the *Magi*, cited the Oracles, called by some *Magical*, and imputed to Zoroaster, but by others *Chaldaical*; we conceive it not improper to give some account of them here. And indeed if there could be any Assurance of the Antiquity and Sincerity of those *Reputed Oracles*, there would then need no other Testimony to prove, that either Zoroaster and the *Persian Magi*, or else at least the *Chaldeans*, asserted not only a *Divine Monarchy*, or One Supreme Deity the Original of all things; but also a *Trinity*, consistently with the same.

And it is certain that those Oracles are not such *Novel Things* as some would suspect, they being cited by *Synesius*, as then Venerable and of great Authority, under the name of *ἁγία λόγια*, *Holy Oracles*, and there being of this Number, some produced by him that are not to be found in the Copies of *Pfellus* and *Pletho*; from whence it may be concluded, that we have only some Fragments of these Oracles now left. And that they were not forged by Christians, as some of the Sibylline Oracles undoubtedly were, seems probable from hence, because so many Pagan Philosophers make use of their Testimonies, laying no small stress upon them. As for Example *Damascius*, out of whom *Patritius* hath made a Considerable Collection of such of these Oracles as are wanting in *Pfellus* and *Pletho's* Copies. And we learn from *Photius*, that whereas *Hierocles* his Book of Fate and Providence, was divided into Seven Parts, the Drift of the Fourth of them was this, *τὰ λεγόμενα λόγια, ὡς συμφωνίαν ἐπέχειν, οἷς πλάτων ἐδωγμάτισεν*, *to reconcile the Reputed Oracles, with Plato's Doctrines*. Where it is not to be doubted, but that those *Reputed Oracles* of *Hierocles*, were the same with these Magick or Chaldaick Oracles; because these are frequently cited by Philosophers under that name of *λόγια* or *Oracles*. *Proclus* upon the *Timæus*, ὑπὸ τι πλάτωνος, ἢ Ὀρφέως, ἢ λογίων, ποιητῆς ἢ πατρὸς ὑμνεῖται τὸ παῖς, πατρὶ ἀνδρῶν τι δεῖν τι ἡμεῶν μὲρ τὰ πλάττει ἢ δεῖν, ψυχὰς ἢ πνεύματα εἰς ἡμετέρας ἀνδρῶν. *The Maker of the Universe, is celebrated both by Plato, and Orpheus, and The Oracles, as the Father of Gods and Men; who both produceth Multitudes of Gods, and sends down Souls for the Generations of Men*. And as there are other Fragments of these, cited by *Proclus* elsewhere under the name of *λόγια* or *Oracles*, so doth he sometimes give them that higher Title of *ἱεροκράδελος διδωγία*, and *μυσταγωγία*, *The Theology that was of Divine Tradition or Revelation*. Which magnificent Encomium, was bestowed in like manner upon *Pythagoras* his Philosophy, by *Jamblichus*, that being thought to have been derived in great part from the Chaldeans and the *Magi*; ὡς θεῶν ὡτίς ἐξ ἀποδόσεως τι κατ' ἀρχάς. *The Philosophy of Pythagoras, having been first Divinely delivered, or revealed by the Gods, ought not to be handled by us without a Religious Invocation of them*. And that *Porphyrius* was not unacquainted with these

Book published by him, *The Oracles of the Chaldeans*, in which it is confirmed, that *Matter was Made*.

Moreover that there was also in these *Magick or Chaldæan Oracles*, a clear Signification of a *Divine Triad*, hath been already declared. But we shall here produce *Proclus* his Testimony for it too, ἔτι δὲ ἡ Θεοπορεσιδὸς Θεολογία, ὅπου συμπληρωμένη τὴν κέλυσιν, ἐκ τῶνδε τῶν Τριῶν λέγει γὰρ ἡ ψυχὴ ἐκ τῆς αἰδὸς ἐπικείμενα τῷ δημιουργήσαντι τὴν πᾶν. Thus the *Divinely Delivered* (or *Inspired*) *Theology*, affirmeth the whole World to have been completed from these Three; *Plyche* or the *Mundane Soul*, therein speaking concerning that *Zeus* or *Jupiter*, who was above the *Maker of the World*, in this manner, &c. For we have already declared, that *Proclus* his Θεοπορεσιδὸς Θεολογία, his *Theology of Divine Tradition* or *Revelation*, is one and the same thing with the λόγια, or *Oracles*. To which Testimony of *Proclus*, we might also superadd, that Oracle cited out of *Damascius*, by *Patritius*,

παντὶ γὰρ ἐν κέλυσιν λάμπει Τριάς ἢς μόνας ἀρχαί.

In the whole World shineth forth a *Triad* or *Trinity*, the Head whereof, is a *Monad* or *Perfect Unity*; Than which nothing can be plainer.

XVII. And now we pass out of *Asia* into *Europe*, from *Zoroaster* to *Orpheus*. It is the Opinion of some Eminent Philologers of latter times, That there never was any such Man as *Orpheus*, but only in *Fairy-land*, and that the whole *History* of *Orpheus*, was nothing but a mere *Romantick Allegory*, utterly devoid of all Truth and Reality. But there is nothing alledged for this Opinion from Antiquity, save only this one Passage of *Cicero's* concerning *Aristotle*; *Orpheum Poetam docet Aristoteles nunquam fuisse*, *Aristotle teacheth that there never was any such man as Orpheus the Poet*; in which notwithstanding *Aristotle* seems to have meant no more than this, that there was no such Poet as *Orpheus* Senior to *Homer*, or that the Verses vulgarly called *Orphical*, were not written by *Orpheus*. However, if it should be granted, that *Aristotle* had denied the Existence of such a man; there seems to be no reason at all, why his Single Testimony should here preponderate, against that Universal Consent of all Antiquity, which is for one *Orpheus* the Son of *Oeager*, by birth a *Thracian*, the Father or Chief Founder, of the *Mythical* and *Allegorical Theology* amongst the Greeks, and of all their most Arcane Religious Rites and Mysteries; who is commonly supposed to have lived before the Trojan War, (that is, in the time of the *Israelitish Judges*) or at least, to have been Senior both to *Hesiod* and *Homer*; and also to have died a Violent Death, most affirming him to have been torn in pieces by Women. For which cause in that Vision of *Hermes Pamphylius* in *Plato*, *Orpheus* his Soul being to come down again, into another Body, is said to have chosen rather, that of a *Swan* (a reputed *Musical Animal*) than to be born again of a *Woman*, by reason of that great hatred, which he had conceived of all *Woman-kind*, for his suffering such a Violent Death from them. And the Historick Truth of *Orpheus*, was not only acknowledged by *Plato*, but also by *Isocrates*, Senior to *Aristotle* likewise

(in his Oration in the praise of *Buliris*;) and confirmed by that sober Historiographer *Diodorus Siculus*, he giving this Accompr of *Orpheus*, That he was a man who diligently applied himself to Literature, and having learn'd τὰ μυθολογούμενα, or the Mystical Part of Theology, travelled into Egypt, where he attain'd to further knowledge, and became the greatest of all the Greeks, in the Mystical Rites of Religion, Theological Skill and Poetry. To which *Pausanias* addeth, that he gained great authority, οὗτε περὶ δόμους ἀρριπύας ἔχον ἀνθρώπων καθαρμούς, νόμους τε ἰαμάτων, καὶ τεγνίς μυσμμάτων ὄντων. As being believed to have found out Expiations for wicked Actions, Remedies for Diseases, and Appointments of the Divine Displeasure. Neither was this History of *Orpheus* contradicted by *Origen*, when *Celsus* gave him so fit an occasion, and so strong a Provocation to do it, by his Preferring *Orpheus*, before our Saviour Christ. To all which may be added in the last place, that it being commonly concluded from the Greek word *Θρησκειά*, that the Greeks derived their *Telete* and *Mysteries* of Religion, from the Thracians, it is not so reasonable to think with the Learned *Vossius*, that *Xamolxis* was the Founder of them, (and not *Orpheus*) this *Xamolxis* being by most reported to have been *Pythagoras* his Servant, and consequently too much a Junieur; and though *Herodotus* attribute more Antiquity to him, yet did he conceive him to have been no other than a *Demon*, who appearing to the Thracians, was worshipped by them; whereas in the mean time, the General Tradition of the Greeks, derived the *Thracian Religious Rites* and *Mysteries*, from *Orpheus* and no other, according to this of *Suidas*; λέγεται ὡς Ὀρφικὸς ὁρῶν, πρῶτος ἐπιχρηλοῖται τὰ ἔλλαττα μυστήρια, καὶ τὸ πρῶτον ἀπὸ θεοσκύβαν ἐκάλουν, ὡς θεοσκεπὴς ὄντος ὁ Ὀρφικὸς. It is commonly said, that *Orpheus the Thracian*, was the First Inventor of the Religious Mysteries of the Greeks, and that Religion was from thence called *Threscheia*, as being a *Thracian Invention*. Wherefore though it may well be granted, that by reason of *Orpheus* his great Antiquity, there have been many *Fabulous* and *Romantick* things intermingled with his History; yet there appears no reason at all, why we should disbelieve the Existence of such a Man.

But though there were such a man as *Orpheus*, yet may it very well be question'd for all that, Whether any of those Poems, commonly entituled to him, and called *Orphical*, were so ancient, and indeed written by him. And this the rather, because *Herodotus* declares it as his own Opinion, that *Hesiod* and *Homer*, were the ancientest of all the Greek Poets, οἱ δὲ πρῶτοι πάντες λεγόμενοι τῶν τῶν ἑστῶν ἀνδρῶν ποιητῶν ἔσονται ἑξῆς, and that those other Poets, said to have been before them, were indeed Juniors to them; meaning hereby in all probability, *Orpheus*, *Museus* and *Linus*. As also because *Aristotle* seems plainly to have followed *Herodotus* in this, he mentioning the *Orphick Poems* (in his Book Of the Soul) after this manner, τὰ Ὀρφικὰ καλεόμενα ἔστιν, The Verses that are called *Orphical*. Besides which *Cicero* tells us that some imputed all the *Orphick Poems* to *Cercops* a *Pythagorean*, and it is well known, that many have attributed the same to another of that School, *Onomacritus*, who lived in the times of the *Pisistratide*: Wherefore we read more than once in *Sextus Empiricus* of Ὀνομακρίτου ἢ τῶν Ὀρφικῶν;

Prolog. in Elor.
Soub.

Ὀρφεϊκῶς, Onomacritus in the Orphicks. Suidas also reports, that some of the Orphick Poems were anciently ascribed to Theognetus, others to Timocles, others to Zopyrus, &c. From all which Grotius seems to have made up this Conclusion; That the Pythagoricks entitled their own Books to Orpheus and Linus, just in the same manner, as Ancient Christians entitled theirs, some to the Sibyls, and others to Hermes Trismegist. Implying therein, that both the Orphick Poems and Doctrine, owed there very Being and First Original, only to the Pythagoreans. But on the other side, Clemens Alexandrinus affirmeth that Heraclitus the Philosopher borrowed many things from the Orphick Poems. And it is certain, that Plato does not only very much commend the Orphick Hymns, for their Suavity and Delicousness, but also produce some Verses out of them, without making any Scruple concerning their Author. Cicero himself, notwithstanding what he cites out of Aristotle to the contrary, seems to acknowledge Orpheus for the most ancient Poet, he writing thus of Cleanthes, In Secundo Libro De Natura Deorum, vult Orphei, Musæi, Hesiodi, Homerique Fabellas accommodare ad ea quæ ipse de Diis Immortalibus scripserat, ut etiam Veterimi Poetæ qui hæc nescipati quidem sint, Stoici fuisse videantur; Cleanthes in his Second Book of the Nature of the Gods, endeavours to accommodate the Fables of Orpheus, Musæus, Hesiod and Homer, to those very things which himself had written concerning them; so that the most ancient Poets, who never dream'd of any such matter, are made by him to have been Stoicks. Diodorus Siculus affirmeth Orpheus to have been the Author of a most excellent Poem. And Justin Martyr, Clemens Alexandrinus, Athenagoras, and others, take it for granted, that Homer borrowed many Passages of his Poems from the Orphick Verses, and particularly that very Beginning of his Iliads,

Dr N. Dr. L. t.
p. 201. Lamb.

Μῦθον ἄειδεν Ὀΐα.

Dr V. Pyl.
s. 34.

Lastly, Jamblichus testifieth, that by Most Writers, Orpheus was represented as the ancientest of all the Poets, adding moreover, what Diakleu he wrote in, αὐτὸς πλεῖστον τῶν ἱστοριῶν ἀποφαίνων, κατεχόμενος τῇ δαεικῇ διαλέκτῃ ἢ τῇ ὀρφικῇ, περιέχοντες οὐκ ἄλλ' ἢ πῦρ καὶ γῆ. Most of the Historiographers declare, that Orpheus, who was the ancientest of all the Poets, wrote in the Dorick Dialect. Which if it be true, then those Orphick Fragments, that now we have, (preserved in the Writings of such as did not Dorize) must have been transformed by them out of their Native Idiom. Now as concerning Herodotus, who supposing Homer and Hesiod to have been the ancientest of all the Greek Poets, seem'd therefore to conclude the Orphick Poems to have been Pseudepigraphous; himself intimates that this was but a Singular Opinion, and as it were, Paradox, of his own, the contrary thereunto being then generally received. However Aristotle probably, might therefore be the more inclinable to follow Herodotus in this, because he had no great kindness for the Pythagorick or Orphick Philosophy. But it is altogether Irrational and Absurd to think, that the Pythagoricks would entitle their Books to Orpheus, as designing to gain credit and authority to them thereby; had there been no such Doctrine before, either contained in some ancient Monument of Orpheus,

or

or at least transmitted down by Oral Tradition from him. Wherefore the Pythagoricks themselves constantly maintain, that before Pythagoras his time, there was not only an *Orphick Cabala* Extant, but also *Orphick Poems*. The Former was declared in that ancient Book called 'ἱεὺς λόγος, or *The Holy Oration*, if we may believe Proclus upon the *Timæus*. Πυθαγόρας ὡς ὁ Τιμαῖος, ἐπὶ ταῖς Πυθαγορείαις ἀρχαῖς· αὐταὶ ἢ εἰναι ὁρφικαὶ παραδόσεις. Ἄ γὰρ Ὀρφέως δὲ ἀπερρίπτων λόγον μυστικῶς διδάσκοντα, ταῦτα Πυθαγόρας ἐξέμαθεν θεολογικῶς ἐκ Λεωκόρου τοῦ Θρακικοῦ, Ἀγλαοφίμου τέλετα μετὰ διδασκάλου. ταῦτα γὰρ φησὶν ὁ Πυθαγόρας ὡς τῷ 'ἱεφῷ λόγῳ. *Timæus being a Pythagorean, follows the Pythagorick Principles, and these are the Orphick Traditions; for what things Orpheus deliver'd Mystically, (or in arcane Allegories) these Pythagoras learn'd when he was initiated by Aglaophemus in the Orphick Mysteries, Pythagoras himself affirming as much in his Book called, The Holy Oration. Where Proclus without any doubt or scruple, entitles the Book inscribed 'ἱεὺς λόγος or The Holy Oration, to Pythagoras himself. Indeed several of the ancients have resolv'd, Pythagoras to have written nothing at all, as Fla. Josephus, Plutarch, Lucian and Porphyrius; and Epigenes in Clemens Alex. affirms that the 'ἱεὺς λόγος or Holy Oration, was written by Cercops a Pythagorean. Nevertheless Diogenes Laertius thinks them not to be in good earnest, who deny Pythagoras to have written any thing, and he tells us that Heraclides acknowledged this 'ἱεὺς λόγος or Holy Oration for a genuine and indubitate Fæctus of Pythagoras. Jamblichus is also of the same opinion, as the most received; though confessing some to have attributed that Book, to Telanges Pythagoras his Son. But whoever was the Writer of this Hieros Logos, whether Pythagoras himself, or Telanges, or Cercops, it must needs be granted to be of great antiquity, according to the Testimony whereof, Pythagoras derived much of his Theology, from the Orphick Traditions. Moreover Ion Chius in his Trigrammi testified, as Clemens Alexandrinus informeth us, that Pythagoras himself referred some Poems to Orpheus as their Author; which is also the General sence of Platonists as well as Pythagoreans. Wherefore upon all accounts, it seems most probable, That either, Orpheus himself wrote some Philosophick or Theologick Poems, though certain other Poems might be also father'd on him, because written in the same strain, of Mystical and Allegorical Theology, and as it were in the same Spirit, with which this Thracian Prophet was inspir'd: Or else at least, that the Orphick Doctrine, was first convey'd down by Oral Cabala or Tradition from him, and afterwards for its better Preservation, express'd in Verses, that were imputed to Orpheus, after the same manner, as the Golden Verses written by Lyfys, were to Pythagoras. And Philoponus intimates this Latter to have been Aristotle's Opinion concerning the Orphick Verses: He glossing thus upon those words of Aristotle before cited, καλεῖ μένους ἔπει, ὅτι μὴ δοῦναι Ὀρφέως τὰ ἔπει, ὡς καὶ αὐτὸς ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ φιλοσοφίας λόγῳ. αὐτῷ γὰρ εἶναι τὰ δόγματα, ταῦτα δὲ φησὶν Ὀνομάκριτον ὡς ἔπει καλεῖσθαι. Aristotle calls them the Reputed Orphick Verses, because they seem not to have been written by Orpheus himself, as the same Aristotle affirmeth in his Book of Philosophy. The Doctrine and Opinions of them indeed were his, but Onomacritus is said to have put them into Verse. However, there can be*

P. 291.

Symon. L. 1:
p. 333.

no doubt at all made, but that the *Orphick Verses*, by whomsoever Written, were some of them of great antiquity (they being much older than either *Aristotle*, *Plato* or *Herodotus*) as they were also had in great esteem amongst the Pagans; and therefore we may very well make a judgment of the *Theology* of the ancient Pagans, from them.

Now that *Orpheus*, the *Orphick Doctrine*, and *Poems*, were Polytheistical, is a thing acknowledged by all. *Justin Martyr* affirms that *Orpheus* asserted *Three Hundred and Sixty Gods*; he also bestows upon him, this Honourable Title (if it may be so accounted) of πολυθεύτης πατήρ ἔς πρῶτος διδάσκαλος, *The Father and First Teacher of Polytheism amongst the Greeks*; he supposing that *Homer* derived his Polytheism from him; ὁμηρος τὸ πολυθεύτης ὀρφῆος ἐπιδέσας εἶπεν, μετὰ δὲ μὴ πλεονάζειν θεῶν μέναι, ἵνα μὴ δέξῃ τὸ ὀρφῆως ἀπὸ φθιτοῦ πάσας. *Homer* emulating *Orpheus* his Polytheism, did himself therefore fabulously write of many Gods, that he might not seem to dissent from his *Poems*, whom he had so great a Veneration for. With which also agreeth the Testimony of *Athenagoras*, ὀρφῆς ἔς τὰ ὑσμῶσι θεῶν πρῶτος ἐξέειπεν, ἔς τὰς ἡρώδης διεύλην, ἔς οὗτοι ἑκάστος πεπερωμένοι ἔπεν, ὃ ἔς ὁμηρος τὰ πολλὰ ἔς αὐτοῦ θεῶν μάστιγι ἐπέειπεν. *Orpheus* first invented the very names of the Gods, declaring their Generations, and what was done by each of them, and *Homer* for the most part follows him therein. Indeed the whole *Mythical Theology*, or *Fables of the Gods* together with the *Religious Rites* amongst the Greeks, are commonly supposed to have owed their First Original to no other but *Orpheus*. In which *Orphick Fables*, not only the *Things of Nature*, and *Parts of the World* were all Theologized, but also all manner of *Humane Passions*, *Imperfections*, and *Vices* (according to the *Literal Sense*) attributed to the Gods. Inasmuch that divers of the Pagans themselves, took great offence at them, as for Example *Isocrates*; who concludes that a Divine Nemesis or Vengeance was inflicted upon *Orpheus* for this Impiety, ὀρφῆς ὁ μάλιστα τῶν τυτῶν λόγων ἀβέλγητος, διασπαρχὸς τὸ βίον ἐπὶ ἀλότητι, *Orpheus* who was most of all guilty in this kind, died a violent death. Also *Diog. Laertius* for this Cause made a question, whether he should reckon *Orpheus* amongst the Philosophers or no: and others have Concluded that *Plato* ought to have banish'd *Orpheus* likewise out of his Commonwealth, for the same reason that he did *Homer*, which is thus expressed, For not Lying well concerning the Gods. And here we may take notice of the Monstrosity and Extravagancy of *Orpheus* his Phancy, from what *Dionysius* and others tell us, that he made one of his Principles to be δρακονία κεφαλὰς ἔχοντα περὶ σπονδίας ταύρας ἔς λεόντας, αἷ μέσσοι δὲ θεῶν πρῶτον, ἔς ὅτι ἑμὴν πτερόν, *A Dragon*, having the Heads both of a Bull and a Lion, and in the midst the Face of a God, with Golden Wings upon his shoulders; which forsooth must be an Incorporeal Deity and *Hercules*, with which Nature (called *Ananche* and *Adrastea*) was associated. Nevertheless the Generality of the Greekish Pagans, looking upon this *Orpheus*, not as a meer Fanciful Poet and Fabulator, but as a Serious and Profound Philosopher, or Mythical Theologer; a Person transcendently Holy and Wise; they supposed all his *Fables of the Gods*, to be deep *Mysteries* and Allegories.

Allegories which had some *Arcane* and *Recondite* Sense under them, and therefore had a high Veneration for him, as one who did ἀλλή-
 σις θεολογῶν (as *Athenagoras* writes) *More truly Theologize than the*
rest, and was indeed *Divinely Inspired*. Inasmuch that *Celsus* would
 rather have had the Christians to have taken *Orpheus* for a *God*, than
 out *Saviour Christ*, ἀλλ' οὐ βροτολογημένος ὅτιο χριστιανὸν πείσσει, καὶ αὐ-
 τὸν βολῶς ἀπαθανάτω, as being a man unquestionably endowed with a *holy*
Spirit, and one who also (as well as the Christians *Jesus*) died a violent
 death.

C. off. 2. i.
p. 367.

But that *Orpheus*, notwithstanding all his *Polytheism* or *Multiplicity*
 of *Gods*, acknowledged *One Supreme Unmade Deity*, as the Original
 of all things, may be First Presumed from hence, because those Two
 Most Religious Philosophick Sects, the *Pythagoreans* and *Platonists*, not
 only had *Orpheus* in great esteem, he being commonly called by them
 ὁ ποιητής, *The Theologer*, but were also thought, in great measure to
 have owed their Theology and Philosophy to him, as deriving the
 same from his *Principles* and *Traditions*. This hath been already in-
 timated and might be further proved. *Pythagoras*, as we are inform-
 ed by *Porphyrins* and *Jamblichus*, learn'd something from all these Four,
 from the *Egyptians*, from the *Persian Magi*, from the *Chaldeans*, and
 from *Orpheus* or his Followers. Accordingly *Syrianus* makes ὁρφικὰ καὶ
 πυθαγορικά δοξαί, *The Orphick and Pythagorick Principles to be one*
and the same. And as we understand from *Suidas*, the same *Syrianus*
 wrote a Book entituled, Συμφωνία ὁρφέως, πυθαγορῶς καὶ πλατωνος, *The*
Harmony of Orpheus, Pythagoras and Plato. *Proclus*, besides the
 place before cited, frequently insists upon this elsewhere, in his Com-
 mentary upon the *Timæus*, as p. 289. πυθαγορείων ὃ καὶ τὸ τοῖς ὁρφικαῖς
 ἐπισταύ ἡσυχασταῖς, ἵκανον γὰρ ἀπὸ τοῦ ὁρφικοῦ ἀποδόσθαι διὰ πυθαγορῶν
 καὶ εἰς ἐννοιαν καὶ εἰς ἐκείνην ὁρφικὴν περὶ τῶν θεῶν. *It is Pythagorick to follow*
the Orphick Genealogies. For from the *Orphick Tradition* downward by *Py-*
thagoras, was the knowledge of the Gods derived to the *Greeks*. And that
 the *Orphick Philosophy* did really agree and symbolize with that which
 afterward was called *Pythagorick* and *Platonick*, and was of the same
 strain with it, may be gathered from that of *Plato* in his *Cratylus*,
 where he speaks concerning the Etymology of the Greek Word
 σῶμα· δοκῶσι μάλιστα μοι μάστιξ διαδοῖαι ὁμοίᾳ τῷ τοῦ νομοῦ, ὡς
 δὲ καὶ δι' αὐτοῦ καὶ ψυχῆς, τῶντοι ὃ εἰς ἐκείνην ἔχειν ἵνα σωθῇται, δι' αὐτοῦ
 ἐκείνη· οὕτως ὅτι καὶ ψυχῆς τὰτα αὐτὸ ὡς ἐν ἐκείνῃ τοῖς ἐφελκόμενα τὸ σῶμα.
Orpheus and his followers seem to me to have given the best Etymology
of this word σῶμα (from σωζέω) That the Soul is here in a state of
Punishment, its Body being a Prison to it, wherein it is kept in custody,
till its Debts or Faults be expiated, and is therefore called σῶμα. Now these
 Three Philosophies, the *Platonick*, *Pythagorick*, and *Orphick*, sym-
 bolizing so much together, it is probable that as the *Platonick* and *Py-*
thagorick, so the *Orphick* likewise, derived all their Gods from One
 self-existent Deity.

MS. Coll. Co.
Cent. p. 14.

P. 140. Syn.

Which may be further manifested, from that *Epitome* of the *Orphick*
Doctrine, made long since by *Timotheus the Chronographer* in his *Cosmo-*
poia, still extant in *Cedrenus* and *Eusebii Chronica*, and imperfectly set

*Non enim quispiam mortalium videre posset eum qui hominibus imperat,
Nisi Unigenitus quidam profectus ab antiqua origine Gentis
Chaldeorum; Sciebat enim astri cursum.*

The manifest Forgery of which, might make one suspect also some other Passages, such as this concerning the *Divine Logos*;

Εἰς τὸ λόγον θεῶν βλήσας, τέτρω προζέει δέ,
Ἰδύνατο κραδίης νεοῦν κύττω.

Wherefore it being not ingenuous, to lay stress upon that for the Proof of any thing, which our selves believe not to be sincere and genuine; we shall here cite no *Orphick Verses*, for the acknowledgment of *One Supreme Deity*, but only such as we find attested in Pagan Writings. As first of all that Copy produced by *Proclus* upon the *Timæus* :

P. 94.

Τά τε καὶ σὺν τῷ παντὶ διὸς πάλιν αὐτὶς ἐτύχθη,
Αἰθέριον δὲ δέος ἡδ' ἔργον ἀγλαὸν ὑψέτω,
Πῶς τ' ἀτεγγέτα, γαίης τ' ἐοικυῖα δέω·
Ἐκτανὲς τε μέγας, καὶ νείατα τέταρτα γαίης,
καὶ πῶμας, καὶ πῶλον ἀπείροτος, ἅλλα τε πάντα,
πάντες τ' ἀθάνατοι μάκαρες θεοὶ, ἡδὲ δέωται,
Ὅσα τ' ἐν γυνάτεα, καὶ ὑπερὶ ὅπασα' ἐμμελὲν
ἐρρίητο· ζωὴς δ' αὖ γαστρὶ σφῆρα περικύβηται.

To this Sence: *Wherefore, together with the Universe, were made within Jupiter, the Height of the Ethereal Heaven, the Breadth of the Earth and Sea, the great Ocean, the Profound Tartara, the Rivers and Fountains, and all the other things; all the Immortal Gods, and Goddesses. Whatsoever hath been, or shall be, was at once contained in the Womb of Jupiter.*

Proclus understands this of the *Idea's* of all things, being in God, before the World was produced, that is, in order of Nature only, he supposing them in time Coeve. However it is plain, that all things are said to be contained in the *Womb and Fecundity* of *One Self-originated Deity*; not only all the other Gods and Goddesses, but every thing else whatsoever.

Again *Proclus* in the same place, ushers in another Copy of *Orphick Verses* (which are also found in the *Writer de Mundo*) after this manner: ἤν' ἢ ἰδυῶν πλήρης ἐν, διὰ τέτατον αὖ ἰαυτῷ τὰ ἅλα σφῆλαινα, ὡς καὶ τῷτο αὐδακτύμωτος ὁ λόγος ἐπέλαγα· *The Demiurgus or Maker of the World, being full of Ideas, did by these comprehend all things within himself, as that Theologer also declareth in these following Verses:*

Ζεὺς πρῶτος γένετο, Ζεὺς ὑστάτος ἀρχιμέλαινος·
Ζεὺς κεφαλὴ, Ζεὺς μέσος· αἰὶς δ' αὖ πάντα τέτυκται·
Ζεὺς ἀρχὴν γένετο, Ζεὺς ἀμειβόμενος ὑπερὶ νόμον·
Ζεὺς πᾶσι γαίης τε καὶ ἑρῶν ἀστέρωντος·

D d 2

Z d i

Ζεύς πῶτον πάντων· Ζεύς ἀκαμάτος πύρρ' ὀρμή·
 Ζεύς πάτω ῥίξα· Ζεύς ἥλιος ἠδὲ σελήνη·
 Ζεύς βασιλεὺς· Ζεύς αὐτὸς ἀπάντων ἀρχὴ γένεσσι·
 "Εν κρεῖττον, ὅς δαίμων γένεσσι, μέγας ἀρχὴς ἀπάντων.

Which likewise in plain Prose is this : *The high-thundering Jove is both the First and the Last ; Jove is both the Head and Middle of all things ; All things were made out of Jupiter ; Jove is both a Man and an Immortal Maid ; Jove is the Profundity of the Earth and Starry Heaven ; Jove is the Breath of all things ; Jove is the Force of the unnameable Fire ; Jove the Bottom of the Sea ; Jove is Sun, Moon and Stars ; Jove is both the Original, and King of all things : There is one Power, and One God, and one great Ruler over all.*

Where though there be many strange Expressions, yet this seems to be the strangest of them all, that *Jupiter* should be said to be, both a *Man*, and an *Immortal Maid*. But this is nothing but a *Poetick Description* of ἀρρενόςθελος, *Male and Female together*. And it was a thing very familiar with all the *Mystical Theologers* amongst the *Pagans*, to call God ἀρρενόςθελον, *Male and Female together* ; they signifying thereby *Emphatically, The Divine Fecundity, or the Generative and Creative Power of the Deity* ; that God was able from himself alone, to produce all things. Thus *Damascius* the *Philosopher*, writing of this very *Orphick Theology*, expounds it, ἀρρενόςθελον αὐτὴν ὑπέρσταντον, πρὸς ἑαυτὸν τὸ πάντων ἡμεντικὸς ἑστίας· *The Orphick Theology calls the First Principle, Hermaphroditick, or Male and Female together ; thereby denoting that Essence, that is Generative or Productive of all things.* And that Learned and Pious *Christian Bishop, Synesius*, it seems thought the Expression so harmless, that he scrupled not himself to make use of it. In those elegant and devout Hymns of his to God Almighty.

Σὺ πατήρ, Σὺ δ' ἐστὶ μάτηρ,
 Σὺ δ' ἀρρενὺς, Σὺ δ' θήλυς.

*Tu Pater, Tu es Mater,
 Tu Mas, Tu Fœmina.*

Besides these, there are also certain other *Orphick Verses*, scatter'd up and down in *Proclus*, but cited altogether in *Ensebins* out of *Porphyrius*, in which the whole *World* is represented, as *One Great Animal*, God being the *Soul* thereof.

"Εν δὲ θύμας βασιλεὺς ἐστὶ τὰδε πάντα κεκληῖται,
 Πῦρ καὶ ὕδωρ, καὶ γαῖα, καὶ αἰθήρ, οὗτις τε καὶ ἡμεῖς·
 Καὶ μήτις, πρῶτον γένεσσι, καὶ ἑρως πολυτελής·
 Πᾶσα γὰρ ἐστὶ μέγας ζωὴς τὰδὲ σώμασι κείται·
 Τὸ δὴντι κεφαλὴν μὲν ἰδέναι, καὶ καλὰ πρὸςωπα,
 Οὐρανὸς αἰθλῆς ἐστὶ χεῖρσιν ἀμφὶς ἰδεῖσθαι
 Ἄστρον μαρμαίρειν ὡς καλλῆς ἡνελδοῖται, δεῦ.

*Omnia Regali sunt hæc in corpore clausa,
 Ignis & Unda, & Terra, Æther cum Noctæ Dicque :
 (Consilium, Primus Genitor, cum Numine Amoris :)
 Juppiter immenso sub Corpore cuncta coerces :
 En hujus Caput Eximium, Vultusque decoros
 Undique resplendens Cælum, cui pendula circum
 Aurea Caesaris Astrorum lumina fundit :
 Sunt oculi Phœbus, Phœboque adversa recurrens
 Cynthia, &c.*

Where probably that one Verse,

Καὶ μῆτις, πρῶτον γένετο, καὶ ἔσως πολυτέλης·

though truly *Orphical*, and indeed *Divine* (it signifying that *Mind* and *Love* were the First Begetters and Original of all things) was notwithstanding, clap'd in needily out of some other place. But from all these Citations, it plainly appears, that according to the *Orphick Theology*, though there were many *Ghds* and *Goddeesses* too, admitted, yet there was *One Original and King of them all, One Supreme Deity* acknowledged. We are not ignorant, that some of the ancient and learned Fathers, conceiving it contradictory, for *Orpheus* at the same time, to assert both *Many Gods*, and *One God*, apprehended this to be a convenient *Salvo* for this Difficulty, to suppose that *Orpheus* had by *Fits* and *Turns*, been of different Humours and Persuasions; First a *Rank Polytheist*, asserting *Three Hundred Gods*, and more; and then afterwards a *Converted Monotheist*; they being the rather led into this Opinion, by reason of certain Counterfeit *Orphick Verses* in *Aristobolus*, made probably by some ignorant Jew; wherein *Orpheus* is made to sing a *Palinodia* or Recantation, for his former Error and *Polytheism*. But we must crave leave with all due respect, to dissent from Reverend Antiquity in this, it plainly appearing from that First *Orphick Exception* in *Proclus*, that *Orpheus* at the same time acknowledged, both *One Unmade Deity* (the Original of all things) and *Many Generated Gods and Goddeesses*, that were all contained in it. See Full Mark, and Clem. Al. Proet.

Having now made it sufficiently evident from such *Orphick Fragments*, as have been acknowledged by Pagan Writers and by them cited out of *Orpheus* his *Hymns* and *Rapsodies*; that the *Opinion of Monarchy* or *One Self-existent Deity*, the Original of all things, was an Essential Part of the *Orphick Theology* or *Cabala*; we shall here further observe, that besides this *Opinion of Monarchy* (but consistently with the same) a *Trinity* also of *Divine Hypostases* Subordinate, was another part of this *Orphick Cabala*. *Proclus* upon *Plato's Timæus*, making an Enquiry P. 93i into *Plato's Demiurgus* or *Opifex* of the World, gives us an account amongst other *Platonists*, of the Doctrine of *Amelius* (who was contemporary with *Plotinus*, and who is said to have taken notice of what *St. John* the Evangelist had written concerning the *Logos*, as agreeing with the *Platonick* and *Pythagorick Hypothesis*) after this manner: Ἀμιλίῳ δὲ τέλει τοῦ πνεύματος, καὶ ἀλημεργῶν, καὶ Νῦν τρεῖς, βασιλεὺς τρεῖς, καὶ οὐκ ἓν, καὶ ἐξελίξαι, καὶ ὁρᾶν διαφέρει δὲ ὅτι, ὅτι ὁ μὲν πρῶτος Νῦν, ὁ

long ago, to have declared, That All things were made by a Coessential or Consubstantial Trinity. Which though otherwise it might be looked upon suspiciously, because that *Timothens* was a Christian (especially in regard of that word *ἰμῶς* *Imos*) yet by comparing it with what we have before alledged, out of Pagan Writers, it appears, that so far as concerns an *Orphick Trinity*, it was not altogether vainly Written, or without Ground by him.

But we have not yet done with *Orphens* and the *Orphick Theology*, before we have made one further Reflection upon it, so as to take notice of that *strong* and *rank* *Hant-gout*, which was in it, of making *God* to be *All*. As for example, if we may repeat the forecited Passages, and put in the Name of *God*, instead of *Ζεύς* or *Jupiter*; *Διὸς πάντων ὡς τῆς ἐνότητος*, This Universe, and all things belonging to it, were made within *God*. *Ζηὸς δ' ἐν ἑαυτῷ συνέχευε πάντα*, All things were contained together in the Womb of *God*: *Ζεύς κεφαλὴ Ζεὺς μέσος*, *God* is the Head and Middle of all things: *Ζεὺς πύθμεν γαίης*, &c. *God* is the Basis of the Earth and Heaven; *God* is the Depth of the Sea; *God* is the Breath of all (or the Air that we breathe,) *God* is the Force of the Untameable Fire; *God* is Sun, Moon and Stars. *Ἐν τῷ δίμῳ βασιλεύει*, There is One Kingly (or Divine) Body; and

πάντα γὰρ ὡς μεγάλῳ ζῷῳ τὰς σῶμασι κέεται,

For All these things lie in the Great Body of *God*. And thus was the *Orphick Theology* before represented also by *Timothens* the Chronographer, διὰ τὸ θεοτικὸς πάντα ἐχρῆτο, καὶ αὐτὸς ὄντι πάντα, All things were made by *God*, and Himself is All Things.

But further to prove, that the ancient Greekish Pagans, were indeed of such a Religious Humour as this, to resolve All Things into *God*, and to make *God* All, we shall here cite a Remarkable Testimony of *Plutarch's*, out of his *Delect of Oracles*; δύο πόδες ἡρώσεως αἰτίας ἔχουσιν, p. 432. οἱ μὲν σφέδρα παλαιοὶ θεολόγοι καὶ ποιηταί, τῇ κρείττειν μόνῳ τῷ ἰὼν προσεχόμενοι, τὸ τοιοῦτον ἐκείνῳ ἐπαφροδύμενοι πᾶσι περὶ γένεσιν,

Ζεὺς ἀρχὴ, Ζεὺς μέσος, Διὸς δ' ὡς πάντα τέλειται.

ταῖς δ' ἀναγκαῖς καὶ φυσικαῖς, καὶ ἐπὶ προσέχουσιν αἰτίας· οἱ δὲ πλείονος τῶν καὶ φυσικοὶ προσεχόμενοι, τῶν πάντων αἰτίας, καὶ καλῶς καὶ θείας ἀππλανηθείς ἀρχῆς, ὡς σώματι καὶ πᾶσι αἰμάτων, πληγαῖς τε καὶ μεταβολαῖς καὶ κινήσει τιθέναι τὸ σῶμα. Whereas there are Two Causes of all Generation (the Divine and the Natural) the most ancient Theologers and Poets, attended only to the more excellent of these Two (the Divine Cause) resolving all things into *God*, and pronouncing this of them universally, That *God* was both the Beginning, and Middle, and that all things were out of *God*. Inasmuch that these had no regard at all to the other Natural and Necessary Causes of things. But on the contrary their Juniors, who were called *Physici* (or *Naturalists*) straying from this most excellent and Divine Principle, placed all in Bodies, their Passions, Collisions, Adulations and Commixtures together. Where by the most ancient

Theolo-

Theologers and Poets, *Plutarch* plainly meant *Orpheus* and his Followers, it being an *Orphick Verse*, that is here cited by him, whereby he gives also an acknowledgment of their Antiquity. But by their Juniors, who are called *Physici*, he could understand no other, than those First Ionick Philosophers, *Anaximander*, *Anaximenes*, *Hippo*, and the rest, whom those Degenerate Italicks afterward followed, Atomizing Atheistically, *Leucippus*, *Democritus*, and *Epicurus*. So that here we have another Confirmation also, of what was before asserted by us, that the Ionick Philosophers after *Thales*, and before *Anaxagoras*, were generally *Atheistical*. And indeed from them the word φυσικοί or *Naturalists*, came to be often used as Synonymous with ἀθεοί or *Atheists*. Now these Two are here condemned by *Plutarch*, for Two Contrary Extremes; the One who resolved all into *Natural* and *Necessary* Causes, that is, into *Matter*, *Motion*, and *Qualities* of Bodies, leaving out the *Divine Cause*, as guilty of *Atheism*; the other, who altogether neglecting the *Natural* and *Necessary Causes* of things, resolved all into the *Divine Cause*, as it were swallowing up all into God, as guilty of a kind of *Fanaticism*. And thus we see plainly, that this was one *Grand Arcanum* of the *Orphick Cabala*, and the ancient *Greekish Theology*, That *God is All things*.

Some Fanaticks of Latter Times, have made *God to be All*, in a Gross Sense, so as to take away all *Real Distinction* betwixt God and the Creature, and indeed to allow no other Being besides God; they supposing the Substance of every thing, and even of all Inanimate Bodies, to be the very Substance of God himself, and all the variety of things that is in the World, to be nothing but God under several *Forms*, *Appearances* and *Disguizes*. The Stoicks anciently made God to be *All*, and *All* to be God, in somewhat a different way; they conceiving God properly to be the *Active Principle* of the whole Corporeal Universe, which yet (because they admitted of no Incorporeal Substance) they supposed, together with the *Passive* or the *Matter*, to make up but one and the same complete *Substance*. And others who acknowledged God to be an *Incorporeal Substance* distinct from the *Matter*, have notwithstanding made *All to be God* also, in a certain sense; they supposing God to be nothing but a *Soul of the World*, which together with the *Matter*, made up all into One entire *Divine Animal*. Now the *Orphick Theologers* cannot be charged with making *God all*, in that First and Grossly-Fanatick Sense; as if they took away all *Real Distinction* betwixt God and the Creature, they so asserting *God to be all*, as that notwithstanding, they allowed other things to have *Distinct Beings* of their own. Thus much appearing from that Riddle, which in the *Orphick Verses* was proposed by the *Maker of the World*, to *Nights*.

Proclus in
Tim.

πᾶς θεοῦ ἐν τῇ τοῦ παντὶ ἑστέ, καὶ ἡμεῖς ἕκαστοι;

How can All things be One, and yet Every thing have a distinct Being of its own? Where "ἐν τῇ τοῦ παντὶ, All things One, or One all things, seems to be the Supreme Deity, or Divine Intellect, as Proclus also interprets it, τὰ ὅλα ὡς ἐν ἑνὶ ὧς καὶ πάντα μοναδικῶς καὶ νοεράς, καὶ τὰς

τότες χεῖρας, μετὰ τὸ νυκτὸς ὄψιναι, ἐν παντί τὰ ἑαυτοῦ θεῶν, ἐν ταῖς μολεῖς τῷ παντί· Jupiter who containeth the Universe, and All things within himself, Unitively and Intellectually, according to these Orphick Oracles, gives a Particular Subsistence of their own also, to all the Mundane Gods, and other parts of the Universe. And this is ἡ αὐτῆς ἑαυτῶν, in that fore-cited Orphick Verse, Every thing a-part by it self, the whole Produced or Created Universe, with all its Variety of things in it; which yet are Orphically said to be God also, in a certain other sence, that shall be declared afterward. Nor can the Orphick Theologers be charged with making God All, in the Second Stoical Sence, as if they denied all Incorporeal Substance, they plainly asserting as Damascius and others particularly note, *ὅτιν ἀσώματον, an Incorporeal Deity.* But as for the Third way it is very true, that the Orphick Theologers, did frequently call the World, *The Body of God*, and its Several Parts, *His Members*, making the Whole Universe to be *One Divine Animal*; Notwithstanding which they supposed not, this Animated World to be the First and Highest God, but either *ὁ δεύτερος θεὸς*, as the Hermaick or Trismegistick Writers call it, *The Second God*; or else as Numenius and others of the Platonists speak, *τρίττον θεόν, The Third God*: the Soul thereof being as well in the Orphick, as it was in the Pythagorick and Platonick Trinity, but the Third Hypostasis; they supposing Two other Divine Hypostases Superiour thereunto, which were perfectly Secrete from Matter. Wherefore, as to the Supreme Deity, these Orphick Theologers, made Him to be *All things*, chiefly upon the Two following Accompts. First because All things coming from God, they inferred, that therefore they were all contained in Him, and consequently were in a certain sence Himself; thus much being declared in those Orphick Verses cited by Proclus and others,

πάντα τὰδὲ κεύθεαι, αὖθις φάτο· ἵς πολυκερὲς·
μύλαι ἀπὸ κεφαλῆς περὶέρειν, πολυκέφαλα εἶσιν·

Which Apuleius thus renders,

Namque Sinn Occultans, dulces in luminis oras
Cuncta tulit, sacro versans sub pectore curas.

The Sence whereof is plainly this; *That God at first Hiding or Occultly containing all things within himself, did from thence display them, and bring them forth into light, or distinct Beings of their own, and so make the World.* The Second is, Because the World, produced by God, and really existing without him, is not therefore quite cut off from him, nor subsists alone by it self as a Dead Thing, but is still Livingly united to him, essentially Dependend on him, always Supported and Upheld, Quickned and Enlivened, Acted and Pervaded by him; according to that Orphick Passage, *ἐν δ' αὐτοῖς αὐτὸς ἐκνοῦται*—*God passes through and intimately pervades All things.*

Now it is very true, that some Christian Theologers also have made God to be All, according to these Latter senses; as when they affirm the

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whose

whole World to be nothing else but *Deum Explicatum*, *God Expanded or Unfolded*, and when they call the Creatures, as St. *Jerom* and others often do, *Radios Deitatis*, the *Rays of the Deity*. Nay the Scripture it self may seem, to give some countenance also hereunto, when it tells us, That *Of Him, and Through Him, and To Him, are All things*, which in the Orphick Theology was thus exprest, *God is the Beginning, and Middle, and End of All things*; That *αὐτὰς ἐποίησεν τὰ πάντα*, *All things were made in him*, as in the Orphick Verses, *αὐτὸς ἐστὶς ἐν ᾧ ὄντι*; That *τὰ πάντα αὐτῷ ὄντι*, *All things consist in him*; That, *In Him we Live and Move, and have our Being*; That God doth *ζωοποιεῖν πάντα*, *Quicken all things*, and that he ought to be made, *πάντα ἐν αὐτῷ*, *All in All*; which supposeth him in some sence to be so. Notwithstanding which, this is a very Ticklish Point, and easily lyable to Mistake and Abuse: and, as we conceive, it was the mistake and abuse of this One Thing, which was the Chief Ground and Original of the both *Seeming* and *Real Polytheism*, not only of the Greekish and European, but also of the Egyptian and other Pagans; as will be more particularly declared afterwards: They concluding that because *God was All things*, and consequently *All things God*, that therefore God ought to be Worshipped in *All things*, that is, in all the several *Parts of the World*, and *Things of Nature*; but especially in those Animated Intellectual Beings, which are Superiour to Men. Contentaneously whereunto, they did both *ἑωρτοῦν ἐμπνέοντα*, *Theologize or Deify all things*, looking upon every thing as having *ὑπερφυσικὸν τι*, *something Supernatural*, or a kind of *Divinity* in it; and also bestow Several Names upon God, according to all the several *Parts of the World*, and *Things of Nature*, calling him in the Starry Heaven and *Aether*, *Jupiter*; in the Air, *Juno*; in the Winds, *Solus*; in the Sea, *Neptune*; in the Earth and Subterraneous Parts *Pluto*; in Learning, Knowledge and Invention, *Minerva* and the *Muses*; in War, *Mars*; in Pleafure, *Venus*; in Corn, *Ceres*; in Wine, *Bacchus*, and the like.

However it is unquestionably Evident from hence, that *Orphens* with his Followers, that is, the Generality of the Greekish Pagans, acknowledged *One Universal* and *All-comprehending Deity*, *One* that was *All*; and consequently could not admit of Many Self-existent and Independent Deities.

XVIII. Having treated largely concerning the Two most Eminent Polytheists amongst the ancient Pagans, *Zoroaster* and *Orpheus*, and clearly proved that they asserted *One Supreme Deity*; we shall in the next place observe, that the Egyptians themselves also, notwithstanding their Multifarious *Polytheism* and *Idolatry*, had an acknowledgment, amongst them, of *One Supreme*, and *Universal Numen*.

There hath been some Controversie amongst Learned Men, Whether *Polytheism* and *Idolatry* had their first rise from the *Egyptians* or the *Chaldeans*, because the Pagan Writers for the most part give the Precedency here to the Egyptians: *Lucian* himself, who was by Birth a Syrian, and a diligent enquirer into the Antiquities of his own Country,

Country, affirming that the Syrians and Assyrians received their Religion and Gods first from the Egyptians : and before *Lucian*, *Herodotus* the Father of History, reporting likewise that the Egyptians were the First, that erected Temples and Statues to the Gods. But whether the Egyptians or Chaldeans were the First Polytheists and Idolaters, there is no question to be made, but that the Greeks, and Europeans generally derived their Polytheism and Idolatry from the Egyptians. *Herodotus* affirms in one place, that the Greeks received their Twelve Gods from thence, and in another, that $\chi\lambda\delta\alpha\iota \kappa\epsilon \pi\acute{o\lambda\lambda\alpha \tau\acute{o} \theta\acute{\epsilon}\mu\alpha\tau\alpha \tau\acute{o}\nu \theta\epsilon\omega\acute{\nu} \epsilon\kappa \alpha\iota\gamma\upsilon\pi\tau\acute{o}\varsigma \epsilon\lambda\theta\upsilon\sigma\alpha\iota \epsilon\kappa \tau\omega \epsilon\lambda\lambda\acute{\alpha\delta\alpha}$, *Almost all the Names of the Gods, came first out of Egypt into Greece.* In what sense this might be true of $\chi\lambda\delta\alpha\iota$ it self, though the word be Originally Greekish, shall be declared afterwards : But it is probable that *Herodotus* had here a further meaning, that the very Names of many of the Greekish Gods, were originally Egyptian. In order to the confirmation of which, we shall here propound a Conjecture concerning One of them, *viz.* $\Lambda\delta\mu\acute{\alpha}$, called otherwise by the Greeks *Pallas*, and by the Latins *Minerva*. For first, the Greek Etymologies of this word, seem to be all of them either Trifling and Frivolous, or Violent and Forced. *Plato* in his *Cratylus* having observed, that according to the ancient Allegorical Interpreters of *Homer*, $\Lambda\delta\mu\acute{\alpha}$, was nothing else but $\rho\acute{\epsilon}\varsigma$ or $\delta\iota\acute{\alpha}\nu\omega\iota\alpha$, *Mind or Understanding Personated and Deified*, conceived that the first imposers of that Name, intending to signify thereby Divine Wisdom called it $\Lambda\delta\mu\acute{\alpha}$, as $\delta\iota\omega\iota\sigma\tau\acute{\iota}\varsigma$, *The Understanding of God, or the Knowledge of Divine things* ; as if the Word had been at first $\theta\epsilon\omega\iota\sigma\tau\acute{\iota}\varsigma$, and thence afterward transformed into $\Lambda\delta\mu\acute{\alpha}$. But being not fully satisfied himself with this Etymology, he afterwards attempts another, deriving the Word from $\nu\acute{o}\mu\iota\varsigma$ *as* $\tau\acute{o} \nu \nu\acute{o\mu\iota\varsigma$, *Knowledge concerning Manners or Practical Knowledge* ; as if it had been at first $\nu\acute{o}\mu\iota\sigma\tau\acute{\iota}\varsigma$, and from thence changed into $\Lambda\delta\mu\acute{\alpha}$. Others of the Greeks have deduced this Word, $\alpha\pi\acute{o} \tau\omega \alpha\delta\epsilon\phi\acute{\epsilon}\nu$, because it is the Property of Wisdom, to collect all into One, supposing that it was at first $\Lambda\theta\epsilon\mu\acute{\alpha}$. Others would fetch it from $\delta\eta\lambda\omega\varsigma$ and $\alpha\lambda\phi\alpha$ Privative, because *Minerva* or Wisdom, though she be a Goddess, yet hath nothing of Feminine Imperfection in her. Others again would etymologize it, $\alpha\pi\acute{o} \tau\omega \mu\grave{\eta} \pi\epsilon\rho\alpha\iota\tau\acute{\alpha} \delta\iota\omega\iota\sigma\tau\acute{\iota}\varsigma \kappa\epsilon \upsilon\pi\alpha\rho\acute{\alpha}\eta\tau\alpha\iota \tau\omega \alpha\rho\epsilon\tau\omega$, *because Virtue or Wisdom, is of such a Noble and Generous temper, as that it seems to subject it self to any base and unworthy servitude.* Lastly, others would derive it, $\alpha\pi\acute{o} \tau\omega \alpha\omega\epsilon\theta\acute{\epsilon}$, affirming it to have been at first $\alpha\omega\epsilon\theta\epsilon\gamma\epsilon\lambda\alpha$. From all which uncertainty of the Greeks concerning the Etymon of this Word, $\Lambda\delta\mu\acute{\alpha}$, and from the Frivolousness or Forcedness of these Conjectures, we may rather conclude, that it was not originally Greekish but Exotical, and probably, according to *Herodotus*, Egyptian. Wherefore let us try whether or no, we can find any Egyptian Word from whence this $\Lambda\delta\mu\acute{\alpha}$ might be derived. *Plato* in his *Timæus*, making mention of *Sais* a City in Egypt, where *Solon* sometime sojourned, tells us, $\epsilon\tilde{\nu} \tau\acute{\eta} \pi\acute{o\lambda\iota\varsigma \theta\epsilon\acute{\iota}\varsigma \alpha\rho\chi\epsilon\rho\acute{\epsilon}\varsigma \epsilon\kappa\epsilon\iota$, $\alpha\iota\gamma\upsilon\pi\tau\acute{o}\varsigma \mu\epsilon\theta\acute{\iota} \tau\acute{\alpha}\nu\tau\omega\kappa\alpha \nu\acute{\iota}\theta\iota$, $\epsilon\lambda\lambda\acute{\alpha\delta\iota\varsigma \delta\epsilon, \acute{\alpha}\varsigma \delta\epsilon \acute{\omega}\sigma\tau\epsilon\alpha\iota \lambda\acute{\omicron}\gamma\epsilon\tau\alpha\iota$, $\Lambda\delta\mu\acute{\alpha}$, *That the President or Tutelar God of that City was called in the Egyptian Language Neith, but in the Greek, as the same Egyptians affirm, $\Lambda\delta\mu\acute{\alpha}$.* Now why might not this very Egyptian word *Neith*, by an easie inversion

have been at first turned into *Thien* of Θέν, (men commonly pronouncing Exotick words ill-favour'dly) and then by additional *Alpha's* at the beginning and end, transformed into Ἀθιωνά? This seems much more probable, than either *Plato's* Θιωνή, or Ἡσιώνη, or any other of those Greek Etymologies before-mentioned. And as the Greeks thus derived the Names of many of their Gods from the Egyptians, so do the Latins seem to have done the like, from this one Instance of the word *Neptune*; which though *Varro* would deduce à *nubendo*, as if it had been *Nuptunus*, because the Sea covers and hides the Land, and *Scaliger* with others, ἀπό τῆς νύκτος, from *Washing*, this being the chief use of Water, yet as the learned *Bochart* hath observed, it may with greater probability be derived from the Egyptian word *Nephthus*, *Plutarch* telling us, ὅτι Νίφθον καλεῖται ἡ γῆς παρὰ τὴν παραρρεῖα καὶ θαλάσσης ἢ θαλάσσης, That the Egyptians called the Maritime parts of Land, or such as border upon the Sea, *Nephthus*. Which Conjecture may be further confirmed from what the same *Plutarch* elsewhere writes, that as *Isis* was the Wife of *Osiris*, so the Wife of *Typhon* was called *Nephthus*. From whence one might collect, that as *Isis* was taken sometimes for the Earth, or the Goddess presiding over it, so *Nephthus* was the Goddess of the Sea. To which may be further added out of the same Writer, that *Nephthus* was sometimes called by the Egyptians Ἀφροδίτη or *Venus*, probably because *Venus* is said to have risen out of the Sea. But whatever may be thought of these Etymological conjectures, certain it is, that no Nation in the world was ever accounted by the Pagans, more Devout, Religious and Superstitious, than the Egyptians, and consequently none was more Polytheistical and Idolatrous. *Isoocrates* in his Praise of *Babylon*, gives them a high *Encomium* for their Sanctity; and *Herodotus* affirmeth of them, that they were δεινότεροι θεολογίας μάλιστα πάντων ἀνθρώπων, Exceedingly more Religious and more Devout Worshipers of the Deity, than all other Mortals. Wherefore they were highly celebrated by *Apollo's* Oracle (recorded by *Porphyrus*) and preferred before all other Nations for teaching rightly, αἰνέειν ἰδὼν μακάριον, that hard and difficult way that leadeth to God and Happiness. But in the Scripture, *Egypt* is famous for her Idols and for her Spiritual Whoredoms and Fornications; to denote the uncleanness whereof, she is sometimes joyned with *Sodom*. For the Egyptians, besides all those other Gods that were worshipped by the Greeks and other Barbarians; besides the Stars, Demons and Heroes; and those Artificial Gods, which they boasted so much of their power of making, viz. *Animated Statues*; had this peculiar Intoxication of their own, which render'd them infamous and ridiculous even amongst all the other Pagans; that they worshipped Beute Animals also, in one sense or other,

Euseb. Pr. Ev.
l. 9 c. 10.

Job. Sat. 15.

*Quis nescit, Volvsi Bithynice, qualia demens.
Ægyptus portenta colat? Crocodilon adorat.
Papa hæc, illa pavet satnam serpentibus Ibin.*

Lib. 3. p. 111.

Concerning which *Origen* against *Celsus* thus writeth; παρ' οἷς προσηγορίᾳ μὲν ἔστι λαμπροὶ τιμῆς, καὶ ἄλλοι, καὶ προσηλαίων μεγάλῃ τι καὶ καλλίᾳ καὶ νεφθαλμοῦ, καὶ οὐκ αἱ πλείεστε ὑπερφάνοι, καὶ θεοσκεύει μύθῳ δ' ἰσχυρίζονται καὶ μυθεύουσιν.

σπουδαίως ἴδῃ τὸ ἱερόν, καὶ ἐνδεύσας θρησκείᾳ, ἀναστὰς προσκυνέμεναι
αὐτῷ· ἢ πῖπτος, ἢ κροκόδιλος, ἢ κυνῶν· To him that com-
eth to be a Spectator of the Egyptian Worship, there first offer themselves
to his view, most splendid and stately Temples, sumptuously adorned, toge-
ther with solemn Groves, and many pompous Rites and mystical Ceremo-
nies; but as soon as he enters in, he perceives that it was either a Cat or an
Ape, a Crocodile or a Goat, or a Dog, that was the Object of this Religious
Worship.

But notwithstanding this multifarious Polytheism and Idolatry of
these Egyptians, that they did nevertheless acknowledge, *One Su-
preme and Universal Numen*, may first be probably collected, from
that great Fame which they had anciently over the whole World for
their Wisdom. The Egyptians are called by the *Elei* in *Herodotus*,
σοφώτατοι ἄνθρωποι, *The wisest of Men*, and it is a commendation that is
given to one in the same Writer, *That he excelled the Egyptians, in wisdom;*
who excelled all other Mortals. Thus is it set down in the Scripture, for
Moses his Encomium, *that he was learned in all the Wisdom of the Egyp-
tians;* and the Transcendency of *Solomon's* Wisdom is likewise thus
expressed, by the Writer of the Book of *Kings*, that it excelled *the*
Wisdom of all the Children of the East-country, and all the Wisdom of
Egypt. Where by the Children of the East, are chiefly meant the
Persian *Magi*, and the Chaldeans; and there seems to be a *Climax* here;
that *Solomon's* Wisdom did not only excel the Wisdom of the *Magi*
and of the Chaldeans, but also that of the *Egyptians* themselves.
From whence it appears, that in *Solomon's* time *Egypt* was the chief
School of Literature in the whole World; and that the Greeks were
then but little or not at all taken notice of, nor had any considerable
fame for Learning. For which cause, we can by no means give cre-
dit to that of *Philo* in the Life of *Moses*, that besides the Egyptian
Priests, Learned men were sent for by *Pharaoh's* Daughter, out of
Greece to instruct *Moses*. Whereas it is manifest from the Greekish
Monuments themselves, that for many Ages after *Solomon's* time, the
most famous of the Greeks, travell'd into *Egypt* to receive Culture
and Literature, as *Lycurgus*, *Solon*, *Thales* and many others, amongst
whom were *Pythagoras* and *Plato*. Concerning the former of which
Isocrates writes, that coming into *Egypt*, and being there instructed by
the Priests, he was the first that brought Philosophy into *Greece*:
and the latter of them is perstringed by *Xenophon*, because ἀγνῶς ἡ-
ράδην καὶ τὸν Πυθαγόραν περὶ τῶν σπουδῶν, not contented with that sim-
ple Philosophy of *Socrates* (which was little else besides Morality) he
was in love with *Egypt*, and that monstrous Wisdom of *Pythagoras*.
Now as it is not probable that the Egyptians, who were so famous for
Wisdom and Learning, should be ignorant of *One Supreme Deity*, so
is it no small Argument to the contrary, that they were had in so great
esteem by those Two Divine Philosophers, *Pythagoras* and *Plato*. We
grant indeed, that after the Greeks began to flourish in all manner of
Literature, the Fame of the Egyptians was not only much eclipsed,
(so that we hear no more of Greeks travelling into *Egypt* upon the
former account) but also that their ardour towards the liberal Sci-
ences, did by degrees languish and abate; so that *Strabo* in his time
could

could find little more in *Egypt*, besides the empty Houses and Pallaces in which Priests formerly famous for Astronomy and Philosophy had dwelt. Nevertheless their *Arcane Theology* remained more or less amongst them unextinct to the last, as appears from what *Origen*, *Porphyrius* and *Jamblicus* have written concerning them.

The Learning of the Egyptians was either *Historical*, or *Philosophical*, or *Theological*. First the Egyptians were famous for their *Historical Learning* and Knowledge of *Antiquity*, they being confelld in *Plato* to have had so much ancienter Records of Time than the Greeks, that the Greeks were but Children or Infants compared with them. They pretended to a continued and uninterrupted series of History, from the Beginning of the World downward, and therefore seem to have had the clearest and strongest Perswasions of the *Cosmogonia*. Indeed it cannot be denied, but that this Tradition of the World's Beginning, was at first in a manner Universal among all Nations. For concerning the Greeks and Persians we have already manifested the same, and as *Sancunian* testimonies the like concerning the Phenicians, so does *Strabo* likewise of the Indian *Brachmans*, affirming that they did agree with the Greeks in many things and Particularly in this, ἐν γὰρ πᾶσι ὁ κόσμος ἡ φασὶς, That the World was both *Aside*, and should be *Destroyed*. And though *Diodorus* affirm the contrary of the Chaldeans, yet we ought in reason to assent rather to *Berosus*, in respect of his greater Antiquity, who represents the fence of the Ancient Chaldeans after this manner, γινώσκει χρόνον ὃν ἦ τὸ πᾶν σκότος καὶ ὕδωρ—τὸ δὲ βῆλον, ὃν δία μετὰ μὲν ὕδατος, μετὰ τὸν πᾶν τὸ σκότος, χωρίζεται γὰρ ὁ οὐρανός, ἀπ' ἀνθρώπων, καὶ διατίθεται τὸ κόσμον—ἀπὸ πᾶσι τὸ δὲ βῆλον καὶ ἄστρα καὶ ἥλιος καὶ σελήνη καὶ τὰς πέντε πλανήτας. That there was a time when all was *Darkness* and *Water*, but *Bell* (who is interpreted *Jupiter*) cutting the *Darkness* in the middle, separated the *Earth* and *Heaven* from one another and so framed the *World*; this *Bell* also producing the *Stars*, the *Sun* and the *Moon* and the *five Planets*. From which Testimony of *Berosus*, according to the Version of *Alexander Polyhistor*, by the way it appears also, that the Ancient Chaldeans acknowledged One Supreme Deity, the Maker of the whole World, as they are also celebrated for this in that Oracle of *Apollo*, which is cited out of *Porphyry* by *Eusebius*,

Eu. P. l. 9. c. 10.

μήποτε χaldeαῖοι σφίσι λάχον, ἡδ' ἀεὶ ἑβρεαῖοι,
αὐτοῦ βῆλον αἰετῶν σφαζέμενοι διὸν ἀγνάς.

Where the Chaldeans are joyned with the Hebrews, as worshipping likewise in a holy manner, *One Self-existent Deity*. Wherefore if *Diodorus* were not altogether mistaken, it must be concluded, that in the latter times, the Chaldeans (then perhaps receiving the Doctrine of *Aristotle*) did desert and abandon the Tradition of their Ancestors concerning the *Cosmogonia*. But the Egyptians, however they attributed more Antiquity to the World than they ought, yet seem to have had a constant Perswasion of the Beginning of it, and the Firmest of all other Nations: they (as *Kircher* tells us) therefore picturing *Horus* or the *World*, as a *Young man Beardless*, not only to signify its constant youthful and flourishing Vigour, but also the Youngness and Newness
of

And the Egyptian Doctrine is represented after the same manner by *Porphyrius* in *Stobæus*, as also in the *Hermetick* or *Trismegistick* Writings. Moreover *Chalcidius* reports, that *Hermes Trismegist*, when he was about to die, made an Oration to this purpose, *That he had here lived in this Earthly Body, but an Exile and Stranger, and was now returning home to his own Country, so that his Death ought not to be lamented, this Life being rather to be accounted Death.* Which Persuasion the Indian *Brachmans* also were imbued withal, whether they received it from the Egyptians (as they did some other things) or no; *τὸ μὲν αὖτε βίον, ὡς ἐν ἐμβρῶν κοινῇ ἐσθαι, τὸ δὲ θάνατον ὅσον εἰς τὸ ἕντες εἶναι, That this Life here is but the Life of Embryo's, and that Death [to good men] is a Generation or Birth into true life.* And this may the better be believed to have been the Egyptian Doctrine, because *Diodorus* himself, hath some Passages sounding that way; as that the Egyptians lamented not the Death of Good men, but applauded their Happiness, *ὡς τὸ αἰῶνα διατελεῖν καὶ μακάριος κατὰ ἄνθρωπον μένειν, as being to live ever in the other World with the pious.* However it being certain from this Egyptian Doctrine of *Preexistence* and *Transmigration*, that the Egyptians did assert the Souls *Incorporeity*, it cannot reasonably be doubted, but that they acknowledged also, an *Incorporeal Deity*. The Objection against which, from what *Porphyrius* writeth concerning *Cheremon*, will be answered afterwards.

Stobæo L. 15.
P. 715.

Domicilia Fr-
ventans, Di-
versoria appel-
lant, *Diad.*

We come in the last place to the Theology of the Egyptians. Now it is certain, that the Egyptians besides their Vulgar and Fabulous Theology (which is for the most part that which *Diodorus* S. describes) had another ἀπὸ κρυπτῆς Θεολογία, *Arcane and Recondite Theology*, that was concealed from the Vulgar and communicated only to the Kings, and such Priests and others as were thought capable thereof; These Two Theologies of theirs differing, as *Aristotle's* *Exotericks* and *Acroamaticks*. Thus much is plainly declared by *Origen*, whose very name was Egyptian, it being interpreted *Horo-genitus*, (which *Horus* was an Egyptian God) upon occasion of *Celsus* his boasting, that he thoroughly understood all that belonged to Christianity; *Celsus* (saith he) *seemeth here to me, to do just as if a man travelling into Egypt, where the Wise men of the Egyptians, according to their Country-Learning Philosophize much, about those things that are accounted by them Divine, whilst the Idiots in the mean time, hearing only certain Fables which they know not the meaning of, are very much pleased therewith: Celsus, I say, doth as if such a Sojourner in Egypt, who had conversed only with those Idiots, and not been at all instructed by any of the Priests, in their Arcane and Recondite Mysteries, should boast that he knew all that belonged to the Egyptian Theologie.* Where the same *Origen* also adds, that this was not a thing proper neither to the Egyptians only, to have such an *Arcane and True Theology*, distinct from their *Vulgar and Fabulous one*, but common with them to the Persians, Syrians, and other Barbarian Pagans; *καὶ τὸ ἑπὶ τοῖς Αἰγυπτίοις σοφῶν τε καὶ ἰδιω-τῶν διανοεῖν εἶναι καὶ ἐπὶ Περσῶν, &c. What we have now affirmed (saith he) concerning the difference betwixt the Wise men and the Idiots amongst the Egyptians, the same may be said also of the Persians, amongst whom the Religious Rites are performed Rationally by those that are ingenious,*

L. 1. p. 11.

genious, whilst the superficial Vulgar look no further in the observation of them, than the external Symbol or Ceremony. And the same is true likewise concerning the Syrians and Indians, and all those other Nations, who have besides their Religious Fables, a Learning and Doctrine. Neither can it be dissembled, that Origen in this place plainly intimates the same also concerning Christianity it self; namely that besides the Outside and exterior Cortex of it (in which notwithstanding there is nothing Fabulous) communicated to all, there was a more Arcane and Recondite Doctrine belonging thereunto, which all were not alike capable of; he elsewhere observing this to be that Wisdom that St. Paul spake amongst the Perseæ. From whence he concludes that Celsus vainly boasted, *ποῦνα γὰρ οἶδα, For I know all things belonging to Christianity*, when he was acquainted only with the exterior Surface of it. But concerning the Egyptians this was a thing most notorious and observed by sundry other Writers, as for Example Clemens of Alexandria, a man also well acquainted with the affairs of Egypt; *Λιγύησι δὲ τοῖς ἐπιτυχέσι τὰ ὅλα σφίσι ἀνέλεστο μυστήρια, οὐδὲ μὴν βεβήλους τῶν γὰρ θεῶν ἑδύζην ἐξέφρασαι, ἀλλ' ἢ μόνοις γὰρ τοῖς μέλλουσιν ἐπὶ τῶ βασιλείᾳ περὶναι, καὶ γὰρ ἱερῶν τοῖς κερθεῖσι ὄναι δεικνυμένους, ἀπὸ τοῦ τερφῆς, καὶ τοῦ πινυμένου, καὶ τοῦ ἥθους.* *The Egyptians do not reveal their Religious Mysteries promiscuously to all, nor communicate the knowledge of Divine things to the Profane, but only to those who are to succeed in the Kingdom, and to such of the Priests as are judged most fitly qualified for the same, upon account both of their Birth and Education.* With which agreeth also the Testimony of Plutarch, he adding a further Confirmation thereof from the Egyptian sphinges, *ὁ δὲ μαχημῶν ἀπὸ θαλάσσης [βασιλεὺς] ἀλλος ἐν τῷ γὰρ ἱερῶν, καὶ μετέχει τοῦ φιλοσοφίας ἑπικουρημῶν τὰ πολλὰ μύθους καὶ λόγους, ἀμυδρῶς ἐμφάτως καὶ ἀλυστάς καὶ διαφόρους ἔχουσιν. Ἐξ οὗ ἀμείλι καὶ ὀρθοδιδόντων αὐτοὶ περὶ γὰρ ἱερῶν τοῖς σφίγας ἑπικεύς ἰσότης, ὡς αἰγυμᾶτόν σφίσι καὶ διλογίας αὐτοῖς ἐχέουσιν.* *When amongst the Egyptians there is any King chosen out of the Military Order, he is forthwith brought to the Priests, and by them instructed in that Arcane Theology, which conceals Mysteries Truths under obscure Fables and Allegories. Wherefore they place Sphinges before their Temples, to signify that their Theology contained a certain Arcane and Enigmatical Wisdom in it.* And this meaning of the Sphinges in the Egyptian Temples, is confirmed likewise by Clemens Alexandrinus, *διὰ τούτοις καὶ Λιγύησι περὶ γὰρ ἱερῶν τοῖς σφίγας ἰδεύονται, ὡς αἰγυμᾶτόν δὲ τὸ ὅλον καὶ ἀσφαῶς ὄντος.* *Therefore do the Egyptians place Sphinges before their Temples, to declare thereby, that the Doctrine concerning God is Enigmatical and Obscure.* Notwithstanding which, we acknowledge that the same Clemens gives another interpretation also of these Sphinges, or Conjecture concerning them, which may not be unworthy to be here read, *τὰς γὰρ καὶ ὅτι φιλεῖν τι θεῶν καὶ φοβεῖσθαι τὸ θεῶν. ἀγαπᾶν μὲν ὡς περὶ τοῦ καὶ ἐμμελῆς τοῖς ὁσίοις, διδόναι δὲ ἀπαρητῆρας δὲ αἰσίου τοῖς ἀνοστοῖς, καὶ σφίσι γὰρ ὅμως καὶ ἀνιδεῶς ἢ σφίγῃ ἀνιδεῶς τῶν ἐμμελῶν.* *But perhaps the meaning of those Egyptian Sphinges might be also to signify, that the Deity ought both to be Loved and Feared, to be Loved as benigne and propitious to the Holy, but to be Feared as inexorably just to the Impious, the Sphinx being made up of the Image both of a Man and a Lion.* Moreover besides these Sphinger, the Egyptians had

Strom. l. i.
p. 308.

De Is. c. 10.
354.

also *Harpocrates* and *Sigalions* in their Temples, which are thus described by the Poet,

Quique premunt vocem, digitoque silentia suadent.

They being the Statues of Young men pressing their Lips with their Finger. The meaning of which *Harpocrates* is thus expressed by *Plutarch*, τὸ δ' Ἀρποκράτης, ὁ θεὸς ἀπὸ τοῦ καὶ ὠπτοῦ, ἀλλὰ τὸ πρὸ τοῦ στόματος αὐτοῦ ἀνθρώπου λόγος παρὰ τὸ ἀπὸ τοῦ καὶ ἀδιαφωρῶτος προστάτης καὶ σωφρονιστῆς, διὰ τὰς σημῶσι τὴν ἀκλυομένην ἐχὼν προσημασμένην, ἡχευμένην καὶ σωφρονιστικὴν συμβολὴν. The *Harpocrates* of the Egyptians is not to be taken for an Imperfect and Infant God, but for the President of mens Speech concerning the Gods, that is but imperfect, balbutient and inarticulate, and the Regulator or Corrector of the same; his Finger upon his Mouth being a Symbol of Silence and Taciturnity. It is very true that some Christians have made another Interpretation of this Egyptian *Harpocrates*, as if the meaning of it had been this; That the Gods of the Egyptians had been all of them really nothing else but Mortal Men, but that this was a Secret that was to be concealed from the Vulgar. Which Conceit, however it be witty, yet is it devoid of Truth; and doubtless the meaning of those Egyptian *Harpocrates* was no other than this, That either the Supreme and Incomprehensible Deity was to be adored with Silence, or not spoken of without much caution and circumspection; or else that the Arcane Mysteries of Theology were not to be promiscuously communicated, but concealed from the profane Vulgar. Which same thing seems to have been also signified, by that yearly Feast kept by the Egyptians in honour of *Thoth* or *Hermes*, when the Priests eating Honey and Figs, pronounced those words, γλυκὴ ἡ ἀλήθεια, *Truth is sweet*. As also by that Amulet which *Isis* was fabled to have worn about her, the interpretation whereof, was φῶς ἀληθές, *True speech*.

This ἀπόκρυφτος θεολογία, this Arcane and Recondite Theology of the Egyptians, was concealed from the Vulgar Two manner of ways, by Fables or Allegories, and by Symbols or Hieroglyphicks. *Eusebius* informs us, that *Porphyrius* wrote a Book περὶ τῆς ἀλληγορηματικῆς ἐννοίας καὶ αἰνωματίας θεολογίας, Concerning the Allegorical Theology both of the Greeks and Egyptians. And here by the way we may observe, that this business of Allegorizing in matters of Religion, had not its first and only Rise amongst the Christians, but was a thing very much in use among the Pagan Theologers also: and therefore *Celsus* in *Origen*, commends some of the Christians for this, that they could Allegorize ingeniously and handsomely. It is well known how both *Plutarch* and *Synesius* Allegorized those Egyptian Fables of *Isis* and *Osiris*, the one to a Philosophical, the other to a Political sense. And the Egyptian Hieroglyphicks, which were Figures not answering to Sounds or Words, but immediately representing the Objects and Conceptions of the Mind, were chiefly made use of by them to this purpose, to express the Mysteries of their Religion and Theology, so as that they might be concealed from the profane Vulgar. For which cause the Hieroglyphick Learning of the Egyptians, is commonly taken for one and the same thing with their Arcane Theology or Metaphysics. And this

this the Author of the Questions and Answers *ad Orthodoxos*, tells us Q. 15. was anciently had in much greater esteem amongst the Egyptians, than all their other Learning, and that therefore *Moses* was as well instructed in this Hieroglyphick Learning and Metaphysical Theology of theirs, as in their Mathematicks. And for our parts we doubt not but that the *Athena Isiaca* lately published, containing so many strange and uncouth Hieroglyphicks in it, was something of this ἀπόκρυφον θεολογία, this *Arcane Theology* of the Egyptians, and not meer History, as some imagine: Though the late confident *Oedipus*, seem to arrogate too much to himself, in pretending to such a certain and exact Interpretation of it. Now as it is reasonable to think, that in all those Pagan Nations where there was another Theology besides the Vulgar, the principal part thereof, was the Doctrine of *One Supreme and Universal Deity the Maker of the whole World*, so can it not well be conceived, what this ἀπόκρυφον and ἀποκρυφώδης θεολογία, this *Arcane and Mystrious and Enigmatical Theology* of the Egyptians, so much talked of, should be other than a kind of *Metaphysicks* concerning God, as *One Perfect Incorporeal Being, the Original of all things*.

We know nothing of any Moment, that can be objected against this, save only that which *Porphyrius*, in his Epistle to *Anebo* an Egyptian Priest, writeth concerning *Cheremon*, Pr. Ev. Lib. 3. c. 4. κατέχευαν μὲν γὰρ καὶ οἱ ἕλληες, καὶ ἄλλοι τι πρὸς τῶν ἀστρονομῶν καὶ ζώων ἡγεῖσθαι ὡς ἀρχὴ λόγων πάντων τῶν ἀνθρώπων, καὶ οἱ ἕλληες καὶ οἱ ἰουδαῖοι καὶ οἱ ἰσχυροὶ καὶ οἱ ἀστρονομῶν, καὶ οἱ ἀστρονομῶν, καὶ οἱ ἀστρονομῶν, καὶ οἱ ἀστρονομῶν, &c. *Cheremon and others acknowledge nothing before this Visible and Corporeal World, alledging for the countenance of their Opinion, such of the Egyptians as talk of no other Gods, but the Planets and those Stars that fill up the Zodiack, or rise together with them, their Decans, and Horoscopes, and Robust Princes, as they call them; whose names are also inserted into their Almanacks or Ephemerides, together with the times of their Risings and Settings, and the Prognosticks or significations of future Events from them. For he observed that those Egyptians who made the Sun the Demiurgus or Architect of the World, interpreted the Stories of Isis and Osiris, and all those other Religious Fables, into nothing but Stars and Planets and the River Nile, καὶ ὅλας πάλιν ὡς τὰ φυσικὰ καὶ ὅλα ὡς ἀνομήτους καὶ ζῶντας ἐξ ὧν ἐκείνη ἐκινῶνται, and referred all things universally into Natural or Inanimate, nothing into Incorporeal and Living Substances.* Which Passage of *Porphyrius* concerning *Cheremon*, we confess *Eusebius* lays great stress upon, endeavouring to make advantage of it, first against the Egyptians, and then against the Greeks and other Pagans, as deriving their Religion and Theology from them; *It is manifest from hence, saith he, that the very Arcane Theology of the Egyptians, Deified nothing but Stars and Planets, and acknowledged no Incorporeal Principle or Demiurgick Reason as the Cause of this Universe, but only the Visible Sun:* And then he concludes in this manner, *See now what is become of this Arcane Theology of the Egyptians, that deifies nothing but senseless Matter or Dead Inanimate Bodies.* But it is well known that *Eusebius* took all advantages possible, to represent the Pagans to the worst, and render their Theology ridiculous and absurd; nevertheless what he here urgeth against the Egyptians, is

the less valuable, because himself plainly contradicts it elsewhere, declaring that the Egyptians acknowledged a *Demiurgick Reason* and *Intellectual Architect* of the World, which consequently was the Maker of the Sun; and confessing the same of the other Pagans also. Now to affirm that the Egyptians acknowledged no other Deity than Inanimate Matter and the Senseless Corporeal World, is not only to deny that they had any ἀπόκρυφαις Θεολογίαις, any *Arcane Theology* at all, (which yet hath been sufficiently proved) but also to render them *absolute Atheists*. For if this be not Atheism to acknowledge no other Deity besides Dead and Senseless Matter, then the word hath no signification. *Charemon* indeed seems to impute this Opinion (not to all the Egyptians) but to some of them; and it is very possible that there might be some Atheists amongst the Egyptians also, as well as amongst the Greeks and their Philosophers. And doubtless this *Charemon* himself was a kind of *Astrological Atheist*; for which cause we conclude, that it was not *Charemon* the Stoick, from whom notwithstanding *Porphyrius* in his Book of Abstinence citeth certain other things concerning the Egyptians, but either that *Charemon* whom *Strabo* made use of in *Egypt*, or else some other of that name. But that there ever was or can be any such *Religious Atheist*, as *Eusebius* with some others imagine, who though acknowledging no Deity, besides Dead and Senseless Matter, notwithstanding devoutly court and worship the same, constantly invoking it and imploring its assistance, as expecting great Benefit to themselves thereby; This we confess is such a thing, as that we have not Faith enough to believe, it being a sottishness and contradictory Non-sense, that is not incident to humane Nature. Neither can we doubt, but that all the devout Pagans, acknowledged *some Living and Understanding Deities* or other; nor easily believe that they ever Worshipped any Inanimate or Senseless Bodies otherwise, than as some way referring to the same, or as Images and Symbols of them. But as for that Passage in *Porphyrius* his Epistle concerning *Charemon*, where he only propounds doubts to *Ancho* the Egyptian Priest, as desiring further Information from him concerning them, *Jamblichus* hath given us a full answer to it, under the person of *Abammon* another Egyptian Priest, which notwithstanding hath no hitherto been at all taken notice of, because *Ficinus* and *Scutellius* not understanding the word *Charemon* to be a Proper name, ridiculously turn'd it in their Translations, *Optareum* and *Gauderem*, thereby also perverting the whole sense. The words in the Greek MS. (now in the hands of my Learned Friend Mr. Gale) run thus, Χαίρειναι ὃ καὶ οἱ πῶς αἰῶνι, καὶ ὅτι καὶ τὸ μέγιστον ἀποφύγει πρὸς αὐτὸν, τὸς πλεονεξίας ἀρχῆς ἐξηγῶμαι, ὅτι πῶς πλεονεξίας, καὶ τὸ ζῴον, τὸς ὁμοίας, καὶ ὁμοειδέας, καὶ τὸς λεγομένους κραταίους ἡγεμονίας ἀποφύγει, τὸς μετρίους καὶ ἀρχὴν διακονῶν ἀναφύγει. τὸ πῶς τὸς ἀνθρώπων καὶ μετρίων πρὸς ἑαυτὸν ἀφύγει καὶ ἑαυτὸν ἐμαυτὸν διατάξω, καὶ τὸ καὶ ἀρχὴν ἢ φάσκω, ἢ κρύψω, ἢ σπύλω, αἰσθάνω, ἢ μέσσω, ὡς τὸς ἐχάτους ἐχὼ τὴν αἰνιγματικὴν αἰτιολογίαν. φησὶν πῶς ἢ λέγουσιν ὅτι πάντα αἰνιγματίζω, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὴν αἰνιγματικὴν καὶ τὴν νοερὰν ἀπὸ τῆς φύσεως διακρίνω. καὶ ἐπὶ τῷ πῶς μένω, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐφ' ἡμῶν, ὅτι πῶς λέγουσιν περὶ αὐτὸν καὶ αὐτὸς ὅτι, ὅτις διανοεῖται φανὶ τὴν γενέσθαι. But *Charemon* and those others who pretend to write of the first Causes of the World, declare only the Last and Lowest Principles, as likewise they

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who treat of the Planets, the Zodiack, the Decans, the Horoscopes and the Robust Princes. And those things that are in the Egyptian Almanacks (or Ephemerides) contain the least part of the Hermaical Institutions, namely the Phases and Occultations of the Stars, the Increase and Decrease of the Moon and the like Astrological Matters; which things have the lowest place in the Egyptian Etiology. Nor do the Egyptians resolve all things into (Senseless) Nature, but they distinguish both the Life of the Soul, and the Intellectual Life, from that of Nature, and that not only in our selves, but also in the Universe; they determining Mind and Reason, first to have existed of themselves, and so this whole World to have been made. Wherefore they acknowledge before the Heaven and in the Heaven a Living Power, and place pure Mind above the World, as the Demiurgus and Architect thereof. From which Testimony of *Jamblichus*, who was but little Junious to *Porphyrius*, and Contemporary with *Eusebius*, and who had made it his business to inform himself thoroughly concerning the Theology of the Egyptians, it plainly appears that the Egyptians did not generally suppose (as *Charemon* pretended concerning some of them) a Senseless Inanimate Nature to be the first Original of all things, but that as well in the World as in our selves, they acknowledged Soul superiour to Nature, and Mind or Intellect superiour to Soul, this being the *Demiurgus* of the World. But we shall have afterwards occasion more opportunely to cite other Passages out of this *Jamblichus* his Egyptian Mysteries, to the same purpose.

Wherefore there is no pretense at all to suspect, that the Egyptians were universally *Atheists* and *Anarchists*, such as supposed no Living Understanding Deity, but resolved all into Senseless Matter as the first and highest Principle; But all the question is whether they were not *Polyarchists*, such as asserted a Multitude of Understanding Deities Self-existent or Unmade. Now that *Monarchy* was an essential part of the Arcane and True Theology of the Egyptians *A. Stenobus Eusebius*, and many other learned men, have thought to be unquestionably evident, from the *Hermetick* or *Trismegistick Writings*, they taking it for granted, that these are all genuine and sincere. Whereas there is too much cause to suspect that there have been some *Pious Frauds* practised upon these *Trismegistick Writings*, as well as there were upon the *Sibylline*; and that either whole Books of them have been counterfeited by pretended Christians, or at least several spurious and supposititious Passages here and there inserted into some of them. *Isaac Casaubon* who was the first Discoverer, has taken notice of many such, in that first Hermetick Book entituled *Pemander*, some also in the Fourth Book inscribed *Crater*, and some in the Thirteenth call'd the *Sermon in the Mount*, concerning *Regeneration*; which may justly render those Three whole Books, or at least the First and Last of them to be suspected. We shal here repeat none of *Casaubon's* condemned Passages, but add one more to them out of the Thirteenth Book, or *Sermon in the Mount*, which, however omitted by him, seems to be more rankly Christian than any other, λέγε μοι τὸ το, τίς ἐστὶ ὁ υἱοῦ Θεοῦ; ἢ ὁ ποιητὴς τῆς ἀναγεννήσεως; ὁ υἱοῦ Θεοῦ πατρὸς, ἀναγεννῶντες ἕως, ἀεὶ ἀναγεννῶντες. Tell me also, Who is the Cause or Worker of Regeneration? The Son of God, One

One Man, by the will of God. Wherefore though *Ath. Kircherus* contend with much zeal for the sincerity of all these Trismegistick Books, yet we must needs pronounce of the Three forementioned, at least the *Pemander* properly so called, and the *Sermon in the Mount*, that they were either wholly forged and counterfeited by some pretended Christians, or else had many spurious Passages inserted into them. Wherefore it cannot be solidly proved, from the Trismegistick Books, after this manner, as supposed to be all alike Genuine and sincere, that the Egyptian Pagans acknowledged *One Supreme and Universal Numen*. Much less can the same be evinced from that pretended Aristotelick Book, *De secretiore parte Divinae Sapientiae secundum Aegyptios*, greedily swallowed down also by *Kircherus*, but unquestionably pseudepigraphous.

Notwithstanding which, we conceive that though all the *Trismegistick Books* that now are or have been formerly extant, had been forged by some pretended Christians, as that Book of the *Arcane Egyptian Wisdom*, was by some Philosopher and imputed to *Aristotle*, yet would they for all that upon another account, afford no inconsiderable Argument to prove that the Egyptian Pagans asserted *One Supreme Deity*; viz. Because every Cheat and Imposture must needs have some *Basis or Foundation of Truth* to stand upon; there must have been something truly Egyptian, in such counterfeit Egyptian Writings, (and therefore this at least of *One Supreme Deity*) or else they could never have obtained credit at first, or afterwards have maintain'd the same. The rather because these Trismegistick Books were dispersed in those ancient times before the Egyptian Paganism and their Succession of Priests were yet extinct; and therefore had that which is so much insisted upon in them, been dissonant from the Egyptian Theology, they must needs have been presently exploded as meer Lyes and Forgeries. Wherefore we say again, that if all the *Hermaick or Trismegistick Books* that are now extant, and those to boot, which being mentioned in ancient Fathers have been lost, as the *τὰ Ἄρκα*, and the *τὰ ἀποκρύφα*, and the like, had been nothing but the *Pious Frauds and Cheats* of Christians, yet must there needs have been some Truth at the bottom to give subsistence to them; This at least, that *Hermes Trismegist* or the Egyptian Priests, in their *Arcane and True Theology*, really acknowledged *One Supreme and Universal Numen*.

But it does not at all follow that because some of these *Hermaick or Trismegistick Books* now extant, were counterfeit or supposititious, that therefore all of them must needs be such, and not only so, but those also that are mentioned in the Writings of ancient Fathers which are now lost. Wherefore the Learned *Casaubon* seems not to have reckoned or concluded well, when from the detection of Forgery in Two or Three of those Trismegistick Books at most, he pronounces of them all universally, that they were nothing but *Christian Cheats and Impostures*. And probably he was lead into this mistake, by reason of his too securely following that vulgar Errour (which yet had been confuted by *Patricius*) that all that was published by *Ficinus* under
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the name of *Hermes Trismegist*, was but one and the same Book *Pæmander*, consisting of several Chapters, whereas they are all indeed so many Distinct and Independent Books, whereof *Pæmander* is only placed First. However there was no shadow of reason, why the *Asclepius* should have fallen under the same condemnation, nor several other Books superadded by *Patricius*, they being unquestionably distinct from the *Pæmander*, and no signs of Spuriousness or Bastardy discovered in them. Much less ought those *Trismegistical Books*, cited by the Fathers and now lost, have been condemned also Unseen. Wherefore notwithstanding all that *Casaubon* has written, there may very well be some *Hermetical* or *Trismegistical Books* Genuine, though all of them be not such; that is, according to our after-declaration, there may be such Books, as were really Egyptian, and not counterfeited by any Christian, though perhaps not written by *Hermes Trismegist* himself, nor in the Egyptian Language. And as it cannot well be conceived how there should have been any counterfeit Egyptian Books, had there been none at all Real, so that there were some Real, and Genuine, will perhaps be rendered probable by these following Considerations.

That there was anciently amongst the Egyptians, such a man as *Thoth*, *Theuth* or *Taut*, who together with Letters, was the First Inventor of Arts and Sciences, as Arithmetick, Geometry, Astronomy, and of the Hieroglyphick Learning, (therefore called by the Greeks *Hermes*, and by the Latins *Mercurius*) cannot reasonably be denied; it being a thing confirmed by general Fame in all Ages, and by the Testimonies not only of *Sanchuniathon* a Phenician Historiographer, who lived about the times of the Trojan War, and wrote a Book concerning the *Theology of the Egyptians*, and *Manetho Sebennytæ* an Egyptian Priest, contemporary with *Ptol. Philadelphus*; but also of that grave Philosopher *Plato*, who is said to have sojourned Thirteen years in *Egypt*, that in his *Philebus* speaks of him as the First Inventor of Letters (who distinguished betwixt Vowels and Consonants determining their several Numbers) there calling him either a *God* or *Divine Man*; but in his *Phædrus* attributeth to him also, the Invention of Arithmetick, Geometry and Astronomy, together with some ludicrous Recreations, making him either a *God* or *Demon*, *ἡκούσατο ὅτι ἐν Νάυκρατις τῷ Αἰγύπτῳ, ἦλθεν τις ἐκ τῶν παλαιῶν πρὸς θεῶν, ὃς ἐν τῷ ἔργῳ τοῦ ποιεῖν ὃ ἐν καλῶς ἐποίησεν, αὐτῷ δ' ὅμοια τῶν θείων ἐποιεῖτο*. *I have heard (saith he) that about Naucratis in Egypt, there was one of the ancient Egyptian Gods, to whom the Bird Ibis was sacred, as his Symbol or Hieroglyphick; the name of which Demon was Theuth. In which place, the Philosopher subjoyns also an Ingenious Dispute, betwixt this Theuth, and Thamus then King of Egypt, concerning the Convenience and Inconvenience of Letters; the Former boasting of that Invention ὡς μνήμης καὶ σοφίας φάρμακον, as a Remedy for Memory and great Help to Wisdom, but the Latter contending, that it would rather beget Oblivion, by the neglect of Memory, and therefore was not so properly μνήμης as ὑπομνήσκων φάρμακον, a Remedy for Memory, as Reminiscence, or the Recovery of things forgotten: adding, that it would also weaken and enervate Mens Natural Faculties, by slugging them, and rather beget δόξαν σοφίας, than ἀλήθειαν, a Puffy Conceit and*
Opinion

Opinion of Knowledge, by a Multifarious Rabble of Indigested Notions, than *the Truth thereof*. Moreover since it is certain, that the Egyptians were famous for *Literature* before the Greeks, they must of necessity have some One or More Founders of Learning amongst them, as the Greeks had; and *Thoth* is the Only or First Person celebrated amongst them upon this account, in remembrance of whom the First Moneth of the Year was called by that Name. Which *Thoth* is generally supposed to have lived in the times of the Patriarchs, or considerably before *Moses*; *Moses himself* being said to have been instructed in that Learning, which owed its Original to him.

Again, besides this *Thoth* or *Theuth*, who was called the *First Hermes*, the Egyptians had also afterwards, another eminent Advancer or Restorer of Learning, who was called ὁ δεύτερος Ἑρμῆς, *The Second Hermes*; They perhaps supposing the Soul of *Thoth* or the First *Hermes* to have come into him by Transmigration; but his proper Egyptian Name was *Siphoas*, as *Syncellus* out of *Manetho* informs us; Σίφωας, ὁ δευτέρος Ἑρμῆς, υἱὸς Ἡφαίστου, *Siphoas (who is also Hermes) the Son of Vulcan*. This is he, who is said to have been the Father of *Tat*, and to have been Surnamed Τερμαχίστος, *Ter Maximus*, (he being so styled by *Manetho*, *Jamblichus* and others.) And he is placed by *Eusebius* in the Fiftieth year after the Israelitish *Exodus*, though probably somewhat too Early. The Former of these Two *Hermes*, was the Inventor of Arts and Sciences, the Latter, the Restorer and Advancer of them: the First wrote in *Hieroglyphicks* upon Pillars; ὁ τῶν Ἱεραγλυφικῶν γράμματα, (as the learned *Valesius* conjectures it should be read, instead of Ἱεραγλυφῶν.) Which *Syringer* what they were, *Am. Marcellinus* will instruct us; The Second Interpreted and Translated those *Hieroglyphicks*, composing many Books in several Arts and Sciences; the Number whereof set down by *Jamblichus*, must needs be Fabulous, unless it be understood of Paragraphs, or Verses. Which *Trismegistick* or *Hermetick* Books, were said to be carefully preserved by the Priests, in the Interior Recesses of their Temples.

But besides the *Hieroglyphicks* written by the First *Hermes*, and the Books composed by the Second (who was called also *Trismegist*) it cannot be doubted, but that there were Many other Books written by the Egyptian Priests successively in several Ages. And *Jamblichus* informs us, in the beginning of his Mysteries, That *Hermes the God of Eloquence, and President or Patron of all true Knowledge concerning the Gods*, was formerly accounted Common to all the Priests, inasmuch, that τὰ αὐτοῦ ἢ σοφίας ἀρχαῖα αὐτοῦ ἀντίθετον, ἑκαὶ πάντα τὰ οὐκ ἐκ συλλογισμῶν ἐκνοημένα, they dedicated the Inventions of their Wisdom to him, entitling their own Books to *Hermes Trismegist*. Now though One Reason hereof, might probably have been thought to have been this, because those Books were supposed to have been written, according to the Tenour of the Old *Hermetick* or *Trismegistick Doctrine*; yet *Jamblichus* here acquaints us with the chief Ground of it, namely this, that though *Hermes* was once a Mortal Man, yet he was afterwatd Deified by the Egyptians (which is testified also by

Plato)

Plato) and made to be the Tutelar God, and Fautor of all Arts and Sciences, but especially Theology; by whose Inspiration therefore; all such Books were conceived to have been written. Nay further we may observe, that in some of the *Hermaick* or *Trismegistick* Books; now extant, *Hermes* is sometimes put for the *Divine Wisdom* or *Understanding* it self. And now we see the true Reason, Why there have been many Books, called *Hermetical* and *Trismegistical*; Some of which notwithstanding, cannot possibly be conceived to have been of such great Antiquity, nor written by *Hermes Trismegist* himself, viz. because it was customary with the Egyptian Priests, to entitle their own Philosophick and Theologicke Books, to *Hermes*. Moreover it is very probable, that several of the Books of the Egyptian Priests of Later times, were not Originally written in the Egyptian Language, but the Greek; because at least from the Ptolemaick Kings downward, Greek was become very familiar to all the learned Egyptians, and in a manner vulgarly spoken; as may appear from those very Words, *Hermes*, *Trismegist*, and the like, so commonly used by them, together with the Proper Names of Places, and because the Coptick Language to this very day, hath more of Greek than Egyptian Words in it; nay *Plutarch* ventures to etymologize those Old Egyptian Names, *Isis*, *Osiris*, *Horus* and *Typhon* from the Greek, as if the Egyptians had been anciently well acquainted with that Language.

Now that some of those ancient Hermaick Books, written by *Hermes Trismegist* himself, or believed to be such by the Egyptians, and kept in the custody of their Priests, were still in being and extant amongst them, after the times of Christianity, seems to be unquestionable, from the testimony of that Pious and Learned Father *Clemens Alexandrinus*, he giving this particular Accompt of them, after the mentioning of their Opinion concerning the Transmigration of Souls. *The Egyptians follow a certain peculiar Philosophy of their own, which may be best declared by setting down the Order of their Religious Procession. First, therefore goes the Precentor, carrying Two of Hermes his Books along with him, the One of which contains the Hymns of the Gods, the Other Directions for the Kingly Office. After him follows the Horoscopus, who is particularly instructed in Hermes his Astrological Books, which are Four. Then succeeds the Hierogrammateus or Sacred Scribe, with Feathers upon his head, and a Book and Rule in his hands, to whom it belongeth to be thoroughly acquainted with the Hieroglyphicks, as also with Cosmography, Geography, the Order of the Sun and Moon and Five Planets, the Chorography of Egypt, and Description of Nile. In the next place cometh the Stolistes, who is to be thoroughly instructed in those Ten Books, which treat concerning the honour of the Gods, the Egyptian Worship, Sacrifices, First-fruits, Prayers, Poms, and Festivals. And last of all marcheth the Prophet, who is President of the Temple and Sacred things, and ought to be thoroughly versed in those other Ten Books, called Sacerdotal, concerning Laws, the Gods, and the whole Discipline of the Priests. Wherefore amongst the Books of Hermes there are Forty Two accounted most necessary, of which Thirty Six, containing all the Egyptian Philosophy, were to be learned by those Particular Orders*

Serm. 6. p. 633.

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before-mentioned; but the other Six, treating of Medicinal things, by the Paltophori. From which place we understand, that at least Forty Two Books of the ancient *Hermes Trismegist*, or such reputed by the Egyptians, were still extant in the time of *Clement Alexandrinus*; about Two Hundred years after the Christian Epoch.

P. 374.

Furthermore, that there were certain Books really Egyptian, and called *Hermaical* or *Trismegistical* (whether written by the ancient *Hermes Trismegist* himself, or by other Egyptian Priests of latter times according to the Tenour of his Doctrine, and only entitled to him) which after the times of Christianity began to be taken notice of by other Nations, the Greeks and Latins; seems probable from hence, because such Books are not only mentioned and acknowledged by Christian Writers and Fathers, but also by Pagans and Philosophers. In *Plutarch's* Discourse de *Iside & Osiride* we read thus of them; *Ἐν ἡ ταῖς ἑρμῆος λεγομέναις βίβλοις, ἱερῆν γαργάφου, ὅτι τῆ ἱερῆν διομαται, ἐπὶ τῷ μὲν ἑστὶ τῷ ἡλίου ὁρῶντος πταγμῶν δυνάμει, ἡ ἑστὶ, ἑλλυμεν ἡ ἀπὸ λωα καλῶς, τῷ ἡ ἐπὶ τῷ πιδύματος, οἱ μὲν ὀσην, οἱ ἡ ἑστὶν, οἱ ἡ ἑστὶν Ἀγνοῦσι.* In the Books called *Hermes's* or *Hermaical*, it is reported to have been written concerning Sacred Names; that the Power appointed to preside over the Motion of the Sun, is called by the Egyptians *Horus* (as by the Greeks *Apollo*) and that which presides over the Air and Wind, is called by some *Osiris*, by others *Sarapis*, and by others *Sothi*, in the Egyptian Language. Now these Sacred Names in *Plutarch*, seem to be, Several Names of God, and therefore whether these *Hermaick* Books of his, were the same with those in *Clement Alexandrinus*, such as were supposed by the Egyptians to have been written by *Hermes Trismegist* himself, or other Books written by Egyptian Priests according to the Tenour of this Doctrine; We may by the way observe, that according to the *Hermaical* or *Trismegistical* Doctrine, One and the same Deity, was worshipped under Several Names and Notions, according to its Several Powers and Vertues, manifested in the World; which is a thing afterwards more to be insisted on. Moreover it hath been generally believed, that *L. Apuleius Madaurensis* an eminent Platonick Philosopher, and zealous Asserter of Paganism, was the Translator of the *Asclepian Dialogue* of *Hermes Trismegist*, out of Greek into Latin; which therefore hath been accordingly published with *Apuleius* his Works. And *Barbinius* affirms that *St. Austin* does somewhere expressly impute this Version to *Apuleius*, but we confess we have not yet met with the place. However there seems to be no sufficient reason, why *Colvins* should call this into Question, from the Stile and Latin. Again it is certain, that *Jamblichus* doth not only mention these *Hermaick Books*, under the name of *τῶν ἑρμῆος βιβλῶν ὡς ἐρμῆος*, the Books that are carried up and down as *Hermes's* or vulgarly imputed to him; but also vindicate them from the imputation of Imposture. Not as if there were any suspicion at all of that which *Cassanbon* is so confident of, that these *Hermaick Books* were all forged by Christians, but because some might then possibly imagine them to have been counterfeited by Philosophers. Wherefore it will be convenient here to set down the whole Passage of *Jamblichus* concerning it, as it is in the Greek MS. *διὰ κεραιότην ἐν τούτῳ ἔτος, ὅτι*

αὐ τοῖς συγγραμμάσι οἷς λέγει ὑπὸ Πτολεμαίου, σαρφὲς ὅτι ἡ Διάλυσις· τὰ
 μὲν γὰρ φερόμενα, ὡς Ἑρμῆ, ἑρμαιϊκὰς εἶναι δέξασθαι, εἰς τὴν τῆς φιλοσοφίας
 γλῶσσην πολλὰκις χρηταί· μετὰ γὰρ γρηγορήσει γὰρ ἀπὸ τῆς αἰγυπτιακῆς γλῶσσης ὡς
 ἀνθρώπων φιλοσοφίας ἐκ ἀπείρου ἐχέτω. καὶ ἔστι δὲ, &c. These things be-
 ing thus discussed and determined, the Solution of that difficulty,
 from those Books which Porphyrius saith he met withal, (namely the Her-
 maicks, and those Writings of Chæremon) will be clear and easie. For
 the Books vulgarly imputed to Hermes, do really contain the Hermaick
 Opinions and Doctrines in them, although they often speak the Language
 of Philosophers, the reason whereof is, because they were translated out
 of the Egyptian tongue, by men not unacquainted with Philosophy. But
 Chæremon and those others, &c. Where it is First observable, that
 Jamblichus doth not affirm, these Hermaick Books to have been writ-
 ten by Hermes Trismegist himself, he calling them only τὰ φερόμενα ὡς
 Ἑρμῆ, the Books that were carried about as Hermes's. But that which
 he affirmeth of them is this, That they did really contain the Hermaical
 Opinions, and derive their Original from Egypt. Again whereas some
 might then possibly suspect, that these Hermaick Books had been
 counterfeited by Greek Philosophers, and contained nothing but
 the Greek Learning in them, because they speak so much the Philo-
 sophick Language; Jamblichus gives an accompt of this also, that the
 reason hereof was, because they were translated out of the Egyptian
 Language, by men skilled in the Greek Philosophy, who therefore added
 something of their own Phrase and Notion to them. It is true indeed,
 that most of these Hermaick Books which now we have, seem to have
 been written originally in Greek, notwithstanding which, others of
 them and particularly those that are now lost, as the τὰ φυσικά, and the like,
 might as Jamblichus here affirmeth, have been translated out of
 the Egyptian Tongue, but by their Translators disguised with Philo-
 sophick Language and other Greecanick things intermixed with
 them. Moreover from the forecited Passage of Jamblichus, we may clearly
 collect, that Porphyrius in his Epistle to Anebo the Egyptian Priest
 (of which Epistle there are only some small fragments left) did also
 make mention of these Hermaick Writings; and whereas he found
 the Writings of Chæremon to be contradictory to them, therefore de-
 sired to be resolved by that Egyptian Priest, whether the Doctrine
 of those Hermaick Books, were genuine and truly Egyptian, or no.
 Now Jamblichus in his answer here affirmeth, that the Doctrine of
 the ancient Hermes, or the Egyptian Theology, was as to the Sub-
 stance truly represented in those Books, (vulgarly imputed to Hermes,)
 but not so by Chæremon. Lastly, St. Cyril of Alexandria informs us, that
 there was an Edition of these Hermaick or Trismegistick Books (com-
 piled together) formerly made at Athens, under this Title, Ἑρμαιϊκὰ
 πεντεκαίδεκα βιβλία, Fifteen Hermaick Books. Which Hermaicks, Ca-
 sanbon, conceiving them to have been published before Jamblichus
 his time, took them for those Salaminiaca, which he found in the La-
 tin Translations of Jamblichus made by Ficinus and Scutellinus. Where-
 as indeed he was here abused by those Translators, there being no such
 thing to be found in the Greek Copy. But the word ἀλμυρικανὰς,
 (not understood by them) being turned into Salaminiaca; Casanbon
 there-

therefore conjectur'd them to have been those *Hermaick Books* published at *Athens*, because *Salamis* was not far distant from thence. Now it cannot be doubted, but that this Edition of *Hermaick Books* at *Athens*, was made by some Philosopher or Pagans and not by Christians, this appearing also from the words of *St. Cyril* himself, where having spoken of *Moses* and the agreement of *Hermes* with him, he adds, πεποιήται ἢ καὶ τότε μόνω, ὁ ἰδίας συγγραφεύς, ὁ συντάκτης Ἀλέξανδρος, τὸ ἑλληνικὸν ἑρμαϊκὰ πεντεκαίδεκα βιβλία. Of which *Moses* he also who compiled and published the *Fifteen Hermaick Books* at *Athens*, makes mention in his own discourse (annexed thereunto.) For thus we conceive that place is to be understood, that the Pagan Publisher of the *Hermaick Books* himself, took notice of some agreement that was betwixt *Moses* and *Hermes*. But here it is to be noted that because *Hermes* and the *Hermaick Books* were in such great credit not only amongst the Christians, but also the Greek and Latin Pagans, therefore were there some counterfeit Writings obtruded also under that specious Title; such as that Ancient Botanic Book mentioned by *Galen*, and those Christian Forgeries of later times the *Pemander* and *Sermon on the Mount*. Which being not cited by any ancient Father or Writer, were both of them doubtless Later than *Jamblichus*, who discovers no suspicion of any Christian Forgeries in this kind.

But *Casaubon*, who contends that all the Theologic Books imputed to *Hermes Trismegist*, were counterfeited by Christians, affirms, all the Philosophy, Doctrine and Learning of them (excepting what only is Christian in them) to be merely *Platonical* and *Grecanical* but not at all *Egyptian*; thence concluding, that these Books were forged by such Christians, as were skilled in the *Platonick* or *Grecanick* Learning. But First, it is here considerable, that since *Pythagorism*, *Platonism* and the Greek Learning in general, was in great part derived from the Egyptians, it cannot be concluded, that whatsoever is *Platonical* or *Grecanical*, therefore was not *Egyptian*. The only Instance that *Casaubon* insists upon, is this *Dogma* in the *Trismegistick* Books, *That Nothing in the World perisheth, and that Death is not the Destruction, but Change and Translation of Things only*: Which because he finds amongst some of the Greek Philosophers, he resolves to be peculiar to them only, and not common with the Egyptians. But since the chief design and tendency of that *Dogma*, was plainly to maintain the *Immortality, preexistence and Transmigration of Souls* which Doctrine was unquestionably derived from the Egyptians, there is little reason to doubt but that this *Dogma* was it self Egyptian also. And *Pythagoras*, who was the chief Propagator of this Doctrine amongst the Greeks, εἰδὲν εἰδὲν γίνεσθαι εἰδὲν φθείρεσθαι καὶ ὄντας, *That no real Entity* (in Generations and Corruptions) *was Made or destroyed*, according to those *Ovidian* Verses before cited,

*Nec perit in toto quicquam, mihi credite, mundo,
Sed variat faciemque novat. Nascique vocatur
Incipere esse Aliud, &c.*

did in all probability, derive it together with its superstructure,

cture, (the *Preexistence* and *Transmigration* of Souls,) at once from the Egyptians. But it is observable, that the Egyptians had also a peculiar ground of their own, for this *Dogma* (which we do not find insisted upon by the Greek Philosophers) and it is thus expressed in the Eighth of *Ficino's* his *Hermetick Books* or Chapters; ὁ δὲ Ἄσκληπιος ὁ καὶ Κρόνος, ὃς ἔστιν ἁδωνάτης, ἀδωνάτης ἔστιν τὸ ἁδωνάτης ἔστιν μέγας τὸ ἀπὸ πάντων πάντα ὃ τὰ ἐκ τῆς καὶ Κρόνος, μέγας ἔστιν τὸ καὶ Κρόνος, μέγας ὃ ὁ ἀπὸ πάντων τὸ ἀδωνάτης ἔστιν. *If the World be a Second God and an Immortal Animal, then is it impossible that any part of this Immortal Animal should perish or come to nothing; but all things in the World are Parts of this great Mundane Animal, and chiefly Man, who is a Rational Animal.* Which same Notion we find also insisted on in the *Asclepian Dialogue*; *Secundum Deum hunc crede, ὁ Ἀσκληπι, omnia gubernantem, omniaque mundana illustrantem animalia. Si enim Animal, Mundus, vivens, semper & fuit & est & erit, nihil in mundo mortale est: viventis enim uniuscujusque Partis, quæ in ipso mundo, sicut in uno eodemque Animale semper vivente, nullus est mortalitatis locus.* Where though the Latin be a little imperfect, yet the sense is this; *You are to believe the World, ὁ Ἀσκληπιος, to be a Second God, governing all things, and illustrating all Mundane Animals. Now if the World be a Living Animal, and Immortal; then there is nothing Mortal in it, there being no place for mortality as to any Living Part or Member, of that Mundane Animal, that always Liveth.* Notwithstanding which we deny not, but that though *Pythagoras* First derived this Notion from the Egyptians, yet he and his Followers might probably improve the same farther (as *Plato* tells us, that the Greeks generally did, what they received from the Barbarians) namely to the taking away the *Qualities* and *Forms* of Bodies, and resolving all Corporeal Things, into *Magnitude, Figure* and *Motion*. But that there is indeed some of the old Egyptian Learning, contained in these *Trismegistick Books* now extant, shall be clearly proved afterwards, when we come to speak of that *Grand Mystery* of the *Egyptian Theology* (derived by *Orpheus* from them) *That God is All.* To conclude, *Jamblichus* his judgment in this case, ought without controverſie, to be far, preferred before *Casaubon's*, both by reason of his great Antiquity, and his being much better skilled, not only in the Greek, but also the Egyptian Learning; That the Books imputed to *Hermes Trismegist* did ἑρμῆα καὶ τριμέγεστον διδάσκειν, really contain the *Hermaick Opinions*, though they spake sometimes the Language of the Greek Philosophers.

Wherefore upon all these Considerations, we conceive it reasonable to conclude, that though there have been some *Hermaick Books* counterfeited by Christians, since *Jamblichus* his time, as namely the *Pemander* and *The Sermon in the Mount, concerning Regeneration*; neither of which are found cited by any ancient Father; yet there were other *Hermaick Books* which though not written by *Hermes Trismegist* himself, nor all of them in the Egyptian Language, but some of them in Greek, were truly Egyptian, and did for the substance of them, contain the *Hermaick Doctrine*. Such probably were those mentioned by the Ancient Fathers, but since lost, as the τὰ γινώσκοντα, which seems to have been a discourse concerning the *Cosmogonia*, and the

the τὰ ἀσκητικά, and the like. And such also may some of these *Hermaick Books* be, that are still extant, as to instance particularly, the *Asclepian Dialogue*, entituled in the Greek ὁ ἄσκληπιο λόγος, the *Perseſs Oration*, and in all probability translated into Latin by *Apuleius*. For it can hardly be imagined, that he who was so devout a Pagan, so learned a Philosopher, and so Witty a man, should be so far imposed upon, by a counterfeit *Trismegistick Book*, and mere *Christian Cheat*, as to bestow Translating upon it, and recommend it to the World, as that which was genuinely Pagan. But however, whether *Apuleius* were the Translator of this *Asclepian Dialogue* or no, it is evident that the Spirit of it is not at all Christian, but rankly Pagan; one Instance whereof we have, in its glorying of a power that men have of *Making Gods*, upon which accompt *St. Austin* thought fit to concern himself in the confutation of it. Moreover it being extant and vulgarly known before *Jamblichus* his time, it must needs be included in his τὰ ἑρμηδεια ὡς ἐγμῶ, and consequently receive this attestation from him, that it did contain not merely the *Greekish*, but the *Hermaical and Egyptian Doctrine*.

There are indeed some Objections made against this, as first from what we read in this Dialogue, concerning the Purgation of the World partly by Water, and partly by Fire; *Tunc ille Dominus & Pater Deus, Primipotens, & Unus Gubernator mundi, intuens in mores ſæſæque hominum, voluntate ſua (qua eſt Dei Benignitas) vitiis reſiſtens, & corruptele errorem revocans, malignitatem omnem vel Alluvione diluens, vel igne conſumens, ad antiquam ſaciem mundum revocabit* : When the World becomes thus Degenerate, then that Lord and Father, the Supreme God, and the only Governour of the World, beholding the manners and deeds of men, by his Will (which is his Benignity) always reſiſting vice, and reſtoring things from their Degeneracy, will either waſh away the Malignity of the World by Water, or elſe conſume it by Fire, and reſtore it to its ancient form again. But ſince we find in *Julius Firmicus*, that there was a Tradition amongſt the Egyptians, concerning the Apocataſtaſis of the World, *partim per inundationem, partim per conflagrationem*, partly by Inundation and partly by Conflagration, this Objection can ſignifie nothing. Wherefore there is another Objection, that hath ſome more plauſibility, from that Prophecy which we find in this *Asclepius*, concerning the overthrow of the Egyptian Paganism (uttered in with much Lamentation) in theſe words, *Tunc Terra iſta, ſanctiſſima ſedes Delubrorum, Sepulchrorum erit mortuorumque pleniffima*; Then this Land of Egypt, formerly the moſt holy ſeat of the Religious Temples of the Gods, ſhall be every where full of the Sepulchers of Dead men. The ſence whereof is thus expreſſed by *St. Auſtin*, *Hoc videtur dolere, quod Memoria Martyrum noſtrorum, Templis eorum Delubriſque ſuccederent*; ut viz. qui hæc legunt, animo à nobis averſo atque perverſo, putent à Paganis Deos cultos fuiſſe in Templis, à nobis autem coli Mortuos in Sepulchris: He ſeems to lament this, that the Memorials of our Martyrs ſhould ſucceed in the place of their Temples, that ſo they who read this with a perverſe mind, might think that by the Pagans the Gods were worſhipped in Temples, but by us (Chriſtians) Dead men in Sepulchers. Notwithſtanding which, this very thing ſeems to have had its ac-

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Pag. 507. Col.

Cfr. D.L.S.
c. 16.

complishment too soon after, as may be gather'd from these Passages of *Theodoret*, *ὃς γὰρ αὐτῶν τῶν καθαρμένων θεῶν, τῶν μνημάτων, ὅσα τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἐξήλειψαν (οἱ μαρτυρῶντες) διανοίας*. Now the Martyrs have utterly abolished and blotted out of the minds of men, the memory of those who were formerly called Gods. And again, *τὸς γὰρ οἰκίας κενὸς ὁ θεῶντος; ἀντὶ τούτου τοῖς ὑμνεύουσιν θεοῖς, καὶ τοῖς μὲν προέστος ἀπέστη τῶντος; τὸ δὲ ἀντιπαραστήσειμεν γὰρ, &c.* Our Lord hath now brought his Dead (that is his Martyrs) into the room and place (that is the Temples) of the Gods; whom he hath sent away empty, and bestowed their honour upon these his Martyrs. For now in stead of the Festivals of Jupiter and Bacchus, are celebrated those of Peter and Paul, Thomas and Sergius, and other holy Martyrs. Wherefore this being so shrewd and plain a Description in the *Asclepian Dialogue*, of what really happened in the Christian World, it may seem suspicious, that it was rather a History, written after the Event, than a Prophecy before it, as it pretends to be. It very much resembling that complaint of *Eunapius Sardiannus* in the Life of *Aedesius*, when the Christians had demolished the Temple of *Serapis* in Egypt, seizing upon its Riches and Treasure, That instead of the Gods, the Monks then gave Divine honour to certain vile and flagitious persons, deceased, called by the name of Martyrs. Now if this be granted, this Book must needs be Counterfeit and supposititious. Nevertheless *St. Austin* entertained no such Suspicion, concerning this *Asclepian Passage*, as if it had been a History written after the Fact, that is, after the Sepulchers and Memorials of the Martyrs came to be so frequented; he supposing this Book to be unquestionably, of greater Antiquity. Wherefore he concludes it to be a Prophecy or Prediction made, *instinctu fallacii Spiritus*, by the Instinct or Suggestion of some Evil Spirit; they sadly then presaging the ruine of their own Empire. Neither was this *Asclepian Dialogue* only ancients than *St. Austin*; but it is cited by *Laëtantius Firmianus* also, under the name of *ὁ πλάτος λόγος*, the Perfect Oration, as was said before, and that as a thing then reputed of great Antiquity. Wherefore in all probability this *Asclepian Passage*, was written before that described Event had its accomplishment. And indeed if *Antoninus* the Philosopher (as the forementioned *Eunapius* writes) did predict the very same thing, that after his decease, that magnificent Temple of *Serapis* in Egypt, together with the rest, should be demolished, καὶ τὰ ἱερὰ τῶν θεῶν γινώσκονται, and the Temples of the Gods turned into Sepulchres; why might not this Egyptian or Trismegistick Writer, receive the like Inspiration or Tradition? Or at least make the same Conjecture.

But there is yet another Objection made against the Sincerity of this *Asclepian Dialogue*, from *Laëtantius* his citing a Passage out of it, for the Second Person in the Trinity, the Son of God; *Hermes in eo Libro* (saith *Laëtantius*) *qui ὁ πλάτος λόγος inscribitur, his usus est verbis, ὁ κλέος καὶ ὁ πλάτος ποιητής, ὃν θεὸν καλῶν νεομαμαμένον, ἐπεὶ τὸ δόξασεν ἐπὶ τοῦ θεοῦ, δεξιῶν καὶ αἰσθητῶν (αἰσθητῶν δὲ φημι ὃ διὰ τὸ αἰσθῆναι αὐτὸν, περὶ γὰρ τότε ἐκ ἧρ πότερον αὐτὸς αἰσθητὸς, ἀλλ' ὅτι αἰσθητὸς ὑποπίμπει καὶ ἐκ τῶν) ἐπὶ πάντων ἐκείνων, πρῶτον, καὶ μέσον, καὶ ἕνα, καλῶς ἢ ἐφάνη αὐτῶν, καὶ πληρέστατος πάντων τῶν ἀγαθῶν, ἡλικιὸς τε καὶ πάλιν ἐβλήθη ὡς ἰδὼν τέκνον*.

Which

Colo. p. 588.

Which we find in *Apuleius* his Latin Translation thus rendered, *Dominus & omnium Conformator, quem rectè Deum dicimus, à se Secundum Deum fecit, qui videri & sentiri possit; quem Secundum [Deum] sensibilem ita dixerim, non ideo quod ipse sentiat (de hoc enim an ipse sentiat annon alio dicemus tempore) sed eo quod videntium sensus incurrit:* Quoniam ergo hunc fecit ex se Primum, & à se Secundum, visusque est ei pulcher, nupte qui est omnium bonitate plenissimus, amavit eum ut Divinitatis suæ Prolem (for so it ought to be read, and not *Patrem*, it being τίκω in the Greek :) *The Lord and Maker of all, whom we rightly call God, when he had made a Second God, Visible and Sensible (I say, sensible, not actively, because himself hath Sense, for concerning this, whether he have Sense or no, we shall speak elsewhere, but passively, because he incurs into our Senses) this being his First and Only Production, seemed both beautiful to him, and most full of all good, and therefore he loved him dearly as his own Offspring.* Which *Lactantius*, and after him *St. Austin*, understanding of the Perfect Word of God or Eternal λόγος, made use of it as a Testimony against the Pagans, for the Confirmation of Christianity, they taking it for granted that this Hermaick Book was genuinely Egyptian and did represent the Doctrine of the ancient *Hermes Trismegist*. But *Dionysius Petavinus* and other later Writers, understanding this place in the same sense with *Lactantius* and *St. Austin*, have made a quite different use of it, namely, to infer from thence, that this Book was Spurious and Counterfeited by some Christian. To which we reply, First, that if this Hermaick Writer had acknowledged, an Eternal λόγος or Word of God and called it a Second God and the Son of God, he had done no more in this, than *Philo* the Jew did, who speaking of this same λόγος expressly calls it δεύτερον θεόν and γεννητόν τῷ θεῷ, the Second God and the First Begotten Son of God. Notwithstanding which, those Writings of *Philo's* are not at all suspected. And *Origen* affirms that some of the Ancient Philosophers did the like, *Multi Philosophorum Veterum, Unum esse Deum qui cuncta creavit, dixerunt; atque in hoc consentiunt Legi. Aliquantum autem hoc adjiciunt, quod Deus cuncta per Verbum suum fecerit & regat, & Verbum Dei sit, quo cuncta moderentur; in hoc non solum Legi, sed & Evangelio quoque consona scribunt.* Many of the old Philosophers (that is all besides a few Atheistical ones) have said, that there is One God who created all things, and these agree with the Law: but some add further, that God made all things by his Word, and that it is the Word of God, by which all things are governed; and these write consonantly not only to the Law but also to the Gospel. But whether *Philo* derived this Doctrine from the Greek Philosophers, or from the Egyptians and *Hermes Trismegist*, he being an Alexandrian, may well be a Question. For *St. Cyril* doth indeed cite several Passages out of Hermaick Writings then extant, to this very purpose. We shall only set down one of them here; ὁ κόςμος ἐκ τοῦ ἀρχαίου ἐπιτακτικού δημιουργοῦ λόγου τῷ πάντων διζέπται, ὃς μετ' αὐτοῦ πάντα διοικεῖ, ἀρχηγός, ἀπτεγός, ἐξ αἰῶνος προκείμενος, καὶ ἐπικύριος, καὶ ἀρχὴ τῆς δι' αὐτὸν δημιουργικότητος. ἢ τῷ παντί τοις πράγμασι καὶ τῷ κόσμῳ καὶ γένει τοῦ κόσμου ὁ θεός. *The World hath a Governour set over it, that Word of the Lord of all, which was the Maker of it; this is the first Power after himself, Uncreated, Infinite, looking out from him, and ruling*

In Gen. Hom.
14.Con Jul lib.
1. p. 13.

ruling over all things that were made by him; this is the Perfect and genuine Son of the first Omnipotent Being. Nevertheless the Author of the *τὸν λόγον* or *Aclepian Dialogue*, in that forecited Passage of his, by his Second God, the Son of the First, meant no such thing at all, as the *Christian Logos*, or *Second Person of the Trinity*, but only the *Visible World*. Which is so plain from the words themselves, that it is a wonder how *Lactantius* and *St. Austin* could interpret them otherwise, he making therein a Question whether this Second God were [actively] Sensible or no. But the same is farther manifested from other places of that Dialogue, as this for example, *Æternitatis Dominus Deus Primus est, Secundus est Mundus*; The Lord of Eternity is the First God, but the Second God is the World. And again, *Summus qui dicitur Deus Rectior Gubernatorque Sensibilis Dei, ejus qui in se completitur omnem locum, omnemque rerum substantiam*; The Supreme God is the Governour of that Sensible God, which contains in it all place and all the Substance of things. And that this was indeed a part of the *Hermaick* or *Egyptian Theology*, that the *Visible World* Animated, was a *Second God*, and the *Son of the First God*, appears also from those *Hermaick Books* published by *Ficinus*, and vulgarly called *Pemander*, though that be only the First of them. There hath been one Passage already cited out of the Eighth Book, *ὁ κόσμος θεὸς ὁ δεύτερος*, The World is a Second God. After which followeth more to the same purpose, *πρώτος γὰρ πλάσας ὅσους, ἀίδιον ἔστι ἀθάνατος, καὶ ἀνυμνήσας τῷ ὄντι θεὸς ὁ δεύτερος ὃ ὁ κατ' ἐκείνα αὐτῷ ὄν' αὐτῷ γὰρ ὁμοιωμένος, ἐστὶν αὐτῷ οὐκ ἄλλος καὶ τελεώμενος καὶ ἀθανάτος ὁμοιωμένος, ὡς ὁν' ἰδίῳ πατρὶ*; The First God is that Eternal Unmade Maker of all things; the Second is he that is made according to the Image of the First, which is contained, cherished or nourished and immortalized by him, as by his own Parent, by whom it is made an Immortal Animal. So again in the Ninth Book, *πρώτος ὁ θεὸς τῷ κόσμῳ, καὶ ὁ μὲν κόσμος υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ*, God is the Father of the World, and the World is the Son of God. And in the Twelfth, *ὁ ὅλος κόσμος θεὸς ὁ μέγας θεὸς καὶ τῷ μέγαντος ὄντι*, This whole World is a Great God and the Image of a Greater.

As for the other *Hermetick* or *Trismegistick Books*, published partly by *Ficinus*, and partly by *Patricius*, we cannot confidently condemn any of them for *Christian Cheats* or *Impositions*, save only the *Pemander*, and the *Sermon in the Mount* concerning *Regeneration*, the First and Thirteenth of *Ficinus* his Chapters or Books. Neither of which Books are cited by any of the Ancient Fathers, and therefore may be presumed not to have been extant in *Jamblichus* his time, but more lately forged; and that probably by one and the self same hand, since the Writer of the Latter (the *Sermon in the Mount*) makes mention of the Former (that is, the *Pemander*) in the close of it. For that which *Casaubon* objects against the Fourth of *Ficinus* his Books or Chapters (entituled the *Crater*) seems not very considerable, it being questionable, whether by the *Crater*, any such thing were there meant, as the *Christian Baptism*. Wherefore as for all the rest of those *Hermaick Books*, especially such of them as being cited by ancient Fathers, may be presumed to have been extant be-

fore *Jamblichus* his time; we know no reason why we should not concur with that learned Philosopher in his Judgment concerning them, That though they often speak the *Language of Philosophers*, and were not written by *Hermes Trismegist* himself, yet they do really contain *διδασκαλίας*, *Hermaical Opinions*, or the *Egyptian Doctrine*. The Ninth of *Ficinus* his Books mentions the *Asclepiam Dialogue*, under the Greek Title of *ὁ τέλειος λόγος*, pretending to have been written by the same hand; *καὶ τὸ ἑσπέρην, ὃ τέλειον ἀποθνήσκον λόγον, τὸν ὃ ἀναγκαῖον ὑγῆσαι ἀνθρώπων σώματα, καὶ τὸ ἐπὶ αἰώνιος λόγον διεξελθεῖν*. The meaning of which place (not understood by the Translator) is this; *I lately published (O Asclepius) the Book entituled ὁ τέλειος λόγος (or the Perfect Oration) and now I judge it necessary, in pursuit of the same, to discourse concerning Sense*. Which Book, as well as the Perfect Oration, is cited by *Laetantius*. As is also the Tenth of *Ficinus*, called the *Clavis*, which does not only pretend to be of kin to the Ninth and consequently to the *Asclepius* likewise, but also to contain in it an Epitome of that Hermaick Book called *τὰ γενικά*, mentioned in *Eusebius* his *Chronicon*, *καὶ καὶς λόγον, ὃ ἑσπέρην, καὶ ἀπόθνηκον, καὶ ὃ σῶμα ἐκ δυνάμει ἐστὶν τὸ ἐκ ἀθανάτου ἐκείνου, καὶ τὸ γενικὸν λόγον, καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν λαλῶν, ὅτι ἐστὶν ἐπὶ τῷ*. My former Discourse was dedicated to thee (O Asclepius) but this to Tatus, it being an Epitome of those Genica that were delivered to him. Which *γενικά* are thus again afterwards mentioned in the same Book, *ὡς ἡμεῖς αὖτε τοῖς γενικοῖς, ὅτι ἀπὸ μιᾶς ψυχῆς καὶ τῆς πάντες πᾶσαι αἱ ψυχαὶ εἰσι*; Have you not heard in the Genica, that all Souls are derived from one Soul of the Universe? Neither of which two places were understood by *Ficinus*. But doubtless this latter Hermaick Book, had something foisted into it, because there is a manifest contradiction found therein; forasmuch as that *Transmigration of Humane Souls into Brutes*, which in the former part thereof is asserted after the Egyptian way, *ὡς κατὰ τὴν ψυχῆς κακῆς, as the just punishment of the wicked*, is afterwards cried down and condemned in it, as the greatest Error. And the Eleventh and Twelfth following Books, seem to us to be as Egyptian, as any of the rest; as also does that long Book entituled, *κλεινὸν κέκρυμ, the Thirteenth in Patricius*. Nay it is observable, that even those very Books themselves, that are so justly suspected and condemned for *Christian Forgeries*, have something of the Hermaical or Egyptian Philosophy, here and there interspersed in them. As for example, when in the *Parmander* God is twice called *ἀρρενὸς θηλυς, Male and Female together*, this seems to have been Egyptian (and derived from thence by *Orpheus*) according to that elegant Passage in the *Asclepiam Dialogue* concerning God; *Hic ergo qui Solus est Omnia, utriusque Sexus fecunditate plenissimus, semper Voluntatis suae pregnant; parit semper quicquid voluerit procreare; He therefore who alone is All Things, and most full of the Fecundity of both Sexes, being always pregnant of his own Will, always produceth whatsoever he pleaseth*. Again when Death is thus described in it, *ὡς ἀποθνήσκειν, τὸ σῶμα ὡς ἄλλοιαν εἶναι καὶ τὸ ἕλθαι, ὃ ἔρχεται, ἐς ἄφαντος γίνεσθαι, to be nothing else but the Change of the Body, and the Form or Life passing into the Invisible*: This agreeth with that in the Eleventh Book or Chapter, *τὸν ὃ μεταβάλλει θεῖον εἶναι, διὰ τὸ τὸ μὲν σῶμα διαλύεσθαι, τὸν ὃ ζῶν ὡς τὸ ἄφαντος γίνεσθαι, That Death is nothing but a Change, it being*

being only the dissolution of the Body, and the Life or Soul's passing into the Invisible or Inconspicuous. In which Book it is also affirmed of the World, γίνεσθαι μέρος αὐτῆς καὶ ἑκάστη ἡμέρα εἰς τὰ ἀφανὲς, *That every day some part or other of it, goes into the Invisible, or into Hades, that is, does not utterly perish, but only disappears to our sight, it being either translated into some other Place, or changed into another Form.* And accordingly it is said of Animals, in the Twelfth Book, διαλύσθαι, ἔχ' ἵνα ἀπὸλινται ἀλλ' ἵνα πάλιν ᾖσινται, *That they are dissolved by Death, not that they might be destroyed, but made again anew.* As it is also there affirmed of the World, that it doth πάντα πάντα ἐξ ἐαυτῆς ἀποποιεῖν, *make all things out of it self, and again unmake them into it self, & διαλύειν ἡ ἀπαντοί, and that dissolving all things it doth perpetually renew them.* For that nothing in the whole World utterly perisheth, as it is often declared elsewhere in these Trismegistick Writings, so particularly in this Twelfth Book of Ficinus, σῆμας ὁ κόσμος ἀμείβεσθαι, καὶ ἡ μέν αὐτῆς πάντα μετέσθαι, ἔστιν ὃ φασκεῖν ἡ ἀπολλόμενον. *The whole World is unchangeable, only the parts of it being alterable; and this so, as that none of these neither utterly perisheth, or is absolutely destroyed; πῶς μέρος τι δύναται φθερεῖσθαι τῷ ἀφάρκῃ, ἡ ἀπλήρει τι τῷ θεῷ. For how can any part of that be Corrupted, which is Incorruptible, or any thing of God perish or go to nothing?* All which, by Casanbon's lieve, we take to have been originally Egyptian Doctrine, and thence in part afterwards transplanted into Greece. Moreover when in the *Pemander*, God is styled more than once, φῶς καὶ ζωὴ, *Light and Life*, this seems to have been Egyptian also, because it was Orphical. In like manner the Appendix to the Sermon in the Mount, called ὑποσέβια νεψή, or the *Occult Cantion*, hath some strains of the Egyptian Theology in it, which will be afterwards mentioned.

The result of our present Discourse is this, that though some of the Trismegistick Books, were either wholly counterfeited, or else had certain supposititious Passages inserted into them by some Christian hand, yet there being others of them originally Egyptian, or which as to the substance of them, do contain Hermaical or Egyptian Doctrines (in all which One Supreme Deity is every where asserted) we may well conclude from hence, that the Egyptians had an acknowledgment amongst them of One Supreme Deity. And herein several of the Ancient Fathers have gone before us; as first of all Justin Martyr, Ἀμμον πολυκευρον τὸ θεὸν ὀνομάζει, ἑρμῆς δὲ σαφῆς καὶ πανερῆς λέγει, θεὸν νοῦσαι μὲν ἔστι χαλεπὸν φεῖσαι δὲ ἀδύνατον. *Ammon in his Books, calleth God Most Hidden, and Hermes plainly declareth, That it is hard to conceive God, but impossible to express him.* Neither doth it follow that this latter Passage is counterfeited, as Casanbon concludes, because there is something like it in Plato's *Timæus*, there being doubtless a very great agreement betwixt Platonism and the Ancient Egyptian Doctrine. Thus again St. Cyprian; Hermes quoque Trismegistus Unum Deum loquitur, cuiusque ineffabilem & inestimabilem confiteatur, Hermes Trismegist also acknowledgeth One God, confessing him to be ineffable and inestimable; which Passage is also cited by St. Austin, Lib. 1. pag. 30. Laſtantius likewise; Thoth antiquissimus & instructissimus omni ge-

nere Doctrinae, aded ut ei multarum rerum & artium scientia Trismegisti cognomen imponeret; Illic scripsit Libros & quidem multos, ad cognitionem Divinarum rerum pertinentes, in quibus Majestatem Summi & Singularis Dei asserit, iisdemque nominibus appellat, quibus nos, Deum & Patrem. Ac nē quis nomen ejus requireret ἀνωνυμὸν esse dixit. Thoth (that is Hermes) the most ancient and most instructed in all kind of Learning (for which he was called Trismegist) wrote Books and those many, belonging to the Knowledge of Divine things, wherein he asserts the Majesty of One Supreme Deity, calling him by the same names that we do, God and Father; but (lest any one should require a Proper name of him) affirming him to be Anonymous. Lastly, St. Cyril hath much more to the same purpose also: And we must confess that we have the rather here insisted so much upon these Hermaick or Trismegistick Writings, that in this particular we might vindicate these Ancient Fathers, from the Imputation either of Fraud and Imposture, or of Simplicity and Folly.

But that the Egyptians acknowledged, besides their *Many Gods*, One Supreme and All-comprehending Deity, needs not be proved from these Trismegistick Writings (concerning which we leave others to judge as they find Cause) it otherwise appearing, not only because *Orpheus* (who was an undoubted Asserter of *Monarchy*, or One First Principle of All things) is generally affirmed to have derived his Doctrine from the Egyptians; but also from plain and exprest Testimonies. For besides *Apollonius Tyaneus* his Affirmation concerning both Indians and Egyptians, before cited, *Plutarch* throughout his whole Book *De Iside & Osiride*, supposes the Egyptians thus to have asserted One Supreme Deity, they commonly calling him ὁ πρῶτος θεός, *the First God*. Thus in the beginning of that Book he tells us, that the End of all the Religious Rites and Mysteries, of that Egyptian Goddess *Isis*, was, ἡ τῷ πρώτῳ, ἡ κυρίῳ, ἡ παντὶ γινώσκῃ, ἢ ἡ θεῷ πανερχαλῇ ζήτει παρ' αὐτῇ, καὶ παρ' αὐτῆς ὅλα ἡ συνίτα, *the Knowledge of that First God, who is the Lord of all things, and only intelligible by the Mind, whom this Goddess exhorteth men to seek, in her Communion*. After which he declareth, that this *First God* of the Egyptians was accounted by them an *Obscure and Hidden Deity*, and accordingly he gives the reason why they made the Crocodile to be a Symbol of him,

Fig. 269.

Fig. 381.

μόνη δὲ φασιν εἶναι ὑγρῷ διατεταμένης, τοῖς ὄφθαλμοῖς ὑμῖνα λέων ἢ διαφανὲς ὀφθαλμὸν, ὃς τῷ μεταπρὸς κατεχόμενος, ὥς βλέπει μὲν βλεπόμενος. ὃ τῷ πρώτῳ θεῷ συμβέβηκεν. *Because they say the Crocodile is the only Animal, which living in the water, bath his Eyes covered by a thin transparent membrane, falling down over them, by reason whereof it sees and is not seen, which is a thing that belongs to the First God, To see all things, himself being not seen.* Though *Plutarch* in that place gives also another reason why the Egyptians made the Crocodile a Symbol of the Deity; ἢ μὴ ὅτι ὁ νεκρόφθαλμος αἰτίας πῶτατος ἀμοιρεῖται ἐχθρὰ τιμῇ, ἀλλὰ μιμητικῶς διὰ λέγειναι γινώσκει μόνον μὲν ἀγλῶσθαι αἶ, φανῆς δὲ ὅτι λέγει ἀπερὶ τοῦ θεοῦ, ἡ δὲ ἀλόφω βάλων κελύκος ἡ ἄλκας τὰ εὐκτα ἀγχιτ' ἔχον. *Neither were the Egyptians without a plausible reason, for worshipping God Symbolically in the Crocodile, that being said to be an Imitation of God, in that it is the only Animal without a Tongue. For the Di-*

vine

vine λόγῳ or Reason standing not in need of Speech, and going on through a silent path of Justice in the World, does without noise righteously govern and dispense all humane affairs. In like manner Horns Apollo in his Hieroglyphicks, tells us, that the Egyptians acknowledging a παντοκράτωρ and κατιστοκράτωρ, an Omnipotent Being that was the Governor of the whole World, did Symbolically represent him by a Serpent, ὡς μέλει αὐτῷ οἶκος μέγας δακτυλίδης ὁ γὰρ βασιλεὺς οἶκος αὐτοῦ ὡς τοῦ καίμου, they picturing also a great House or Palace within its circumference, because the World is the Royal palace of the Deity. Which Writer also gives us another reason, why the Serpent was made to be the Hieroglyphick of the Deity; τὸ ὡς τροφήν χεῖραται τὰ ἑαυτοῦ σώματι, σημαίνει, τὸ πᾶν ὅσα ὡς τὸ βέλαι προνοίας ὡς τοῦ καίμου φημιναί, ταῦτα πάλιν ἐν τῷ μίῳ ἐν εἰς αὐτὸ λαμβάνει. *Because the Serpent feeding as it were upon its own Body, doth aptly signify, that all things generated in the World by Divine Providence, are again resolved into him.* And Philo Byblus from Sanchuniathon, gives the same reason why the Serpent was Deified by Tant or the Egyptian Hermes, ἐπὶ ἀθάνατον ἐν εἰς ἑαυτὸ ἀναλίσκει, because it is immortal and resolved into itself. Though sometimes the Egyptians added to the Serpent also a Hawk, thus complicating the Hieroglyphick of the Deity; according to that of a famous Egyptian Priest in Eusebius, τὸ πρῶτον ὃν θεοποίησαν, ὅφρις ἔχει ἱέρακος ἔχον κεφαλήν, that the First and Divine Being of all, is Symbolically represented, by a Serpent having the head of an Hawk. And that a Hawk was also sometimes used alone, for a Hieroglyphick of the Deity, appeareth from that of Plutarch, That in the Porch of an Egyptian Temple at Sais, were engraven these Three Hieroglyphicks, a Young man, an Old man, and an Hawk; to make up this Sentence, That both the Beginning and End of humane Life dependeth upon God, or Providence. But we have Two more remarkable Passages in the forementioned Horns Apollo, concerning the Egyptian Theology, which must not be pretermitted; the first this, παρ' αὐτοῦ τὸ πᾶν καίμος τὸ διῶκεν ἔστι πνεῦμα, That according to them, there is a Spirit passing through the Whole World, to wit, God. And again δευτέρως δὶχον θεὸς μηδὲν ὅπως σπεύδοναι, It seemeth to the Egyptians, that nothing at all consists without God. In the next place, Jamblicus was a person who had made it his business, to inform himself thoroughly, concerning the Theology of the Egyptians, and who undertakes to give an account thereof, in his Answer to Porphyrius his Epistle to Anebo an Egyptian Priest; whose Testimony therefore may well seem to deserve credit. And he first gives us a Summary account of their Theology after this manner, χειρὶς, ἔρημις, ματιὰς, ἐν καὶ ἑαυτῷ ὑπερπληρωμένος τῶν ἐν τῷ καίμῳ δυνάμεων τε καὶ στοιχείων, ὁ δὲ θεὸς καὶ φύσις ὅλης, ἐν τῷ ἐν αὐτοῖς στοιχείοις δυνάμεων πασῶν, αἷτος θεός. ἅτι δὲ ὑπερέχει τῶν αἰώνων, αἰώνος, καὶ ἀσώματος, καὶ ὑστέφους, ἀγένητος τε καὶ ἀμέλειτος, ὅλος ἐν ἑαυτῷ καὶ ἐν ἑαυτῷ ἀναφανείς, προηγύται πάντων τῶν ἐν τῷ καίμῳ ἐν τῷ καίμῳ ἐν τῷ καίμῳ ἐν τῷ καίμῳ. That God, who is the Cause of Generation and the whole Nature, and of all the Powers in the Elements themselves, is Separate, Exempt, Elevated above, and expanded over, all the Powers and Elements in the World. For being above the World and transcending the same, Immaterial, and Incorporeal, Supernatural, Unmade, Indivisible, manifested wholly from himself,

Lib. 1. c. 1.

self, and in himself, he ruleth over all things and in himself containeth all things. And because he virtually comprehends all things, therefore does he impart and display the same from himself. According to which excellent Description of the Deity, it is plain that the Egyptians asserting *One God that comprehends All things*, could not possibly suppose a *Multitude of Self-existent Deities*. In which place also the same *Jamblichus* tells us, that as the Egyptian Hieroglyphick for Material and Corporeal things, was Mud or floating Water, so they pictur'd God, in *Loto ar-bore sedentem super Lutum*, sitting upon the *Lote-tree* above the *Watery Mud*, *Quod innuit Dei eminentiam altissimam, quasi ut nullo modo attingat Lutum ipsum. Demonstratque Dei imperium intellectuale, quia Loto ar-boris omnia sunt rotunda tam frondes quam fructus, &c.* Which signifies the transcendent Eminency of the Deity above the Matter, and its intel-lectual Empire over the World, because, both the Leaves and Fruit of that tree are Round, representing the Motion of intellectuall. Again he there adds also, that the Egyptians sometime pictured God sitting at the Helm of a Ship. But afterward in the same Book, he sums up the Queries, which *Porphyrus* had propounded to the Egyptian Priest, to be re-solved concerning them, in this manner; *ῥέλει σοι θεοῦ δόξαν, τί τὸ πρῶ-τον αὐτοῦ ἰσχυρίου αἶνον αἰνέσῃσι; πότερον τὸν ἢ ἐπεὶ τὸν; καὶ μόνον ἢ ματ' ἄλ-λα καὶ ἄλλων; καὶ πότερον ἀσώματον ἢ σωματικόν; καὶ εἰ τὰ δυνάμενα τοῦ αὐτοῦ, ἢ πρὸ τοῦ δυνάμενος; καὶ εἰ ἕξ ἐνὸς τὰ πάντα ἢ ἐκ πολλῶν; καὶ εἰ ἕνα ἴσται ἢ σὺμμετα ποῖα πρῶτον; καὶ εἰ ἀγνώστον ἕνα ἢ γνωστὸν; *Tom desire to be re-solved, What the Egyptians think to be the first Cause of all. Whether intellectuall or something above intellectuall? And that Whether alone or with some other? Whether Incorporeal or Corporeal? Whether the first Princi-ple be the same with the Demiurgus and Architekt of the World, or before him? Whether all things proceed from One or Many? Whether they suppose Matter, or Qualified Bodies, to be the first? and if they admit a First Matter, Whether they assert it to be Unmade or Made? In answer to which Porphyrus Queries, Jamblichus thus begins; καὶ πρῶτον μὲν, ὁ πρῶτον κρείττους, ὅτι τὸ τότε αὐτοῦ πρὸ τῆς οὐσίας ἔστι καὶ τῆς ἑλκω ἀρχῆς, ὅτι διὰ τοῦτο ἐκ πρῶτος, καὶ τὸ πρῶτον θεῶν καὶ βασιλέως, ἀκίνητος· ἐν μονότητι δὲ ἰαυτῷ ἐκείνῳ μόνον· ὅτι καὶ νυνὶ αὐτῷ ἐπαπλήκωται, ὅτι ἀλλο τῷ· I shall first reply to that you first demand, That, according to the Egyptians, be-fore all Entities and Principles there is One God, who is in order of na-ture before (him that is commonly called) the first God and King; Im-moveable; and always remaining in the solitaricty of his own Unity, there being nothing Intelligible nor any thing else complicated with him, &c. In which words of Jamblichus and those others that there fol-low after, though there be some obscurity (and we may perhaps have occasion further to consider the meaning of them elsewhere) yet he plainly declares, that according to the Egyptians, the first Original of all things, was a perfect Unity above intellectuall; but intimating withall, that besides this First Unity, they did admit of certain o-ther Divine Hypostasēs (as a Perfect intellectuall, and Mundane Soul) sub-ordinate thereunto, and dependent on it, concerning which he thus writeth afterward; καὶ τὸ πρῶτον καὶ τὸν αὐτὸν καὶ τὰς ἀρχαίας ἐσπερίως δύναμιν καὶ ἀρετὴν, καθ' ἑαυτὸν τε νῦν ἐπεὶ καὶ ἀρετὴν καὶ ἐσπερίως δύναμιν· The Egyptians ac-knowledge, before the Heaven, and in the Heaven, a Living Power (or Soul) and again they place a pure Mind or intellectuall above the World.**

But

God *Zeus*, the Latins *Jupiter* or *Jovis*, so did the Egyptians call him *Hammon* or *Ammon* according to *Herodotus*, whose Testimony to this purpose hath been already cited, and confirmed by *Origen* who was an Egyptian born. Thus also *Plutarch* in his Book *de Iside*, *ἡ πολλὰν νομίζουσιν, ἰδὲν παρ' αἰγυπτίους ὄνομα τῷ διὸς ἔσθαι, τὴν Ἀμὼν, ἢ Ἀμμωνίαν ἡμῶν ἡμῶν λέγουσιν*. It is supposed by most, that the proper name of *Zeus* or *Jupiter* (that is, the Supreme Deity) amongst the Egyptians, is *Amous*, which we Greeks pronounce *Hammon*. To the same purpose *Hesychius*, *Ἀμῶς ὁ Ζεὺς, Ἀμμωνίης*, *Ammons* according to *Aristotle* is the same with *Zeus*. Whence it came to pass that by the Latin Writers *Hammon* was vulgarly called *Jupiter Hammon*. Which *Hammon* was not only used as a proper name for the Supreme Deity by the Egyptians, but also by the Arabians and all the Africans, according to that of *Lucan*,

*Quamvis Æthiopum populis Arabumque beatis
Gentibus, atque Indis, unus sit Jupiter Ammon.*

Wherefore not only *Marmarica* (which is a part of *Africa*, wherein was that most famous Temple of this *Ammon*) was from thence denominated *Ammonia*, but even all *Africa*, as *Stephanus* informs us, was sometimes called *Ammonis*, from this God *Ammon*, who hath been therefore stiled *Zeus Libanus*, the *Libyan Jupiter*.

Indeed it is very probable, that this word *Hammon* or *Ammon*, was at first derived from *Ham* or *Cham* the son of *Noah*, whose Posterity was chiefly seated in these African parts, and from whom Egypt was called, not only in the Scripture, *the Land of Ham*, but also by the Egyptians themselves, as *Plutarch* testifieth, *Χημία* or *Chemia*, and as *St. Jerome*, *Ham*; and the *Coptites* also to this very day call it *Chemi*. Nevertheless this will not hinder, but that the Word *Hammon* for all that, might be used afterwards by the Egyptians, as a name for the Supreme God, because amongst the Greeks, *Zeus* in like manner, was supposed to have been at first the name of a Man or *Hero*, but yet afterwards applied to signify the *Supreme God*. And there might be such a mixture of *Herology* or *History*, together with *Theology* as well amongst the Egyptians, as there was amongst the Greeks. Nay some learned men conjecture, and not without probability, that the *Zeus* of the Greeks also was really the very same with that *Ham* or *Cham* the son of *Noah*, whom the Egyptians first worshipped as an *Hero* or *Deified Man*; there being several considerable agreements and correspondencies between the Poetick Fables of *Saturn* and *Jupiter*, and the true Scripture-story, of *Noah* and *Cham*; as there is likewise a great affinity betwixt the words themselves, for as *Cham* signifies *Heat* or *Fervour*, so is *Zeus* derived by the Greek Grammarians from *ζῆα*. And thus will that forementioned Testimony of *Herodotus*, in some sense be verified, that the Greeks received the names of most of their Gods, even of *Zeus* himself, from the Egyptians.

Perhaps it may be granted also, that the Sun was sometime worshipped

Shipped by the Egyptians, under the Name of *Hammon*; it having been in like manner sometimes worshipped by the Greeks under the Name of *Zeus*. And the word very well agreeth herewith, $\pi\omicron\mu\eta$ in the Hebrew Language signifying not only Heat but the Sun; from whence כַּמָּוִן *Chamanim* also was derived. Nevertheless it will not follow from hence, that therefore the Visible Sun, was generally accounted by the Egyptians the *supreme Deity*, no more than he was amongst the Greeks. But as we have often occasion to observe, there was in the Pagan Religion, a confused Jumble, of *Herology*, *Physiology*, and *Theology* all together. And that the Notion of this Egyptian God *Ammon*, was neither confined by them to the Sun, nor yet to the whole *Corporeal World* or *Nature of the Universe* (as some have conceived) is evident from hence, because the Egyptians themselves, interpreted it, according to their own Language, to signify, That which was *Hidden and Obscure*, as both *Manetho* an ancient Egyptian Priest, and *Hecataeus* (who wrote concerning the Philosophy of the Egyptians) in *Plutarch* agree: $\mu\alpha\kappa\epsilon\beta\lambda\epsilon\varsigma\ \mu\epsilon\lambda\acute{o}\ \delta\ \epsilon\iota\varsigma\epsilon\phi\acute{\alpha}\nu\tau\eta\varsigma\ \tau\acute{\iota}\ \kappa\alpha\kappa\epsilon\mu\mu\acute{\epsilon}\nu\eta\iota\varsigma\ \sigma\iota\gamma\acute{\epsilon}\tau\alpha\iota\ \kappa\epsilon\ \tau\acute{\omega}\ \kappa\epsilon\upsilon\acute{\epsilon}\nu\eta\iota\ \upsilon\pi\acute{o}\ \tau\alpha\upsilon\tau\eta\varsigma\ \delta\eta\lambda\acute{o}\upsilon\sigma\alpha\iota\ \tau\acute{\iota}\ \phi\alpha\upsilon\acute{\nu}\eta\varsigma.$ $\epsilon\chi\alpha\sigma\tau\acute{\alpha}\ \delta\ \epsilon\ \epsilon\alpha\delta\epsilon\upsilon\lambda\eta\tau\eta\varsigma\ \phi\alpha\iota\ \tau\acute{o}\tau\omega\ \kappa\epsilon\ \pi\acute{\epsilon}\rho\acute{o}\ \alpha\lambda\lambda\eta\lambda\eta\varsigma\ \tau\acute{\omega}\ \epsilon\pi\acute{\iota}\mu\alpha\tau\iota\ \chi\epsilon\upsilon\acute{\epsilon}\nu\eta\iota\ \tau\acute{\alpha}\varsigma\ \lambda\iota\gamma\mu\acute{\alpha}\tau\iota\varsigma,$ $\epsilon\tau\alpha\upsilon\tau\alpha\ \tau\acute{\iota}\ \pi\acute{\rho}\alpha\ \pi\acute{\rho}\circ\sigma\kappa\alpha\lambda\acute{o}\nu\tau\alpha\iota,$ $\pi\acute{\rho}\circ\sigma\kappa\lambda\eta\tau\acute{\iota}\sigma\tau\omega\ \gamma\acute{\epsilon}\ \epsilon\tau\alpha\iota\ \tau\acute{\omega}\ \phi\alpha\upsilon\acute{\nu}\omega.$ $\delta\iota\delta\ \epsilon\ \pi\acute{\epsilon}\rho\omega\tau\iota\ \theta\epsilon\acute{\iota}\omega\ \acute{\alpha}\varsigma\ \acute{\alpha}\phi\alpha\upsilon\acute{\nu}\eta\ \kappa\epsilon\ \kappa\alpha\kappa\epsilon\mu\mu\acute{\epsilon}\nu\eta\iota\varsigma\ \epsilon\tau\alpha\iota,$ $\pi\acute{\rho}\circ\sigma\kappa\alpha\lambda\epsilon\mu\epsilon\mu\acute{o}\ \kappa\epsilon\ \phi\acute{\rho}\alpha\sigma\kappa\alpha\lambda\epsilon\iota\tau\eta\varsigma,$ $\epsilon\mu\phi\alpha\upsilon\acute{\nu}\eta\ \gamma\iota\gamma\acute{\iota}\sigma\kappa\alpha\iota\ \kappa\epsilon\ \delta\acute{\epsilon}\lambda\lambda\eta\iota\ \alpha\upsilon\tau\acute{\omega}\iota\varsigma,$ $\epsilon\mu\epsilon\upsilon\ \lambda\acute{\epsilon}\gamma\omega\varsigma\iota.$ *Manetho* *Sebennites* conceives the Word *Amoun*, to signify that which is *Hidden*. And *Hecataeus* affirmeth that the Egyptians Use the Word when they call any one to them that was distant or absent from them; Wherefore the First God, because he is Invisible and Hidden, they, as it were Inviting him to approach near, and to make himself Manifest and conspicuous to them, call him *Amoun*. And agreeably hereunto, *Jamblichus* gives us this account of the true Notion of this Egyptian God *Ammon*, $\delta\ \delta\eta\mu\iota\upsilon\gamma\epsilon\tau\acute{\iota}\kappa\acute{o}\varsigma\ \tau\acute{\omega}\varsigma,$ $\kappa\epsilon\ \tau\acute{\iota}\ \acute{\alpha}\lambda\omega\delta\acute{\iota}\alpha\varsigma\ \pi\acute{\rho}\circ\sigma\acute{\epsilon}\tau\eta\varsigma,$ $\kappa\epsilon\ \sigma\phi\iota\alpha\ \epsilon\chi\epsilon\chi\acute{\epsilon}\mu\epsilon\mu\acute{o}\ \mu\epsilon\mu\acute{\epsilon}\tau\iota\ \gamma\acute{\epsilon}\nu\epsilon\tau\omega,$ $\kappa\epsilon\ \tau\acute{\omega}\ \acute{\alpha}\phi\alpha\upsilon\acute{\nu}\eta\ \tau\acute{\omega}\ \kappa\alpha\kappa\epsilon\mu\mu\acute{\epsilon}\nu\eta\iota\varsigma\ \lambda\acute{\epsilon}\gamma\omega\iota\ \delta\eta\mu\iota\upsilon\gamma\epsilon\tau\acute{\iota}\kappa\acute{o}\ \epsilon\acute{\iota}\varsigma\ \phi\acute{\omega}\varsigma\ \acute{\alpha}\gamma\gamma\alpha\iota,$ $\epsilon\mu\epsilon\upsilon\ \chi\tau\acute{\iota}\ \tau\acute{\omega}\ \tau\acute{\omega}\ \lambda\iota\gamma\mu\acute{\alpha}\tau\iota\omega\ \gamma\lambda\acute{o}\sigma\sigma\alpha\iota\ \lambda\acute{\epsilon}\gamma\acute{o}\upsilon\sigma\alpha\iota.$ *The Demiurgical Intellect, and President of Truth, as with Wisdom it proceedeth to Generation, and produceth into Light, the Secret and Invisible Powers of the hidden Reasons, is, according to the Egyptian Language, called Hammon.* Wherefore we may conclude, that *Hammon* amongst the Egyptians, was not only the Name of the *Supreme Deity*, but also of such a one as was *Hidden, Invisible and Incorporeal*.

And here it may be worth our observing, that this Egyptian *Hammon* was in all Probability taken notice of in Scripture, though vulgar Interpreters have not been aware thereof. For thus we understand that of *Jeremy* 46. 25. *The Lord of Hosts, the God of Israel saith, behold I will visit* $\text{נֹחַ}\ \text{וְכָל}\ \text{בְּנֵי}\ \text{נֹחַ}$ (that is, not the Multitude of Noe, but) *Ammon* (the God) of Noe, and *Pharaoh and Egypt with her* (other) *Gods and Kings, and all that trust in him; I will deliver them into the hands of those that seek their lives, and into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon.* For the understanding of which place, we must observe, that according to the Language of those ancient Pagans, when every Country or City, had their Peculiar and Proper names, for the Gods presiding over them or Worshipped by

them, the several Nations and Places, were themselves commonly denoted and signified, by the names of those their respective Gods. With which kind of Language, the Scripture it self also complieth; as when the Moabites are called in it, *the People of Chemosh*, Numbers 21. And when *the Gods of Damascus* are said to have smitten *Abaz*,* because the Syrians smote him, 2 Chron. 28. Accordingly whereunto also, whatsoever was done or attempted against the several Nations or Countries, is said to have been done or attempted against their Gods. Thus *Moab's Captivity* is described, *Jeremy* 48. *Thou shalt be taken, and Chemosh shall go into captivity.* And the overthrow of *Babylon* is predicted after the same manner, in the Prophecy of *Isaiab* Cap. 46. *Bell boweth down, Nebo stoopeth, themselves are gone into captivity.* As also the same is threatened in that of *Jeremy*, C. 51. *I will visit Bell in Babylon, and will bring out of his mouth, that which he hath swallowed up, and the Nations shall not flow unto him any more, for the Wall of Babylon shall be broken down.* Now *Bell* according to *Herodotus*, was a name for the Supreme God amongst the Babylonians, as well as *Ammon* was amongst the Egyptians; who notwithstanding by both of them was worshipped after an Idolatrous manner. And therefore as in these latter places, by the Visiting and Punishing of *Bell*, is meant the visiting and punishing of the Babylonians; so in that former place of *Jeremy*, by the visiting of *Ammon*, and the Gods of *Egypt*, is understood, the visiting of the Egyptians themselves; accordingly as it is there also expressed. No was, it seems, the Metropolis of all *Egypt*; and therefore *Ammon* the Chief God of those Ancient Egyptians, and of that City, was called *Ammon of No*. As likewise the City *No*, is denominated from this God *Ammon* in the Scripture, and called both *No-Ammon*, and *Ammon-No*. The former in the Prophecy of *Nabum*, Cap. 3. *Art thou better than No-Ammon?* or that *No* in which the God *Ammon* is worshipped? Which is not to be understood of the Oracle of *Ammon* in *Marmarica*, as some have imagined (they taking *No* for an Appellative and so to signify Habitations;) it being unquestionably the Proper name of a City in *Egypt*. The Latter in that of *Ezekiel*, Cap. 30. *I will pour out my fury upon Sin, the strength of Egypt, and will cut off Hammon-No.* In which place as by *Sin* is meant *Pelusium*, so *Hammon No*, by the Seventy, is interpreted *Diospolis*, the City of *Jupiter*; that is, the Egyptian *Jupiter*, *Hammon*. Which *Diospolis* was otherwise called the Egyptian *Thebes*, (anciently the Metropolis of all *Egypt*) but whose Proper name in the Egyptian Language, seems to have been *No*; which from the chief God there worshipped, was called both *No-Ammon* and *Hammon-No*; as that God himself was also denominated from the City, *Ammon of No*. And this is the rather probable, because *Plato* tells us expressly, that *Ammon* was anciently the Proper or Chief God of the Egyptian *Thebes* or *Diospolis*, where he speaks of *Theuth* or *Theoth* the Egyptian *Hermes*, in these words; *παντὸς δ' αὖ τῆς οὔτης Αἰγυπτίας ὅπως οἰκιστὴ, καὶ τῆς μετὰ τὸν πόλιν τῆς αὐτῆς, ὅν οἱ Ἕλληες Αἰγυπτίας οἰκίας καλεῖται καὶ τῆς Ἀμμωνίας. Thamus was then King over all Egypt, reigning in that great City (the Metropolis thereof) which the Greeks call the Egyptian Thebes, and whose God was Ammon.* But whereas the Prophet *Nabum* (who seems to have written after the completion of that judgment

judgment upon No, predicted both by *Jeremy* and *Ezekiel*) describes the place, *as situate among the Rivers, and having the Sea for its Wall and Rampart*; whence many Learned men have concluded, that this was rather to be understood of *Alexandria* than *Diospolis* (notwithstanding that *Alexandria* was not then in being, nor built till a long while after in *Alexander the Great's* time.) This may very well, as we conceive, be understood of *Egypt* in general, whose *Metropolis* this No was; that it was situate amongst the Rivers and had the Seas for its Wall and Rampart; the Red and Mediterranean. And thus much for the *Egyptian Jupiter*, or their Supreme Deity, called by them *Hammon*.

There is an excellent Monument of Egyptian Antiquity preserved by *Plutarch* and others, from whence it may be made yet further Evident, that the Egyptians did not suppose a Multitude of *Unmade Self-existent Deities*, but acknowledged *One Supreme, Universal and All-comprehending Numen*. And it is that Inscription upon the Temple at *Sait*, *Ἐγώ εἰμι πᾶσι τὸ γινώσκω, ἢ ὅτι, ἢ ἰσχυρόν, ἢ τὸ ἐμὸν πένθος ἰσχύει πᾶσι θνητοῖς ἀπικάλυψεν, I am all that Hath been, Is, and Shall be, and my Peplum or Veil, no mortal hath ever yet uncovered*; which though perhaps some would understand thus, as if that Deity therein described, were nothing but the *Senseless Matter* of the whole Corporeal Universe, according to that Opinion of *Charemon* before mentioned and confuted; yet it is plain, that this could not be the meaning of this Inscription: First, because the God here described, is not a mere *Congeries* of disunited Matter, or Aggregation of Divided Atoms, but it is some *One thing* which was *All*: According to that other Inscription upon an Altar dedicated to the Goddess *Isis*, which we shall also afterward make use of, *Tibi, Una, quæ es Omnia*; *To thee who being One, art All Things*. Again, in the Deity here described, there is both a Veil or Outside, and also something *Hidden and Recondite*; the sense seeming to be this, *I am all that Was, Is, and Shall be; and the whole World is nothing but my self Veiled; but my naked and unveiled Brightness, no mortal could ever yet behold or comprehend*: Which is just, as if the Sun should say, *I am all the Colours of the Rainbow* (whose mild and gentle light may easily be beheld) and they are nothing but my *Simple and Uniform Lustre*, variously refracted and abated; but my immediate Splendour and the Brightness of my Face, no mortal can contemplate, without being either blinded or dazzled by it. Wherefore this Description of the Deity, may seem not a little to resemble that Description which God makes of himself to *Moses*, *Thou shalt see my Back-parts, but my Face shall not be seen*. Where there is also something *Exterior* and *Visible* in the Deity, and something *Hidden and Recondite, Invisible and Incomprehensible* to Mortals. And *Philo* thus glosseth upon those words, *ἀνταρχεις ὅτι σαρὰ, πᾶ ἀκάλυπτα ἢ ὅσα μετὰ τὸ εἶναι γινώσκω, τὴν δὲ ἡγεμονικὴν ἐξίστην ὁ θεὸς ἀκατάστατον, τῷ ἀειαυγὲϊ τῷ ἀκίνητῳ περιέσθην πρὸς ἑσέα. It is sufficient for a wise man to know God & Posteriori, or from his Effects; but whosoever will needs behold the naked Essence of the Deity, will be blinded with the transcendent Radiancy and Splendour of his Beams. Where, as according to *Philo*, the Works of God, as manifesting the Attributes*

Agathe Anthe of this Egyptian God, that it was both Invisible and Manifest, in Time, P. 30.

P. 474. Per.

the Temple of *Sais*, had likewise agreeably to its Inscription, such a *Peplum* or Veil cast over it, as *Minerva* or *Artemis* at *Athens* had; this Hieroglyphically to signify, that the Deity was invisible and incomprehensible to mortals, but had Veiled it self in this Visible Corporeal World, which is as it were the *Peplum*, the exterior variegated or embroidered Vestment of the Deity. To all which Considerations may be added in the last place, what *Proclus* hath recorded, that there was something more belonging to this Egyptian Inscription, than what is mentioned by *Plutarch*; namely these words, *ὃ ἐν ἑπικον ἔδεικται, ἡδὲ ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ*, *And the Sun was the fruit or off-spring which I produced*; from whence it is manifest, that according to the Egyptians, the Sun was not the Supreme Deity, and that the God here described, was as *Proclus* also observeth, *δημιουργὸν θεόν*, *A Demiurgical Deity* the Creator of the whole World, and of the Sun. Which Supreme Incorporeal Deity, was notwithstanding in their Theology, said to be *All Things*, because it diffused it self thorough *All*. In Time, p. 35;

Wherefore, whereas *Plutarch* cites this Passage out of *Hecataeus*, concerning the Egyptians, *ὅτι πρῶτον θεὸν τὸ πᾶν καὶ αὐτὸ νομιζόντων*, *That they take the First God, and the Universe, for one and the same thing*; the meaning of it cannot be, as if the *First* or *Supreme* God of the Egyptians, were the Senseless Corporeal World, *Plutarch* himself in the very next words declaring him to be, *ἀφανὲς καὶ κρυπτόμενον*, *Invisible and Hidden*; whom therefore the Egyptians, as inviting him to manifest himself to them, called *Hammon*; as he elsewhere affirmeth, *That the Egyptians First God or Supreme Deity, did see all things, himself being not seen*. But the forementioned Passage must needs be understood thus, that according to the Egyptians, the *First* God, and τὸ πᾶν or the *Universe*, were synonymous expressions, often used to signify the very same thing; because the *First Supreme Deity*, is that which contains *All Things*, and diffuseth it self through *All Things*. And this Doctrine was from the Egyptians derived to the Greeks, *Orpheus* declaring, *ὅτι τὰ πάντα, that all things were One*, and after him *Parmenides* and other Philosophers, *ὅτι ἓνα τὸ πᾶν, that One was the Universe or All*, and that τὸ πᾶν was ἀκίνητον, *that the Universe was Immovable*, they meaning nothing else hereby, but that the *First Supreme Deity*, was both *One* and *All things*, and *Immovable*. And thus much is plainly intimated by *Aristotle* in these words, *ἐν δὲ πῶς οἱ ὅτι τὸ πᾶν ὡς ἓν μὲν ἔστι φύσις ἀπεφρασμένη*. *There are some who pronounced concerning the whole Universe, as being but One Nature*; that is, who called the Supreme Deity τὸ πᾶν or the *Universe*, because that virtually contained *All things* in it. Metaph. L. 1.

Nevertheless τὸ πᾶν or the *Universe*, was frequently taken by the Pagan Theologers also, as we have already intimated, in a more comprehensive fence, for the Deity, together with all the extent of its Fecundity, God as displaying himself in the World; or, for *God and the World* both together; the Latter being look'd upon, as nothing but an *Emanation* or *Efflux* from the Former. And thus

was

was the word taken by *Empedocles* in *Plutarch*, when he affirmed, *ὅτι τὸ πᾶν ἔστιν ἡ κοίτη, ἀλλ' ὀλίγον τι τῆς πατρὸς μετέχει*, *That the World was not the Universe, but only a small part thereof*. And according to this sense was the God *Pan* understood both by the *Arcadians* and other *Greeks*, not for the mere *Corporeal World* as *Senseless* and *Inanimate*, nor as endued with a *Plastick Nature* only (though this was partly included in the Notion of *Pan* also) but as proceeding from a *Rational and Intellectual Principle*, diffusing it self through All; or for the whole *System of Things*, *God and the World* together, as one *Deity*. For that the *Arcadick Pan*, was not the *Corporeal World* alone, but chiefly the *Intellectual Ruler and Governour* of the same, appears from this Testimony of *Macrobius*; *Hunc Deum Arcades colunt, appellantem ὃν ὁδὸς κοίτην, non sylvarum Dominum, sed universæ substantiæ Materialis Dominatorem*: *The Arcadians worship this God Pan (as their most ancient and honourable God) calling him the Lord of Hyle, that is, not the Lord of the Woods, but the Lord or Dominator over all Material Substance*. And thus does *Pbornnitus* likewise describe the *Pan* of the other *Greeks*; not as the mere *Corporeal World*, *Senseless* and *Inanimate*, but as having a *Rational and Intellectual Principle* for the Head of it, and presiding over it, that is, for *God* and the *World* both together, as one *System*; the *World* being but the *Efflux and Emanation* of the *Deity*. The lower parts of *Pan* (saith he) were *Rough and Goatish*, because of the asperity of the Earth, but his upper parts of a *Humane Form*, because the Ether being *Rational and Intellectual*, is the *Hegemonick* of the *World*: Adding hereunto, that *Pan* was feigned to be *Lustful or Lascivious*, because of the *Multitude of Spermatick Reasons* contained in the *World*, and the continual *Mixtures and Generations* of things; to be clothed with the *Skin of a Libbard*, because of the bespangled *Heavens*, and the beautiful variety of things in the *World*; to live in a *Desart*, because of the *Singularity* of the *World*; and Lastly, to be a good *Demon*, by reason of the *περισσὴ αὐτῷ λόγῳ*, that *supreme Mind, Reason and Understanding*, that governs all in it. *Pan* therefore was not the mere *Corporeal World* *Senseless* and *Inanimate*, but the *Deity* as displaying it self therein, and pervading All things. Agreeably to which *Diodorum Siculus* determines, that *πᾶν* and *κόινον* were but two several Names for one and the same *Deity*, (as it is well known that the whole *Universe* was frequently called by the *Pagans* *Jupiter* also, as well as *Pan*.) And *Socrates* himself in *Plato* directs his *Prayer* in a most devout and serious manner, to this *Pan*, that is, not the *Corporeal World* or *Senseless Matter*, but an *Intellectual Principle* Ruling over all, or the *Supreme Deity* diffusing it self through All; he therefore distinguishing him from the *Inferiour Gods*, *ὃς φίλε πᾶν, ἔξ ἄλλοι ὅσοι τῶν θεῶν, δεῖναι μοι καλῶ γινώσκειν ταῦτα, τὰ ἔξωθεν ἢ ὅσα ἔχου τῶν εἰς τὴν εἰρήνην μοι φίλα*. *O Good (or Gracious) Pan; and ye other Gods, who preside over this place; Grant that I may be Beautiful or Fair within, and that those External things, which I have, may be such as may best agree with a right Internal disposition of mind, and that I may account him to be rich that is wise and just*: The matter of which prayer, though it be excellent, yet is it *Paganically* directed to *Pan* (that is the *Supreme God*) and the *Inferiour Gods* both together. Thus we see that as well

well according to the Greeks, as the Egyptians, the First or Supreme God, and τὸ πᾶν or the Universe, were really the same thing.

And here we cannot but by the way take notice of that famous and remarkable Story of *Plutarch's* in his defect of Oracles, concerning *Demons* lamenting the Death of the Great Pan. In the time of *Tiberius* (saith he) certain persons embarquing from *Asia* for *Italy*, towards the Evening sailed by the *Echinades*, where being becalmed, they heard from thence a loud voice calling one *Thamoni* an Egyptian Mariner amongst them, and after the third time commanding him when he came to the *Palodes*, to declare That the Great Pan was dead. He with the advice of his company resolved, that if they had a quick gale when they came to the *Palodes*, he would pass by silently, but if they should find themselves there becalmed, he would then perform what the voice had commanded: But when the ship arrived thither, there neither was any Gale of Wind nor agitation of Water. Whereupon *Thamoni* looking out of the hinder Deck, towards the *Palodes*, pronounced these words with a loud voice, ὁ μέγας πᾶν θάνατος, *The Great Pan is dead*, which he had no sooner done, but he was answered, with a Quire of many voices; making a great Howling and Lamentation, not without a certain mixture of Admiration. *Plutarch*, who gives much credit to this Relation, adds how Sollicitous *Tiberius* the Emperour was, first concerning the truth thereof, and afterwards, when he had satisfied himself therein, concerning the Interpretation; he making great Enquiry amongst his Learned men, who this *Pan* should be. But the only use which that Philosopher makes of this Story is this, to prove that Demons having Bodies as well as men, (though of a different kind from them and much more longeve) yet were notwithstanding Mortal: he endeavouring from thence to salve that *Phænomenon* of the Defect of Oracles, because the Demons who had formerly haunted those places were now dead. But this being an idle Fancy of *Plutarch's*, it is much more probably concluded, by Christian Writers; that this thing coming to pass in the Reign of *Tiberius* when our Saviour Christ was crucified, was no other than a Lamentation of Evil Demons (not without a mixture of Admiration) upon account of our Saviours Death, happening at that very time: They not mourning out of Love for him that was dead, but as sadly presaging evil to themselves from thence, as that which would threaten danger to their Kingdom of Darkness, and a Period to that Tyranny and Domination which they had so long exercised over Mankind; according to such Passages of Scripture as these, *Now is the Prince of this World judged*; and *Having spoiled Principalities and Powers* (by his Death upon the Cross) *He triumphed over them in it*. Now our Saviour Christ could not be called *Pan*, according to that Notion of the word, as taken for nothing but the *Corporeal World* devoid of all manner of Life, or else as endued only with a *Plastick Nature*; but this Appellation might very well agree to him, as *Pan* was taken for the λόγος πρῶτος τῶ καὶ ἔσχατος, that Reason and Understanding by which all things were made, and by which they are all governed, or for θεῖος διὰ παντὸς διδωσκων, that Divine Wisdom which diffuseth it self through all things.

things. Lastly, to omit other places, *Hic Sensibilis Mundus, recepta- P. 617.*
culum est omnium sensibilium specierum, qualitatum, vel corporum; quæ
omnia sine Deo vegetari non possunt: Omnia enim Deus, & à Deo Omnia,
& sine hoc, nec Fuit aliquid, nec Est, nec Erit; Omnia enim ab eo, &
in ipso, & per ipsum — Si totum animadvertes, vera ratione perdisces,
Mundum ipsum Sensibilem, & quæ in eo sunt omnia, à Superiore illo
Mundo, quasi Vestimento esse contexta: This Sensible World, is the Re-
ceptacle of all Forms, Qualities, and Bodies, all which cannot be vege-
tated and quickned without God; for God is All Things, and All things
are from God, and all things the Effect of his Will; and without God,
there neither Was any thing, nor Is, nor Shall be; but all things are
from him, and in him, and by him — And if you will consider things
after a right manner, you shall learn, that this sensible World, and all
the things therein, are covered all over, with that superiour World (or
Deity) as it were with a Garment. As for the other Trismegistick
Books of Ficinus his Edition, the Third of them called *κερὲς λόγου*,
is thus concluded, τὸ γὰρ θεῶν ἡ πᾶσα κοσμικὴ σύνταξις, φύσις ἀναδιω-
ρημένη· ὡς γὰρ τὸ θεῶν ἐκείνῳ ἐστὶν οὐρανός τε καὶ γῆ· The Divinity is the whole
Mundane Compages, or Constitution: for Nature is also placed in the
Deity. In the Fifth Book written upon this Argument, ἢ ἀφανὲς θε-
ὸς φανερώμενός ἐστι, That the Invisible God is most manifest, we read thus,
ἐδὴν γὰρ ἐστὶν ὁ πᾶσι δαίμων, ὃ οὐκ ἐστὶν αὐτός, ἐστὶν αὐτός, καὶ τὰ πάντα καὶ μὴ
εἶναι· τὰ μὲν γὰρ εἶναι φανέρας· τὰ δὲ μὴ εἶναι ἐκείνῳ· For there
is nothing in the whole World, which he is not, He is both the things
that are, and the things that are not; for the things that are, He hath
manifested, but the things that are not, He contains within himself.
And again, ἐστὶν ὁ ἀσώματος καὶ ὁ πολυσώματος· μάλλον ὃ πᾶσι σώματος
ἐστὶν ἐστὶν ὁ ἐστὶν οὐκ ἐστὶν· πᾶσι γὰρ ἔστιν, καὶ εἰς ἐστὶν καὶ διὰ τοῦτο αὐτός ὁ-
σώματος ἐκείνῳ πᾶσι, ἢ ἐνός ἐστὶν πάντες καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ἐνομαστέον ἔχει, ἢ πᾶσι
ἐστὶν πᾶσι· He is both Incorporeal and Omnicorporeal, for there is no-
thing of any Body, which he is not; He is all things that are, and
therefore he hath all Names, because all things are from one Father;
and therefore he hath no Name, because he is the Father of all things.
And in the clofe of the same Book, ὑπὲρ τίνος σε ὑμῶν, ὑπὲρ ὧν ἐπαι-
νοῦμαι, ἢ ὑπὲρ ὧν οὐκ ἐπαινοῦμαι; ὑπὲρ ὧν ἐφανερώσας, ἢ ὑπὲρ ὧν ἐκευχάς; διὰ τί
καὶ σε ὑμῶν σε; ὡς ἐμαυτῷ ὡς; ὡς ἔχων τί ἴδιον, ὡς ἄλλῳ ὡς; σὺ δὲ γὰρ οὐ
ἐἶναι· σὺ δὲ ὅ ἐν πᾶσι· σὺ δὲ ὅ ἐν λόγῳ· σὺ γὰρ πᾶσι εἶ, τὸ ἄλλο ἐδὴν οὐ
μὴ εἶ· σὺ πᾶν τὸ γινόμενον, σὺ τὸ μὴ γινόμενον· For what shall I praise
thee? for those things which thou hast made? or for those things which
thou hast not made? for those things which thou hast manifested, or for
those things which thou hast bidden and concealed within thyself? And
for what cause shall I praise thee? because I am my own, as having something
proper, and distinct from thee? Thou art whatsoever I am, thou
art whatsoever I do, or say, for thou art All things, and there is nothing
which thou art not; thou art that which is made, and thou art that
which is unmade. Where it is observable, that before things were
Made, God is said *κεκρύψεν*, to Hide them within himself; but when
they are made, *φανερεῖν*, to Manifest and reveal them from himself.
Book the Eighth, ὥσπερ ἔστι ὁ μὲν κοσμικὸς ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ, ἀρχὴ
καὶ ἀντέλεχος καὶ συνέχων πάντων ὁ θεός· Understand that the whole World
is from God, and in God; for God is the Beginning, Comprehension
K k and

τὸ ἐν ἑστίν ὁ θεός, τὸ πᾶν ὡς ἡ τὰ παῖσι, ἐστὶν ἑστίν. ὁ μὲν γὰρ ὅτι ἐστὶ μέγας, ἐστὶν ἑστίν, ὅτι ποιητής, ὅτι χῆμα, ὅτι χεῖρ· ὅτι δὲ θεὸς ἑστίν· πᾶν γὰρ ἐστὶ, τὸ ὅ πᾶν διὰ πάντων ἐστὶ πᾶσι· *This is God, the Universe or All. And in this Universe there is nothing which he is not: Wherefore there is neither Magnitude nor Place nor Quality nor Figure nor Time about God, for he is All or the Whole, (but those things belong to Parts.)* And the Arcane Cantion, though that Thirtieth Book to which it is subjoyned be supposititious, yet harps much upon this Point of the Egyptian Theology, *That God is All: ὑμῶν μάλιστα τὸ ἅπλως κτλ. ἐστὶν τὸ πᾶν, ἐστὶν ἑστίν· I am about to praise the Lord of the Creation, the All and the One. And again, All the Powers that are in me, praise the One and the All. Book the Fifteenth, ἐάν τις ὑπαρχῇ τὸ πᾶν ἐν χεῖρσι, τὸ πᾶν τῷ ἐνὶ ἐκείνῳ ἀπολεῖ τὸ πᾶν, πάντα γὰρ ἐν ὅντι δὲ· If any one go about to separate the All from the One, he will destroy the All, or the Universe, for All ought to be One. Book, the Sixteenth, ἀεξομαι τῷ λόγῳ ὑμῶν τὸ δὲ ἐν ὑπάρχοντι, τὸ ὅτι ὅλον διζῶντι, ἐν ποιῶντι, ἐν πατρί, ἐν ὅντι, ἐν πάντι· ἐστὶν ὅτι, ἐστὶν ὅτι πάντα τὰ πάντα· τὸ πάντων γὰρ τὸ πᾶν, ἐστὶν ἑστίν· I will begin with a Prayer to him, who is the Lord and Maker and Father and Bound of all things; and who being All things, is One, and being One is All things; for the fulness of All things is One and in One. And again, μέγα τὸ θεὸς πάντα ἑστίν· ὅτι ὅτι πάντα μέγα, πάντα ὅτι ὅτι· πάντα ἐν πᾶσι, ἐστὶν ὅτι· All things are Parts of God, but if all things be Parts of God, then God is All things; Wherefore He making All things, doth, as it were, make himself.*

Now by all this we see, how well these Trismegistick Books, agree with that *Ancient Egyptian Inscription*, in the Temple of *Sais*, *That God is all that Was, Is, and Shall be.* Wherefore the Egyptian Theology thus undoubtedly asserting, *One God that was All things;* it is altogether impossible that it should acknowledge a *Multitude of Self-existent, and Independent Deities.*

Hitherto we have taken notice of Two several Egyptian Names, for One and the same *Supreme Deity*; *Hammon* and *Neith*; but we shall find that besides these, the Supreme God was sometimes worshipped by the Egyptians under other Names and Notions also; as of *Isis*, *Osiris* and *Sarapis*. For first, though *Isis* have been taken by some for the *Moon*, by others for the whole *Earth*, by others for *Ceres* or *Corn*, by others for the *Land of Egypt*, (which things in what sense they were Deified by the Egyptians, will be elsewhere declared) yet was she undoubtedly taken also sometimes, for an *Universal and All-comprehending Numen*. For *Plutarch* affirms, that *Isis* and *Neith*, were really one and the same God among the Egyptians, and therefore the Temple of *Neith* or *Minerva* at *Sais*, where the forementioned Inscription was found, is called by him, *the Temple of Isis*; so that *Isis* as well as *Neith* or *Minerva* among the Egyptians, was there described, as *That God, who is All that Was, Is, and Shall be*, and whose Veil no Mortal hath ever uncovered; that is, not a particular God, but an Universal and All-comprehending *Numen*. And this may be yet further confirmed, from that *Ancient Inscription* and *Dedication* to the Goddess *Isis*, still extant at *Carna*.

TIBL
UNA. QUÆ.
E S. OMNIA.
DEA. ISIS.

Metam 1.13.

Where the Goddess *Isis* is plainly declared to be *ἑν ᾧ πάντα*, *One and All things*, that is, a *Universal and All-comprehending Deity*. And with this agreeth also that Oration of this Goddess *Isis* in *Apuleius*; *En adsum tuis, commota, Luci, precibus, rerum Natura Parens, elementorum omnium Domina, seculorum Progenies initialis: Summa numinum, Regina marinum, Prima Cælitum, Deorum Dearumque Facies uniformis; quæ cæli luminosa culmina, maris salubria flamina, inferorum deplorata silentia, nutibus meis dispenso. Cujus Numen unicum multiformi specie, ritu vario, nomine multijugo totus veneratur orbis: Behold here am I, moved by thy Prayers, Lucius, that Nature which was the Parent of things; the Mistress of all the Elements; the Beginning and Original of Ages; the Sum of all the Divine Powers; the Queen of the Seas; the First of the Celestial Inhabitants; the Uniform Face of Gods and Goddesses; which with my becks dispense the Luminous Heights of the Heavens, the wholesome Blasts of the Sea, and the deplorable silences of Hell; whose only Divine Power, the whole World worships and adores, in a Multiform manner, and under Different Rites and Names. From which words it is plain, that this Goddess *Isis*, was not the meer Animated Moon (which was rather a Symbol of her) but that she was an Universal Deity, comprehensive of the whole Nature of things; the One Supreme God, worshipped by the Pagans, under several Names, and with different Rites. And this is the plain meaning of those last words *Numen Unicum, &c.* that the whole World worshippeth one and the same Supreme God, in a multiform manner, with various Rites, and under many different Names. For besides the Several Names of the other Pagans there mentioned, the Egyptians worshipped it, under the Names of *Hammon*, *Neith*, and others that shall be afterwards declared. And thus was *Isis* again worshipped and invok'd, as the *unicum Numen*, or only Divine power, by *Apuleius* himself, in these following Words; *Tu sancta & humani generis Sospitatrix perpetua, dulcens matris afflictionem miseris tribuis, fatorum inextricabiliter contorta retrahens lina, fortune tempestates mitigas, & stellarum noxios meatus cohibes: Te Superi colunt, observant Inferi. Tu rotas orbem, lumen solem, regis mundum, calcas Tartarum. Tibi respondent sidera, gaudent numina, serviunt elementa: Tu nutu spirant flamina, &c.* Thou holy and perpetual Saviour of Mankind that art always bountiful in cherishing Mortals, and dost manifest the dear afflictions of a Mother to them in their Calamities, thou extricatest the involved threads of Fate, mitigatest the tempests of Fortune, and restrainest the noxious Influences of the Stars: the Celestial Gods worship thee, the Infernal Powers obey thee; thou rollest round the Heavens, enlightenest the Sun, governest the World, treadest upon Tartarus or Hell; the Stars obey thee, the Elements serve thee, at thy becks the winds blow, &c. Where *Isis* is plainly supposed to be an Universal *Numen* and supreme Monarch of the World. Neither may this hinder,*

hinder, that she was called a Goddess as *Neith* also was; these Pagans making their Deities to be indifferently of either Sex, Male or Female. But much more was *Osiris* taken for the Supreme Deity, whose name was sometimes said, to have signified in the Egyptian Language, *πολύφθαλμος*, that which had many Eyes, sometimes *καλὸς ἀγένης, ἢ ἀκαταπόνη*, an active and beneficent Force; (and whose Hieroglyphick was an Eye and a Scepter;) the former signifying Providence and Wisdom, and the latter Power and Majesty (as *Plutarch* tells us) Who also is thus described in *Apuleius*, *Deus Deorum magnorum potior, & majorem summus, & summorum Maximus, & Maximorum Regnator*, *Osiris: That God who is the chiefest of the Greater Gods, and the Greatest of the Chiefest, and which Reigneth over the Greatest*. Wherefore the same *Apuleius* also tells us, that *Isis* and *Osiris* were really one and the same Supreme Numen, though considered under different Notions and Worshipped with different Rites, in these words, *Quonquam connexa imo vero unica, ratio Numinis, Religionisque esset, tamen Teleta discrimen esse maximum*; though *Isis* and *Osiris* be really One and the same Divine Power, yet are their Rites and Ceremonies very different. The proper notion of *Osiris*, being thus declared by *Plutarch*, τὸ πρῶτον ἢ κυριώτατον πέντε, ὃ τ' ἀγαθὸν ταυτὲν ἐστί, that First and Highest of all Beings, which is the same with Good. Agreeably whereunto, *Jamblichus* affirmeth, ἀγαθὸν παντικὸς ὡς ὅσπερ ἐκλήθη, that God as the Cause of all Good is call'd *Osiris* by the Egyptians. Lastly, as for *Sarapis*, though *Origen* tells us, that this was a new upstart Deity, set up by *Ptolemy* in *Alexandria*: yet this God in his Oracle to *Nicoction* the King of *Cyprus*, declares himself also to be a Universal Numen, comprehending the whole World, in these words, ἕρως κοσμος καταλή, &c. to this Sence; The Starry Heaven is my Head, the Sea my Belly, my Ears are in the Ether, and the bright Light of the Sun is my clear piercing Eye. And doubtless he was worshipped by many under this Notion. For as *Philarchus* wrote thus concerning him, Σάραπης ὄνομα τῷ τῷ πᾶσι κοσμοῦ, That *Sarapis* was the Name of that God, which orders and governs the whole World; so doth *Plutarch* himself conclude, that *Osiris* and *Sarapis*, were ἕκαστος ἐνὶ θεῷ ἢ μιᾷ δυνάμει, both of them Names of One God, and the same Divine Power. Accordingly whereunto *Diodorus Siculus* determines, that these Three, *Hammon*, *Osiris* and *Sarapis*, were but different names for one and the same Deity, or Supreme God. Notwithstanding which, *Porphyrus* it seems, had a very ill conceit of that Power which manifested it self in the Temple of this God *Sarapis*, above all the other Pagan Gods, he suspecting it to be no other than the very Prince of evil Demons or Devils, τὸς δὲ πολλὰς δαίμονας ἐκ ἐνὶ ὑπὸ τῷ Σάραπιδι ὑποπλάσσειν, ὅς' ὅκα τῷ συμβάλλει μόνον ἀνακταίνετι, &c. We do not vainly or without ground suspect and conjecture, that the evil Demons, are under *Sarapis* as their Prince and Head: this appearing (saith he) not only from those Rites of Appeasment used in the Worship of this God, but also from the Symbol of him, which was a Three-headed Dog, signifying that Evil Demon, which ruleth in those Three Elements, Water, Earth, and Air. Neither indeed can it be doubted, but that it was an Evil Demon or Devil, that delivered Oracles in this Temple of *Sarapis* as well as elsewhere among the Pagans, however he affected to be worshipped as the Supreme God.

Besides

Euseb. Tr. ap
L. 4. cap. 23.

Prep. L. 3.
c. 11. p. 115.

Besides all this, *Eusebius* himself from *Porphyrus* informs us, that the Egyptians acknowledged *One Intellectual Demiurgus*, or *Maker of the World*, under the name of *Cneph*, whom they worshipped in a Statue of Humane Form, and a blackish Sky-coloured Complexion; holding in his hand a Girdle and a Scepter, and wearing upon his Head a Princely Plume, and thrusting forth an Egg out of his Mouth. The reason of which Hieroglyphick is thus given, ἐν λόγῳ δὲ Ἐνϙεφῶν ἡ κεντυμένη, ἡ δὲ φανὸς ἡ ἐν ζωπυδῶ, ἡ ἐν βασιλῶδῃ, ἡ ἐν νεφελεῖ καύεται. διὸ ἡ τῷ πνεύφῳ φῶς αὐτῇ τῇ κεφαλῇ καίται. *Because that Wisdom and Reason, by which the World was made, is not easy to be found out but hidden and obscure. And because this is the Fountain of Life and King of all things; and because it is Intellectually moved, signified by the Feathers upon his head. Moreover by the Egg thrust out of the Mouth of this God, was meant the World, created by the Eternal λόγος, and from this Cneph, was said to be Generated or Produced Another God, whom the Egyptians call Phtha and the Greeks Vulcan; of which Phtha more afterwards.* That the Egyptians were the most eminent Asserters of the *Cosmogonia* or *Temporary Beginning* of the World, hath been already declared; for which cause the Scholiast upon *Ptolemy* thus perstringeth them, ὁμοῦ ἑλέσθαι λόγον ἡρώων ἀνθρώπων καὶ κόσμου, *The Egyptians were wont to talk perpetually of the Genesis or Generation of the World.* And *Asclepius* an ancient Egyptian Writer in his *Myriogenesis*, affirms that according to the Egyptian Tradition, the Sun was made in *Libra*. But that the Egyptians did not suppose the world to have been made by Chance, as *Epicurus* and other Atheistical Philosophers did, but by an Intellectual *Demiurgus* called by them *Cneph* is evident from this Testimony of *Porphyrus*. Which *Cneph* was look'd upon by them as an *Unmade and Eternal Deity*, and for this very cause the Inhabitants of *Thebais* refused to worship any other God besides him, as *Plutarch* informs us in these words, εἰς ἃ τοῖς θεοῖς τῶν τιμαμένων ζώων, τὰς μὲν ἄλλας συντηροῦντα τὰς δὲ μὴ δίδουσι τὰς οὐκ αἰσθητὰς κατηνέσθαι, ὥς τιτὴν θεῶν εἶναι νομίζοντες, ἀλλὰ ὅν καλῶσιν αὐτοὶ Κνέφ, ἀγνώστου ὄντος καὶ ἀθάνατου. *Whilst the other Egyptians paid their proportion of Tax imposed upon them, for the nourishment of those sacred Animals, worshipped by them, the Inhabitants of Thebais only refused, because they would acknowledge no Mortal God, and worshipped him only whom they call Cneph, an Unmade and Eternal Deity.*

Scal. Emend.
Temp. l. 5. de
condit. mundi.

De Is. & Osir.

Having now made it undeniably manifest, that the Egyptians had an acknowledgement amongst them of *One Supreme Universal and Unmade Deity*, we shall conclude this whole Discourse with the Two following Observations; First that a great part of the *Egyptian Polytheism*, was really nothing else but the Worshipping of *One* and the same *Supreme God*, under many different Names and Notions, as of *Hammon*, *Neith*, *Isis*, *Osiris*, *Sarapis*, *Kneph*, to which may be added *Phtha*, and those other names in *Jamblicus*, of *Eîdon* and *Emeph*. And that the Pagans universally over the whole world did the like, was affirmed also by *Apuleius*, in that fore-cited Passage of his, *Numen Unicum, multiformi specie, ritu vario, nomine multijugo,*

scilicet

totus veneratur orbis, the Whole World worshippeth one only Supreme Numen in a multiform manner, under different names and with different Rites. Which different names for one and the same Supreme God, might therefore be mistaken by some of the foolish Vulgar amongst the Pagans, as well as they have been by learned men of these later times, for so many distinct *Unmade and Self-existent Deities*.

Nevertheless here may well be a Question started, whether amongst those several Egyptian Names of God, some might not signify distinct *Divine Hypostases* Subordinate; and particularly, whether there were not some Footsteps of a *Trinity*, to be found in the old *Egyptian Theology*? For since *Orpheus, Pythagoras and Plato*, who all of them asserted a *Trinity of Divine Hypostases*, unquestionably derived much of their Doctrine from the Egyptians, it may reasonably be suspected, that these Egyptians did the like before them. And indeed *Athanasius Kircherus* makes no doubt at all hereof, but tells us that in the Pamphylian Obelisk, that First Hieroglyphick of a *Winged Globe, with a Serpent coming out of it*, was the Egyptian Hieroglyphick of a *Triform Deity, or Trinity of Divine Hypostases*; he confirming the same, from the Testimony of *Abenephrius* an Arabian Writer, and a Chaldaick Fragment imputed to *Sanchuniathon*; the Globe being said to signify, the First Incomprehensible Deity without Beginning or End, Self-existent; the Serpent the Divine Wisdom and Creative Vertue; and lastly the Wings, that Active Spirit, that cheriseth, quickneth, and enliveneth all things. How far credit is to be given to this, we leave others to judge; but the clearest footsteps that we can find any where of an *Egyptian Trinity* is in *Jamblichus* his Book, written concerning their Mysteries; which whole place therefore is worth the setting down, κατ' ἄλλω ἢ τῇ προτάσει [ἡρμῆς] Ἰδὼν τὴν ἡμετέραν, ἥ ἐκπεργίαν διὰ τὸν ἡγούμενον, ὃν φησὶν εἶναι αὐτὸν αὐτὸ πῶτα, καὶ τὴν νύξιν εἰς αὐτὸν ὑπερέσθαι. τότε ἡ ἐν ἡμέρῃ, καὶ ὁ καιρὸς τὸ πρῶτον μετέδωκε προτάσει, ὃν καὶ εἰκόνα ἐπονομάζει, αἷον δὲ τὸ πρῶτον εἶναι πᾶσι καὶ τὸ πρῶτον πᾶσι, ὃ δὲ καὶ διὰ τοῦτο μένος διεκπύεται. ἐπὶ τὸ τότε—ὁ δημιουργικὸς νόος καὶ ἡ ἀληθεία περὶ τῆς, καὶ σοφίᾳ ἐρχόμενος μετὰ ὅτι ἡρώσει, καὶ τὴν ἀφανῆ ἥ καρυμμένην λόγον δύναμις εἰς φῶς ἔργον, ἡ μὲν καὶ τὴν ἥ ἀγνοῖαν γλῶσσαν λέγουσι, συνελθὼν ἡ ἀφ' ἑαυτοῦ ἑαυτὸν καὶ τεχνικῶς μετ' ἀληθείας τοῦ, ἑλλῶντος ἢ εἰς ἡφαιστον μεταλαμβάνει τὴν τοῦ τεχνικῶς μένον προβάλλουσαν, ἀγαθὴν ἢ πικρὴν αἰσθητικὴν κλάσει, καὶ ἄλλας δὲ ἄλλας δυνάμεις καὶ ἀνεργίας ἐκπομπὰς ἐκεί. According to another order or method, *Hermes* places the God *Emeph**, as the Prince* or *Cneph*, and Ruler over all the Celestial Gods, whom he affirmeth to be a Mind understanding himself and converting his Cogitations or Intellections into himself. Before which *Emeph**, he placeth One Indivisible, whom he* or *Cneph*, calleth *Eicton*, in which is the first Intelligible, and which is worshipped only by silence. After which Two, *Eicton* and *Emeph**, the Demiurgick* or *Cneph*, Mind and President of truth as with wisdom it proceedeth to Generations, and bringeth forth the hidden Powers of the occult Reasons into light, is called in the Egyptian Language *Ammon*; as it Artificially effects all things with truth, *Phtha* (which *Phtha* the Greeks attending only to the Artificialness thereof call *Hephestus* or *Vulcan*) as it is productive of Good, *Osiris*, besides other names that it hath according to its other Powers

Powers and Energies. In which Passage of *Jamblichus* we have plainly *Three Divine Hypostases*, or universal Principles Subordinate, according to the *Hermæick Theology* ; First an *Indivisible Unity* called *Eiðon*, Secondly a *Perfect Mind* converting its Intellections into it self, called *Emeph* or *Hemphta*, and Thirdly the immediate *Principle of Generation*, called by several names, according to its several Powers, as *Phtha*, *Ammon*, *Osiris* and the like : So that these Three Names with others, according to *Jamblichus*, did in the Egyptian Theology, signifie, one and the same Third Divine *Hypostasis*. How well these Three Divine *Hypostases* of the Egyptians, agree with the Pythagorick or Platonick Trinity, of First, τὸν or τὰγαθόν, *Unity* and *Goodness* it self, Secondly, νῦς, *Mind*, and Thirdly ψυχὴ, *Soul*, I need not here declare. Only we shall call to mind what hath been already intimated, that that Reason or Wisdom which was the *Demiurgus* of the World, and is properly the Second of the forementioned *Hypostases*, was called also amongst the Egyptians, by another name, *Cneph* ; from whom was said to have been produced or begotten the God *Phtha*, the Third *Hypostasis* of the Egyptian Trinity ; so that *Cneph* and *Emeph* are all one. Wherefore we have here plainly an Egyptian Trinity of Divine *Hypostases* Subordinate, *Eiðon*, *Emeph* (or *Cneph*) and *Phtha*. VVe know not what to add more to this of *Jamblichus*, concerning an Egyptian Trinity, unless we should insist upon those Passages which have been cited by some of the Fathers to this purpose out of *Hermæick* or *Trismegistick Books*, whereof there was one before set down out of *St. Cyril* ; or unless we should again call to mind, that Citation out of *Damascius*, μὴ τῷ ὄντι ἀρχὴ ἐκόντος ἀγνώστου ὑποκειμένου, ἢ τῷ τοῖς ἀναφανόμενον ὄντι, that according to the Egyptians, there is One Principle of all things praised under the name of the Unknown *Darkness*, and this Thrice repeated. Agreeably to which *Augustinus Steuchus* produces another Passage out of the same Philosophick *VVriter* ; that the Egyptians made, πρῶτον ἀρχὴν ἐκόντην ὑπὲρ πάντων τῶν ὄντων, ἐκόντος ἀγνώστου, τοῖς τῷ ὄντι ἀφανιζομένοις, the First Principle of all, to be *Darkness* above all Knowledge and Understanding (or Unknown *Darkness*) they Thrice repeating the same. VVhich the forementioned *Steuchus* takes to be a clear acknowledgement of a Trinity of Divine *Hypostases* in the Egyptian Theology.

Our Second Observation is this, That the Egyptian Theology as well as the Orphick (which was derived from it) asserting One Incorporeal Deity, that is All Things ; as it is evident, that it could not admit a Multitude of Self-existent and Independent Deities, so did the seeming Polytheism of these Egyptians proceed also in great measure from this Principle of theirs not rightly understood ; they being led thereby, in a certain sence, ὁμιλοῦν to Personate and Deifie the Several Parts of the World, and Things of Nature, bestowing the Names of Gods and Goddeses upon them. Not that they theretofore worshipped the Inanimate Parts of the VVorld as such, Much less Things not Substantial but meer Accidents, for so many Real, Distinct, Personal Deities ; but because conceiving that God who was All things, ought to be worshipped in All things (such especially as were most Beneficial to Mankind) they did, according to that *Aficlepian* and *Trismegistick Doctrine*

Doctrine before-mentioned, *Call God by the Name of every Thing, or Every thing by the Name of God.* And that the wiser of them very well understood that it was really *One* and the same *Simple Deity*, that was thus worshipped amongst them by piece-meal, in the several Parts of the World, and Things of Nature, and under different Names and Notions, with different Ceremonies, is thus declared by *Plutarch*, ΕΝΔΙΩΙΚΟΝ ἢ τοῖς ἑστί. καὶ ὁ Τυφὼν πολέμιος τῇ Σιῶϊ, καὶ δι' ἄγνοίαν καὶ ἀπείτῳ πειθομένῳ, καὶ διασπᾶν καὶ ἀφανίζων τὴν ἐστὶν λόγον, ὅτι ἡ θεὸς συνῆλθε καὶ συντίθηται, καὶ ἐξ ἀλλήλων τοὺς τελευμένους θεοὺς. *This is a Greek Word, which signifies Knowledge; and Typhon is the Enemy to this Goddess; who being puffed up by Ignorance and Error, doth Distract and Discrep the Holy Doctrine (of the Simple Deity) which this collect together again, and makes up into One, and thus delivers it to those who are initiated into her sacred Mysteries, in order to Deification.* In which words, *Plutarch* intimates, that the *Egyptian Fable*, of *Osiris* being Mangled and Cut in pieces by *Typhon*, did Allegorically signify the *Discription and Distraction* of the *Simple Deity*, by reason of the Weakness and Ignorance of vulgar minds (not able to comprehend it altogether at once) into several Names and Partial Notions, which yet *True Knowledge and Understanding*, that is, *Isis*, makes up whole again and unites into One.

De Is. & Os.
311.

XIX. It is well known that the Poets, though they were the *Prophets of the Pagans*, and pretending to a kind of *Divine Inspiration*, did otherwise embue the minds of the Vulgar, with a certain Sense of *Religion*, and the Notions of *Morality*, yet these notwithstanding were the grand *Depravers and Adulterators* of the *Pagan Theology*. For this they were guilty of upon several Accounts. As First, Their attributing to the Gods, in their Fables concerning them, all manner of *Humane Imperfections, Passions and Vices*. Which abuse of theirs, the wiser of the Pagans were in all ages highly sensible of and offended with, as partly appears from these *Free Passages* vented upon the Stage,

—καὶ γὰρ ὅς τις ἐστὶ βροτῶν
κακὸς πέφικται, ζημιώσῃ εἰ θεός.
Πᾶς ὃν δίκαιον, τὸς νόμους ὑμῶν βροτῶν
γεγῆσθαι, αὐτὸς ἀνομίαν ἐφελκόμενος;

Æsop. in line.

— Si quis est mortalium
Qui scelera patrat, exigunt pœnam Dei :
At nonne iniquum est, vos, suas leges quibus
Gens debet hominum, jure nullo vivere ?

To this fence : Since mortal men are punished by the Gods for transgressing their Laws, is it not unjust, that ye Gods who write these Laws, should your selves live without Law ? And again;

—οὐκ ἄνθρωπος κακῶς
λέγει δίκαιον, εἰ τὰ γὰρ θεῶν κακὰ
μυρόμενος, ἀλλὰ τὸς δὲ δίκαιοι τὰ δὲ.

LI

— Nulla

—Nulla nos posthac notet
Censura, siquando illa quæ superos decens
Imitatur homines. Culpa ad auctores redit.

Let men no longer be blamed for imitating the Evil Actions of the Gods;
for they can only be justly blamed, who teach men to do such things by
their Examples.

Secondly, the Poets were further guilty of *Depraving the Religion and Theology of the Pagans*, by their so frequently *Personating and Deifying* all the *Things of Nature*, and *Parts of the World*, and calling them by the Names of those Gods, that were suppos'd to preside over them; that is, of the several Divine Powers manifested in them. This *Plutarch* taxes the Poets with, where giving directions for young mens reading of their *VVritings*, he thus seasonably cautions against the danger of it, *τίτις ἡ ἀναγκασίαι, ἡ χρίσιμον, εἰ μὴ νομιμὴ ἐκ τῆς ποιημάτων ἀφελυθίσταται ἡ μὴ βλαβείσθαι, τί γὰρ ἴσται πᾶς τις τῆς θεῶν ἐννομασίης οἱ ποιῆται χρεῖσθαι. — χρεῖσθαι ἢ τῆς τῆς θεῶν ἐννομασίης οἱ ποιῆται, ποτὶ μὲν αὐτῶν ἐκείνων ἱκανῶς ἐμμεναι τῇ ἀνοίᾳ, ποτὶ ἢ δυνάμεις πᾶς, ὥς οἱ θεοὶ δυνάμεις εἰσι ἡ καθ' ἑαυτὰς, ὁμοῦ μὲν προσπροσέδοις.* It is very profitable and necessary if we would receive good from the *Writings* of the Poets and not hurt; that we should understand how they use the names of the Gods in different senses. Wherefore the Poets sometimes use the names of the Gods properly, as intending to signify thereby the Gods themselves, and sometimes again they use them Improperly and Equivocally, for those Powers which the Gods are the Givers and Dispensers of, or the Things which they Preside over. As for example, *Vulcane* is sometimes used by the Poets, for that God or Divine Power which presides over Fire and the Arts that operate by Fire, and sometimes again the word is taken by them for Fire itself. So *Mars* in like manner, is sometimes used for the God which presides over Military Affairs, and sometimes again it signifies nothing else but *VVar*. An instance whereof is there given by *Plutarch* out of *Sophocles*.

Τυφλὸς γὰρ, ὡ γυναικας, ἰδο' ὅραν ἄγε,
Συδὲς πρῶτον, πάντα περὶ ἑαυτῶν κακὰ.

Mars (O Mulieres) cæcus hirsuto suis
Velut ore frendens, cuncta commiscet mala.

And we might give this other instance of the same from *Virgil*,

—Furit toto Mars impius orbe.

For the God of War, that is, the Divine Providence that presides over Military Affairs, could not be called Impious or Wicked, but it is War it self that is there so styled.

Indeed we shall afterwards make it appear, that the first Original of this business, proceeded from a certain Philosophick Opinion amongst

mongst the Pagans, *That God was diffused throughout the whole World*, and was himself in a manner All Things; and therefore ought to be Worshipped in All Things; but the Poets were principally the men, who carried it on thus far, by Personating the several Inanimate Parts of the World and Things of Nature, to make such a Multitude of *distinct Gods and Goddesses of them*. Which Humour, though it were chiefly indulged by them, *ἡσαρξασκεν ὁμοῦν*, only for the delight and pleasure of the Reader, besides gratifying their own Poetick Phancies; yet was it a matter of Dangerous Consequence, as the same Plutarch gravely and soberly advizes, in his Book *de Iside*, it begetting in some gross and irrational *Superstition* (that is, in our Christian Language, *Idolatry*) and carrying others on to downright *Impiety and Atheism*. But this will be afterwards also again insisted on.

Wherefore in the next place, we shall observe that the Poets did also otherwise deprave the Theology of the Pagans, so as to make it look somewhat more *Aristocratically*, and this principally Two manner of ways; First by their speaking so much of the Gods in General and without Distinction, and attributing the Government of the Whole World to them in Common, so as if it were managed and carried on, *Communi Consilio Deorum*, by a Common Council and Republick of Gods, wherein all things were determined by a Majority of Votes, and as if their Jupiter or Supreme God were no more amongst them than a Speaker of a House of Lords or Commons, or the Chairman of a Committee. In which they did indeed attribute more to their Inferiour Deities, than according to their own Principles they ought.

And Secondly (which is the *Last Depravation* of the Pagan Theology by these Poets) by their making those that were really nothing else but several Names and Notions of one and the same Supreme Deity, according to its several Powers manifested in the World, or the different Effects produced by it; to be so many really distinct Persons and Gods; insomuch as sometimes to be at odds and variance with one another and even with Jupiter himself. This St. Basil seems to take notice of, in his Oration, *How Young men may be profited by the Writings of the Greeks*, *πολύτων δ' ἡμεῖς θεῶν πὶ διαλεγόμεθα* (πομπταῖς) *προσέξομεν, καὶ μέμνησθ' ὕμιν, ὡς θεῶν πολλῶν πὶ αὐτῶν διεξίωμεν, καὶ τούτων ὁδὴ διακρίνομεν*. But least of all will we give credit to the Poets, where they discourse concerning the Gods, and speak of them as Many (Distinct and Independent) Persons, and that not agreeing amongst themselves neither, but siding several ways, and perpetually quarrelling with one another.

Notwithstanding all which Extravagancies and Miscarriages of the Poets, we shall now make it plainly to appear, that they really asserted, not a Multitude of *self-existent and Independent Deities*; but *One only Unmade Deity*, and all the other, Generated or Created Gods. This hath been already proved concerning *Orpheus* from such Fragments of the Orphick Poems, as have been owned and attested by Pagan Writers: but it would be further evident, might we

give credit to any of those other Orphick Verses, that are found cited by Christians and Jews only (and we cannot reasonably conclude all these to be counterfeit and supposititious) amongst which we have this for one,

εἷς ἰς αὐτοφύους, ἐνδ' ἔργου πάντα τέτυκται,

There is One only Unmade God, and all other Gods and Things, are the Off-spring of this One. Moreover when God in the same Orphick Fragments, is stiled μήτερ-πάτωρ, both Father and Mother of all things (accordingly as it was observed before) that both the Orphick and Egyptian Theology, made the Supreme Deity especially, to be ἀρσενό-διδύμω, Hermaphroditical, or Male and Female together; This, as Clemens Alexandrinus rightly interprets the meaning of it, was to signify, τῶν ὅλων μὴ ὄντων γένεσιν, the Production of things out of nothing or from the Deity alone, without any Preexistent or Self-existent Matter.

But we shall pass from Orpheus to Homer. Now it is certain that Homer's Gods, were not all *Eternal, Unmade and Self-existent*, he plainly declaring the contrary concerning the Gods in general; that they had a *Genesis*, that is, a *Temporary Production*, as in that forecited Verse of his

Ἰθάκῃσι τε θείῃσι γένεσιν, &c.

The Ocean from whence the Gods were Generated, Where by Gods are meant all the Animated parts of the world superiour to men, but principally (as Eustathius observes) the Stars, θείων ἀπὸ ἀστέων, Gods (saith he) are here put for Stars. And as the same Philologer further adds, the Gods or Stars, do by a Synecdoche signify All Things, or the Whole World, ἀπὸ τοῦ πάντων ὡς ἀπὸ μέρους, a Part being put for the Whole, accordingly as the same Poet elsewhere declares his sense, speaking likewise of the Ocean,

ὅς γ' ἦν ἄρ' ἀπ' αὐτοῦ πάντας τιτυκται,

Which was the Original of all things, or from whence (not only the Gods but also) all other things were Generated. Wherefore the full meaning of Homer was this, That the Gods or Stars, together with this whole Visible World, had a Temporary Production, and were at first made out of the Ocean, that is, out of the Watry Chaos. So that Homer's Theogonia as well as Hesiod's, was one and the same thing with the Cosmogonia, his Generation of Gods, the same with the Generation or Creation of the World, both of them having in all probability derived it from the Mosaisk Cabala, or Tradition. And Eustathius tells us, that, according to the Ancients, Homer's ἀσπερσιπύλα, described Il. σ. was ὠκυμένη ἢ κοσμογενέας, an obscure signification of the Cosmogonia or Cosmogonia.

Nevertheless though εἰ θεοὶ or the Gods in general, be by Homer, thus

thus generated from the Ocean or Watry *Chaos*, yet this is to be understood only of the *Inferiour Gods*, and He is supposed to be distinguished from them, who in the same Poet is frequently called, ὁ Σείας κατ' ἐξοχῆν, *God by way of eminency* (to whom he plainly ascribes Omnipotence) and Ζεύς or *Jupiter*, whom he stileth καλεισθαι ἀπάντων, *the most powerful of all*, and πρῶτον Σείαν, *the First and Chiefest of the Gods*, and ὑπαίον Σείαν and κρείσσαν, *the Highest of Gods and Governours*, and whom he affirmeth infinitely to transcend the Gods, *Il. 6.*

Τόσσον ἰσθὶν ὀΐει τ' ἐπὶ Σείαν, ὀΐει τ' ἐμ' ἀνθρώπων.

And to reign as well over Gods as Men, *Il. α.*

— ἕς τε Σείας Ζεῦ ἀνθρώπων ἀνάσσει.

Lastly, whom he maketh to be πατήρ Σείαν, *the Father of the Gods as well as Men*, that is, nothing less than the Creatour of them and the whole World. He therefore who thus produced the Gods and Stars, out of the Ocean or Watry *Chaos*, must needs be excluded out of that number of Gods, so as not to have been himself Generated or made out of it. Thus have we before observed, that οἱ Σείοι, or *the Gods* in general, are frequently taken, both by *Homer* and other Greek Writers, in way of distinction from ὁ Σείας or *Jupiter*, that is, for the *Inferiour Gods* only.

It is true indeed that others of the Pagan Gods besides *Jupiter*, were by the Latins in their solemn Rites and Prayers, stiled *Patres*, *Fathers*; and as *Jupiter* is nothing else but *Jovis Pater*, contracted into one word, so was *Mars* called by them *Marspiter*, and *Saturnus*, *Janus*, *Neptunus* and *Liber* had the like addition also made to their names, *Saturnuspater*, *Januspater*, *Neptunuspater*, *Liberpater*; and not only so, but even their very *Heroes* also (as for example, *Quirinus*) had this honourable title of *Father* bestowed on them, All which appeareth from those Verses of *Lucilius*,

Ut nemo sis nostrum quin aut Pater Optimus Divum,
Aut Neptunus Pater, Liber, Saturnus Pater, Mars,
Janus, Quirinus Pater nomen dicatur ad unum

Notwithstanding which, here is a great difference to be observed, that though those other Gods were called *Fathers*, yet none of them was ever called, either by the Greeks, πατήρ Σείαν, or by the Latins, *Pater Optimus Divum*, save only Ζεύς or *Jupiter*, the Supreme Deity.

And that *Homer* was thus generally understood by the Pagans themselves to have asserted a *Divine Monarchy*, or One Supreme Deity ruling over All, may further appear from these following Citations. *Plutarch* in his *Platonick Questions*, εἰς τὴν περὶ τῆς Διὸς ὑπαίον καλεῖται, πρῶτον ὃ ὀμνέει τὴν ἀρχαίαν ἀρχαίαν Σείαν, ὑπαίον κρείσσαν προσέπει. *Zenocrates* called *Jupiter*, *Hypáton*, or *the Highest*, but before him *Homer* stiled that God, who is the Prince of all Princes, ὑπαίον κρείσσαν, *the Highest*

- Highest of Rulers or Governors.* Again the same *Plutarch de Iside & Osiride*, τὸν ὃς ὄνομα αὐτοῦ πάντων ἐφελαμὸς καὶ ἐκείνην γαστέρα, ὡς τὸ μὲν τῷ πρῶτον ἐμφανέει, τὸ δὲ τῷ δευτέρῳ· ὡς Ὀμμερ· ἡ ἀρχὴ καὶ βασιλεύουσα πάντων τῶν ὑπᾶντων καὶ μύστες καλῶν, ἵστα τῇ μὲν ὑπᾶντι τὴν κερτὶς αὐτῆς, τῇ δὲ μύστες τῷ δευτέρῳ καὶ τῷ πρῶτῳ σημαίνει· *The Egyptians when they described Osiris by those Hieroglyphicks of an Eye and a Scepter, did by the former of them signifie Providence, and by the latter Power, as Homer when he calls that Ζῆς or Jupiter, who ruleth and reigneth over all things, ὑπᾶντων καὶ μύστες, seems by the word ὑπᾶντων, to denote his Power and Sovereignty, but by μύστες his Wisdom and Knowledge.* To *Plutarch* may be added *Proclus*, who upon *Plato's Timæus*, having proved that according to that Philosopher, there was τὸ μόνον παῖς ἐς καὶ ὅλην δημιουργίαν, *One only Maker of the whole World*, affirms the same likewise of that Divine Poet *Homer* (as he there styles him) ἐς καὶ διὰ πόδας πάντας ὑπᾶντων κερδόντων καὶ πάντες ἀνδρῶν καὶ θεῶν αὐτῷ ἀνιμῶν, καὶ πάντα δημιουργοῖς τοῖς δημιουργοῖς νομῶσαν· *That he also throughout all his Poësie, praises Jupiter, as the Highest of all Rulers, and the Father both of Gods and Men, and attributes all Demingical Notions to him.* Whereupon he concludes in this manner, ὅτι πάντων συμπάσαι τῷ ἐλλωκῷ θεολογίαν ἀπεφύλακτο, τῷ δὲ τῷ ὅλῳ δημιουργίαν ἀνυμῶσαν· *And thus we have made it manifest, that all the Greekish Theology, universally ascribes to Ζῆς or Jupiter, the Making of all things.* Lastly, *Aristotle* himself confirmeth the same with his Testimony, where he writes of the Paternal Authority after this manner, ἡ τῆς τέκνων ἀρχὴ βασιλική· διὸ καλῶς Ὀμμερ· ἡ δὲ ἀπὸ προγενέσσω ἐπῶν,

————— Πάτερ ἀνδρῶν τι θεῶν τι,

ἡ βασιλεία τότε πάντων· φεῖ δὲ ἡ βασιλεία διαφέρει μὲν δὲ, τῇ γὰρ δ' αὖτις ἡ αὐτῇ· ὅθ' ἐπὶ πᾶσι τὸ προεστίειν πρὸς τὸ πάτριον, καὶ ὁ γένεσις πρὸς τὸ τέκνον· *The Paternal Power or Authority over Children, is a Kingly Authority: Wherefore Homer when he intended to set forth Jupiter's Kingly Power over all, very well called him the Father of Men and Gods.* For he that is a King by Nature, ought both to differ from those that he reigneth over, and also to be of the same kind with them; as the Senior is to the Junior, and he that Begetteth to his Off-spring. Where *Aristotle's* sense seems to be this, That *Jupiter* had therefore a Natural and not acquired Kingly Power over all the Gods, because they were all his Off-spring and Begotten by him, as well as Men. In which Passage therefore *Aristotle* plainly acquits and frees *Homer* from all suspicion of Atheism.

As for *Hesiod*, if we had not already sufficiently prov'd from his *Theogonia*, that all his Gods (that is his Inferiour Deities) were *Generated and Made*, as well as Men, it might be made unquestionably evident, from this Verse of his in his *Opera*,

ὅς ἐμθεν γέγονα θεοὶ ἔνθα τ' ἀνθρώποι,

When the Gods and Mortal men, were both together, alike made or Generated

nerated. Where the word *ὁμόθεν* is thus interpreted by the Greek Scholiasts, ἀπὸ τοῦ αὐτοῦ ἔξω and ἐκ τοῦ αὐτοῦ ἔξω, i. e. *The Gods and Men, were both alike made from the same Root or Stock.* And though it followeth immediatly after,

χρῆσται μὲν πρότερον θεῶν μετ' ὅταν ἀνθρώπων
Ἀδάταται ποίησαν, ὁλομνη δὲ μοῖα ἔχουσιν.

That first of all a Golden Age of men was made by the Immortal Gods; Yet Moschopolus there notes, Ἀδάταται ποίησαν, ὁ Ζεὺς μόνος ἐποίησεν, ἐκ ἀπὸ τοῦ ἄλλων φάνεσθαι γίνεται. Μὴν ὅτι πάσαι τὰς θεῶν, τὸ τῷ ἐνὶ ἐργον ἐστὶ πάσαι τὰς ὁμοειδῆς ἀνατίθεν. The Immortal Gods made; the true meaning (saith he) is, that Jupiter alone made, this First golden Age of Men; as may be proved from other places in the same Poet; and though he speak of the Gods in general yet doth he but transfer that, which was the work of One upon all of the like kind. And there are several other Instances, of this Poet's using θεοὶ for θεῶν, Gods for God. But it is possible that Hesiod's meaning might be the same with Plato's, that though the Inferiour Mundane Gods were all made at first by the Supreme God, as well as Men, yet they being made something sooner than Men, did afterwards contribute also to the Making of men.

But Hesiod's *Theogonia* or *Generation of Gods*, is not to be understood universally neither, but only of the *Inferiour Gods*, that Ζεὺς or Jupiter being to be excepted out of the number of them, whom the same Hesiod as well as Homer, makes to be the Father of Gods, as also the King of them, in these words,

Αὐτὸς γὰρ πάντων βασιλεὺς καὶ κόρυμβος ἐστίν
Ἀθανῶν.

And attributes the Creation of all things to him, as Proclus writeth upon this place,

Ὅτι περὶ ἀπὸ θεῶν ἀνθρώποις ἔμας, &c.

By whom all Mortal men are, δι' ὧν πάντα, καὶ ἐκ αὐτομάτης. πάντα τὰς αὐτὴν περὶ ἀπὸ ἀνάγκης, by whom all things are, and not by chance; the Poet by a Synecdoche, here ascribing the making of all to Jupiter. Wherefore Hesiod's Theogonia is to be understood of the Inferiour Gods only, and not of Ζεὺς or Jupiter, who was the Father and Maker of them (though out of a Watery Chaos) and himself therefore αὐτοφύς, self-existent or Unmade.

In like manner, that Pindar's Gods were not Eternal, but Made or Generated, is plainly declared by him in these words,

Ἐν ἀνθρώποις, ἐν θεῶν ἔξω, ἐκ
μοῖας ὅτι πᾶσι
ματρὸς ἀμφότεροι.

Non pl. 6.

Unum

*Unum Hominum, Unum Deorum genus,
Et ex Una spiramus
Matre utriusque.*

There is one kind both of Gods and Men, and we both breath from the same Mother, or spring from the same Original. Where by the common Mother both of Gods and Men, the Scholiast understands the Earth and Chaos, taking the Gods here for the Inferiour Deities only, and principally the Stars.

This of *Pindar's* therefore is to be understood, of all the other Gods, That they were made as well as men out of the Earth or *Chaos*, but not of that Supreme Deity, whom the same *Pindar* elsewhere calls, *θεῶν κρατίστην*, the most Powerful of the Gods, and *τὸ πάντων κέλευον*, the Lord of all things, and *παντὶ δέσπον*, the Cause of every thing, and *ἀεὶ ἐστὶν ὁ θεὸς*, that God who is the best Artificer, or was the Fram-
mer of the whole World, and as *Clement Alexandrinus* tells us, *τὸ πᾶν*, or the Universe. Which God also, according to *Pindar*, *Cheiron* instructed *Achilles* to worship principally, above all the other Gods.

Pyth. Od. 6.

— μεγαλίστη μὲν Κρονίῳ
βασιλευσάν, σε σπᾶν καρυμένῳ τεύχεσσιν,
θεῶν σέβεται.

The fence of which words is thus declared by the Scholiast, *ἐκείνου τὸς τὴν μεγαλίστην ἀρετὴν καὶ καρυμένῳ διὰ τὸ πᾶν δαίᾳ, ὡς τὰς ἄλλας θεὰς τιμᾶν καὶ σέβεται*. That he should honour and worship the Loud-sounding Jupiter, the Lord of Thunder and Lightning, transcendently above all the other Gods. Which by the way confutes the Opinion of those who contend, that the Supreme God, as such, was not at all Worshipped by the Pagans.

However this is certain concerning these Three, *Homer*, *Hesiod* and *Pindar*; that they must of necessity either have been all absolute Atheists, in acknowledging no Eternal Deity at all, but making senseless *Chaos*, Night and the Ocean, the Original of all their Gods without exception, and therefore of *Jupiter* himself too, that King and Father of them, or else assert One only Eternal Unmade-Self-existent Deity; so as that all the other Gods were Generated or Created by that One. Which latter doubtless was their genuine fence; and the only reason why *Aristotle* and *Plato* might possibly sometime have a suspicion of the contrary, seems to have been this, their not understanding that *Mosaic Cabbala*, which both *Hesiod* and *Homer* followed, of the World's, that is, both Heaven and Earth's, being made at first out of a Watery *Chaos*; for thus is the Tradition declared by *St. Peter*, *Ep. 2. Ch. 3.*

There might be several remarkable Passages to the same purpose, produced out of those two *Tragick Poets*, *Aeschylus* and *Sophocles*; which yet because they have been already cited, by *Justin Martyr*,
Clement

Clemens Alexandrinus, and others; to avoid unnecessary tediousness, we shall here pass by. Only we think fit to observe concerning that one famous Passage of *Sophocles*,

Εἰς ταῖς ἀλυσήματα, εἰς ἔστι θεός,
ὅς ἔργον τ' ἔταξε καὶ γαῖαν μηχανεῖν,
πῶς τι χεῖρεσσιν οἰόμεναι βίαν, δεῖ:

*Unus profecto, Unus est iantum Deus,
Cæli solique machinam qui condidit,
Vadamque Ponti cœrulum, & vim Spiritus, &c.*

There is in truth, One only God, who made Heaven and Earth, the Sea, Air and Winds, &c. After which followeth also, something against Image-worship; That though this be such as might well become a Christian, and be no where now to be found in those extant Tragedies of this Poet (many whereof have been lost) yet the sincerity thereof, cannot reasonably be at all suspected by us, it having been cited by so many of the Ancient Fathers in their Writings against the Pagans, as particularly, *Justin Martyr*, *Athenagoras*, *Clemens Alexandrinus*, *Justin Martyr*, *Eusebius*, *Cyril* and *Theodoret*; of which number, *Clemens* tells us, that it was attested likewise, by that ancient Pagan Historiographer *Hecateus*. But there are so many Places to our purpose, in *Euripides*, that we cannot omit them all; In his *Suppliants* we have this, wherein all mens Absolute Dependence upon *Jupiter*, or one Supreme Deity, is fully acknowledged,

ὦ Ζεῦ, τί ὄντα τὸς παλαιώτερος βροτῶν
φρονέει λόγῳ, ὃς γὰρ ἀνετήμηκτα,
ἀεὶ μὲν περ τοιαῦτ', ἂν σὺ τυγχάνης θεῶν.

*Miseros quid Homines, O Deum Rex & Pater,
Sapere arbitramur? Pendet è nunc tuo
Res nostra, facimusque illa quæ visum tibi.*

We have also this excellent Prayer to the Supreme Governour of Heaven and Earth, cited out of the same Tragedian,

Σοὶ γὰρ πάντα μεθόντι χολῶ,
πίλατον τι φέρω Ζεὺς ἔστ' Ἀΐδης
Ὀμομαδόμενοι σέβεις·
ἐν γὰρ αὖ τι θεοῖς τίς ἑραϊόαις,
σκηπτεῖν τὸ Διὸς μέγα χειρὶ ζών,
χρυσέων δ' ἄθρημα ματῆχαις ἀρχῆς·
πύμψον μὲν φῶς νεχῶν ἀνέων
τοῖς βροτομένοισι ἄλλως προμαθεῖν
πρόθην ἔβλαπεν, τίς ἔβλα κακῶν,
τίμν δ' αὖ μοχλεῖται δὲ θυσιαμένης
εὐρεῖν μόχθῳ ἀπάπαιλαν·

*Tibi (Cunctorum Domino) Vinnus,
M m*

Salsamque

*Salsamque Molam fero, seu Ditis,
 Tu, five Jovis nomine gaudes :
 Tu namque Deos Superos inter,
 Sceptrum trañas Sublime Jovis ;
 Idem Regnum Tereſtre tenes.
 Tu Lucem animis infunde Virūm,
 Qui ſcire volunt, quo ſata Mentis
 Luce ſit ortu, Quæ Cauſa Mali ;
 Cui Celicolūm riſe litando
 Requiem ſit habere laborum.*

Where we may obſerve that Ζεύς and "Αδης, Jupiter and Pluto, are both of them ſuppoſed to be Names, equally belonging to One and the ſame Supreme God. And the Sum of the Prayer is this, *That God would infuſe Light into the Souls of men, whereby they might be enabled to know, What is the Root, from whence all their Evils ſpring, and by what means they may avoid them.*

Laſtly, there is another Devotional Paſſage, cited out of Euripides, which contains alſo a clear acknowledgment of One Self-exiſtent Being, that comprehends and governs the whole World,

Σὺ τ' αὐτοφύη, τ' αὖ ἀδύτης
 ῥέμω, πάντων φύων ἐμπλήρης,
 "Οὐ πύρι μὲν φῶς, πύρι δ' ἑρπυαία
 Νῦν αἰαλόχρους ἀμειβόμενα
 "Οχλῶ ἐνδύεχας ἀμυχανόμην.

*Thou Self-ſprung Being, that do'ſt All Enfold,
 And in thine Arms, Heav'n's Whirling Fabrick bold !
 Who art Encircled with reſplendent Light,
 And yet thy'ſelf Mantled o're in Shady Night !
 About whom, the Exultant Starry Fires,
 Dance nimbly round, in Everlaſting Gyres.*

For this ſence of the Second and Third Verſes, which we think the Words will bear, and which agrees with that Orphick Paſſage

———— πύρι γὰρ τέφρῃ ἐπέριπται,

That God being in himſelf a moſt bright and dazeling Light, is reſpectively to us, and by reaſon of the Weakneſs of our Underſtanding, covered over with a Thick Cloud ; as alſo with that in the Scripture, Clouds and Darkneſs are round about him ; I ſay, this ſence, we choſe rather to follow, as more Rich and Auguſt, than that other Vulgar one, though Grammatically and Poetically good alſo ; That ſucceſſive Day and Night, together with a Numberleſs Multitude of Stars, perpetually dance round about the Deity.

Ariſtophanes in the very beginning of his *Plutus* diſtinguiſbeth betwixt Ζεύς and Διοί, Jupiter and the Gods,

ἄς ἀρχαίος πρῶτον· δεῖ ὦ Ζεῦ ἡ θεοί, &c.

And we have this clear Testimony of *Terpander* cited by *Clement Alexandrinus*, Ζεῦ πάντων ἀρχῆς, Ζεῦ πάντων ἀρχαίος, *Thou Jupiter who art the Original of all things, Thou Jupiter who art the Governour of all.* And these following Verses are attributed to *Menander*.

Τὸν οὐκ᾽ πάντων κέρον ἡμεκτάτος
καὶ πατὴρ, τῶτον διατέλλει τιμῶν μέτρον,
ἡγαθὸν τοιούτων δίδωμι ἡ κτίσας.

*Reerum universarum Imperatorem & Patrem,
Solum perpetuo colere suppliciter decet,
Artificem tanta & Largitorem copiae.*

Where men are exhorted to Worship the Supreme God only, as the sole Author of all Good, or at least transcendently above all the other Gods. There are also Two remarkable Testimonies, one of *Hermesianax* an ancient Greek Poet, and another of *Aratus*, to the same purpose; which shall both be referred for other places.

Wherefore we pass from the Greek to the Latin Poets, where *Ennius* first appears, deriving the Gods in General (who were all the Inferiour Deities) from *Erebus* and *Night*, as supposing them all to have been *Made* or *Generated* out of *Chaos*, nevertheless acknowledging One who was

—Divūque Homīnumque Pater, Rex,

both *Father and King of Gods and Men*, that is, the Maker or Creator of the whole World, who therefore made those Gods together with the World out of *Chaos*, himself being *Unmade*.

Plautus in like manner sometimes distinguisheth betwixt *Jupiter* and the Gods, and plainly acknowledgeth One Omniscient Deity,

Est profecto Deus, qui quae nos gerimus, auditque & videt.

*Cap. AII: 2.
Sc. 2.*

Which Passage very much resembles that of *Manlius Torquatus* in *Livy*, *Est Caeliste Numen, Es Magne Jupiter*; a strong Asseveration of One Supreme and Universal Deity. And the same *Plautus* in his *Rudens* clearly asserts one Supreme Monarch and Emperor over All, whom the Inferiour Gods are subservient to,

*Qui Gentes omnes Mariaque & Terras movet,
Ejus sum Civis civitate Caelitum;
Qui est Imperator Divūm atque Homīnum Jupiter,
Is nos per gentes alium aliā disparat,
Homīnum qui facta, mores, pietatem & fidem
Noscamus.*—

*Qui falsos lites falsis testimoniis
Petunt, quique in jure abjurant pecuniam,
Ecum referimus nomina exscripta ad Jovem.
Cotidie Ille scit, quis hic querat malum.
Iterum Ille eam rem judicatam judicat.
Bonos in aliis tabulis exscriptor habes.
Atque hoc scelesti illi in animum inducunt suum
Jovem se placare posse donis, hostiis;
Sed operam & sumptum perdunt, quia
Nihil Ei acceptum est à perjuris supplicii.*

Where Jupiter the Supreme Monarch of Gods and Men, is said to appoint other Inferiour Gods under him, over all the parts of the Earth, to observe the Actions, Manners and Behaviours of men every where; and to return the names both of bad and good to him. Which Jupiter judges over again all unjust Judgments, rendering a righteous retribution to all. And though wicked men conceit that he may be bribed with sacrifices, yet no worship is acceptable to him from the Perjurions. Notwithstanding which, this Poet afterwards jumbles the Supreme and Inferiour Gods all together, after the usual manner, under that one general name of Gods, because they are all supposed to be Co-governours of the World;

*Facilius, siqui pius est, à Diis supplicans,
Quam qui scelestus est, inveniet veniam sibi.*

*Pan. Alit. 5.
Sc. 4.*

Again the same Poet elsewhere brings in Hanno the Carthaginian, with this form of Prayer addressing himself to Jupiter or the Supreme God,

*Jupiter, qui genus colis alisque Hominum, per quem vivimus
Vitale ævum; quem penes spes, vitæque sunt Hominum Omnium,
Da diem hunc sospitem, queso, rebus meæ agundis.*

In the next place, we have these Verses of Valerius Soranus, an ancient and eminent Poet, full to the purpose, recorded by Varro,

*Jupiter Omnipotens, Regum Rex ipse Deumque,
Progenitor Genitrixque Deum; Deus UNUS & OMNIS.*

To this sence: Omnipotent Jupiter, the King of Kings and Gods, and the Progenitor and Genitrix, the both Father and Mother of those Gods; One God and all Gods. Where the Supreme and Omnipotent Deity is stiled Progenitor & Genitrix Deorum, after the same manner as he was called in the Orphick Theology *πρωτογονος* and *ἀρχέγονος*, that expression denoting the Gods and all other Things, to have been produced from him alone, and without any prexistent matter. Moreover according to the tenour of this Ethnick Theology, that One God was All Gods and Every God, the Pagans supposed, that when ever any Inferiour Deity was worshipped by them, the Supreme was therein also at once worshipped and honoured.

Though

Though the sence of *Ovid* hath been sufficiently declared before, yet we cannot well omit some other Passages of his, as that grateful and sensible acknowledgment,

*Quod loquor & spiro, Cælumque & lumina Solis
Aspicio (possumne ingratus & immemor esse ?)
Ipse dedit.*

And this in the Third of his *Metamorph.*

*Ille Pater Rectorque Deum, cui Dextra trifidus
Ignibus armata est, qui Nutu concutit Orbem.*

Virgil's Theology also may sufficiently appear from his frequent acknowledgment of an Omnipotent Deity, and from those Verses of his before cited out of *Æn.* 6. wherein he plainly asserts One God to be the Original of all things, at least as a *Soul of the World*; *Servius* *Honoratus* there paraphrasing thus, *Dens est quidam Divinus Spiritus, qui per quatuor fusus elementa, gignit universa, God is a certain Spirit, which infused through the Four Elements, begetteth all things.* Nevertheless, we shall add from him this also of *Venus* her Prayer to *Jupiter*, *Æn.* 1.

——— *O qui res Hominumque Deumque,
Æternis regis imperiis, & fulmine terres!*

Which *Venus* again, *Æn.* 10. bespeaks the same *Jupiter* after this manner,

O Pater, O Hominum Divumque Æterna Potestas!

Where we have this Annotation of *Servius*, *Divumque Æterna Potestas, propter aliorum Numinum discretionem, Jupiter is here called the Eternal Power of the Gods, to distinguish him from all the other Gods that were not Eternal, but Made or Generated from him.*

Neither ought *Horace* to be left out, in whom we read to the same purpose, *Lib.* 1. *Od.* 12.

*Quid prius dicam solitis Parentis
Laudibus? Qui res Hominum & Deorum,
Qui Mare & Terras, variisque mundum
Temperat horis.*

*Unde nil majus generatur ipso,
Nec viget quicquam simile aut secundum;
Proximos illi tamen occupavit*

Pallas honores:

And again, *Lib.* 3. *Od.* 4.

Qui Terram inertem, qui mare Temperat

Ventosum

*Ventosum, & Urbes, Regnaque Tristia ;
 Divosque, Mortalesque turmas,
 Imperio regit VNUS æquo.*

Where from those words of *Horace*, *Solitis Parentis Laudibus*, it appears that the One Supreme Deity, the Parent and Maker of all things, was then wont to be celebrated by the Pagans as such, above all the other Gods. And whereas those Pagans vulgarly ascribed the Government of the Seas particularly to *Neptune*, of the Earth and *Hades* or *Inferi* (which are here called *Tristia Regna*) to *Pluto*, these being here attributed by *Horace* to One and the same Supreme and Universal Deity, it may well be concluded from thence, that *Jupiter*, *Neptune*, and *Pluto*, were but Three several Names or Notions, of One Supreme *Numen*, whose sovereignty notwithstanding was chiefly signified by *Jupiter*. Which same is to be said of *Pallas* or *Minerva* too, that signifying the Eternal Wisdom, that it was but another name of God also, though look'd upon as inferiour to that of *Jupiter* and next in dignity to it: unless we should conclude it to be a Second Divine *Hypostasis*, according to the Doctrine of the Pythagoreans and Platonists (probably not unknown to *Horace*) as also to that Scripture *Cabbala*, *I was set up from everlasting, or ever the Earth was, when there were no Depths, I was brought forth, &c.* But of this more afterwards.

Lastly, we shall conclude with *Manilius* who lived in the same Augustean age, and was a zealous opposer of that Atheistical Hypothesis of *Epicurus* and *Lucretius*, as appears from these Verses of his,

*Quis credat tantas operum sine Numine Moles,
 Ex Minimis cæcæque creatum sedere mundum?*

Wherefore he also plainly asserts One Supreme Deity the Framer and Governour of the whole World in this manner, *Lib. 2.*

*Namque canam tacitâ Naturam mente potentem,
 Insusumque Deum Cælo, Terrisque, Fretisque,
 Ingentem æquali moderantem sedere molem,
 Totumque æterno consensu vivere mundum,
 Et rationis agi motu ; quum SPIRITUS VNUS
 Per cunctas habitet partes, atque irriget Orbem,
 Omnia pervolitans, Corpusq; Animale figuret, &c.*

And again,

*Hoc opus immensæ constructum corpore mundi,
 Vis Anima Divina regit, Sæcæque Meatu,
 Conspirat Deus, & tacita ratione gubernat.*

And, *Lib. 4.*

*— Faciem Cæli non invidet Orbi
 Ipse Deus, vultusque suos, corpusque recludit,*

Semper

*Semper voluendo, seq; ipsum inculcat & offert ;
 Ut bene cognosci possit, monstretque videndo
 Qualis eat, doceatque suas attendere Leges.
 Ipse vocat nostros animos ad Sydera Mundi,
 Nec patitur, quia non condit, sua jura latere.*

Where notwithstanding, we confess, that the whole *Animated World*, or rather the *Soul* thereof, is, according to the Stoical Doctrine; made by *Manilius* to be the Supreme *Numen*.

XX. We now pass from the *Poets* of the Pagans to their *Philosophers*. A Modern Writer concerning the *Religion of the Gentiles*, affirmeth this to have been the Opinion of very eminent Philosophers, *That even all the Minor Gods of the Pagans, did exist of themselves from Eternity Unmade, they giving many reasons for the same.* But how far from truth this is, will (as we conceive) appear sufficiently, from the Sequel of this Discourse. And we cannot conclude otherwise but that this Learned Writer, did mistake that Opinion of *Aristotle* and the latter Platonists, concerning the *Eternity of the World and Gods*, as if they had therefore asserted the *Self-existence* of them; the contrary whereunto hath been already manifested. Wherefore we shall now make it unquestionably evident by a Particular Enumeration, That the Generality of the Pagan Philosophers who were Theists, however they acknowledged a Multiplicity of Gods, yet asserted *One only Self-existent Deity*, or a *Universal Numen*, by whom the World and all those other Gods were Made. There being only some few Ditheists to be excepted, (such as *Plutarch* and *Atticus*) who out of a certain Softness and Tenderness of Nature, that they might free the *One Good God*, from the Imputation of Evils, would needs set up besides him, an *Evil Soul* or *Demon* also in the World *Self-existent*, to bear all the blame of them.

And indeed *Epicurus* is the only Person that we can find, amongst the reputed Philosophers; who though pretending to acknowledge Gods, yet professedly opposed *Monarchy*, and verbally asserted a Multitude of Eternal Unmade Self-existent Deities: but such, as had nothing at all to do either with the Making or Governing of the World. The reason whereof was, because he would by no means admit the World to have been made by any Mind or Understanding. Wherefore he concluded,

Naturam Æternam, hand Divinâ Mente Coortam,

Lucr. l. 3.

That there was no God the δημιουργός or Framer of the World. But nevertheless that he might decline the *Odium* of being accounted an Atheist, he pretended to assert a *Multitude of Gods Unmade and Incorruptible*, such as were unconcerned in the Fabrick of the World. Wherein first it is evident, that he was not serious and sincere, because he really admitting no other Principles of things in his Philosophy, besides *Atoms* and *Vacuum*, agreeably thereunto, could acknowledge no other Gods, than such as were compounded out of
Atoms

Lib. 4. cont. C.
p. 169.

Atoms, and therefore Corruptible. And thus does *Origen* declare the Doctrine of *Epicurus*, not indeed as he pretended to hold it, but as according to the tenor of his Principles, he must have held it, had he really asserted any Gods at all, οἱ τῶ Ἐπικούρου θεοὶ, συνίσταται ἔξ ατόμων πυρρῆσιν, καὶ τὸ ὅσον ἔστι τῇ συνολῇ ἀναλυτοί, πραγματεύονται τὰς φθοροποιὰς ἀθῆνας ἀποσώζουσι, *Epicurus his Gods being compounded of Atoms, and therefore by their very constitution Corruptible, are in continual Labour and toyl, struggling with their Corruptive Principles.* Nevertheless if *Epicurus* had in good earnest asserted such a *Commonwealth of Gods*, as was neither Made out of Atoms, nor yet Corruptible; so long as he denied the World to have been Made by any Mind or Wisdom (as we have already declared) he ought not to be reckoned amongst the *Theists* but *Atheists*.

Thales the Milesian was one of the most Ancient Greek Philosophers, who that he admitted a *Plurality of Gods* in some sense, is evident from that saying of his cited by *Aristotle*, πάντα θεῶν πλήρη, *All things are full of Gods.* But that notwithstanding he asserted *One Supreme* and only *Unmade* or *Self-existent Deity*, is also manifest from that other Apothegm of his in *Laertius*, πρεσβύτατος πάντων ὁ θεός, ἀρχόντων γὰρ· *God is the Oldest of all things, because he is Unmade.* From whence it may be concluded, that all *Thales* his other Gods were Generated, and the Offspring of One sole Unmade Deity.

Pherecydes Syrus was *Thales* his contemporary, of whom *Aristotle* in his *Metaphysics* hath recorded, that he affirmed τὸ πρῶτον πρῶτον ἀέρας, that the *First Principle* from whence all other things were Generated, was the *Best* or an *Absolutely Perfect Being*; So as that in the *Scale of Nature* things did not ascend upwards from the most *Imperfect* to the more *Perfect* Beings, but on the contrary descend downwards, from the most *Perfect*, to the *less Perfect*. Moreover *Laertius* informs us, that this was the Beginning of one of *Pherecydes* his Books, Ζεὺς μὲν καὶ χεῖρον ἔς αἰεί, καὶ χεῖρον ὤ· *Jupiter, and Time, and the Earth always were.* Where notwithstanding in the following words, he makes the Earth to be dependent upon *Jupiter*. Though some reading *χεῖρον* here instead of *χεῖρον*, seem to understand him thus; that *Jupiter* and *Saturn*, really one and the same Numen, was always from *Eternity*. However there is in these words an acknowledgment of One Single and Eternal Deity.

Pythagoras was the most eminent of all the ancient Philosophers, who that he was a Polytheist as well as the other Pagans, may be concluded from that Beginning of the *Golden Verses* (though not written by him)

Ἀθάνατος μὲν πρῶτα θεὸς νόμος, ὡς δαίκενται,
τίμα καὶ σέβας ἔχον· ἐπειδ' ἔρως ἀγανὴς·
τὸς τε καὶ αἰθέριος σέβας δαίμονας, ἵπταται ἔχον.

Wherein men are exhorted in the first place to worship the *Immortal Gods*, and that accordingly as they were appointed by Law, after them the *Heroes*, and last of all the *Terréstrial Demons*. And accordingly

cordingly *Laertius* gives this account of *Pythagoras* his Piety, τιμὰς θεοῖς δὲν τιμᾶν καὶ ἡρώων, μὴ τοῖς ἴσας. That he conceived men ought to worship, both the Gods, and the Heroes; though not with equal honour. And who these Gods of *Pythagoras* were, the same Writer also declareth, ἑλὼν τε καὶ σελήνῳ καὶ τὰς ἄλλας ἀστέρας, ἔπαι θεός. That they were in part at least, the Sun, and Moon, and Stars.

Notwithstanding which, that *Pythagoras* acknowledged One Supreme and Universal *Numen*, which therefore was the Original of all those other Gods, may partly appear from that Prayer in the Golden Verses, which, whether written by *Philolaus* or *Lyfis* or some other Follower of *Pythagoras*, were undoubtedly ancient and agreeable to his Doctrine.

Ζεῦ πάτερ, ἢ πολλῶν τε κακῶν λύσας ἀπαλλάξ.
εἰ πάρεσθαι θέεις εἶω τῶ δαίμονι χροῖται.

Salmf. Prof.
in Tab. Ceb.
Arab.

*Jupiter alme, malis jubeas vel solvies omnes :
Omnibus intantur vel quonam demone monstra.*

Upon which *Hierocles* thus writeth, ὁ ποιητὴς καὶ κτίστης τῶν πάντων ἡμῶν τοῖς πυθαγορείοις τὰ τῷ διὲς, καὶ ζωὴς, ὀνόματι σμνύμεν. δι' ὃν γὰρ τὸ ὄντα, καὶ τὸ εἶναι, τοῖς πάντεσσι ὑπάρχει, τῷτοι δίκαιον ἀπὸ τοῦ εὐεργέτου ὀνομάζεσθαι. It was the manner of the *Pythagoreans* to honour the Maker and Father of this whole Universe, with the name of Dis and Zen, it being just, that he who giveth Being and Life to all, should be denominated from thence: And again afterwards, τὸ τῷ διὲς ὄνομα σύμβολόν ἐστι, καὶ ἔπεια αὐφαιῖν ἀνμπεργεῖς ὁρίσας, τὰ τὰς πρώτας θηροφύας τοῖς περὶ ματαῖα τὰ ὀνόματα διὰ σφίνας ὑποθέλλων, ὡς πρὸς τινας ἀγαλμασπονοῖς ἀρετας, διὰ τῶν ὀνομάτων, ὡς δὲ εἰκόνα, ἐκφράσσει αὐτῶν τὰς δυνάμεις. This very name *Zeus*, is a convenient symbol or image of the Demiurgical Nature. And they who first gave names to things, were by reason of a certain wonderful Wisdom of theirs, a kind of excellent Statuaries; they by those several Names, as Images, lively representing the natures of things. Moreover that this *Pythagorick* Prayer was directed to the Supreme *Numen* and King of Gods, *Jamblichus* thus declares in his *Protrepticks*, αὐτὸν τὸν μὲν μὲν αἰεὶ ἐν ὁδοῦ ἀκλῆτος ὡς τὴν θεὸν δίδαιμεν ἢ μεμυγμένον ταῖς ἀρεταῖς καὶ ἀποκρίσιν τῶν θεῶν, καὶ μέλυσιν τῶ βασιλείας αὐτῶν διός. Here is an excellent exhortation of these Golden Verses, to the pursuit of Divine Felicity, mingled together with Prayers and the Invocation of the Gods, but especially of that Jupiter who is the King of them. Moreover the same might further appear from those *Pythagorick* Fragments that are still extant, as that of *Ocellus Lucanus*, and others who where Moralists, in which as Gods are sometimes spoken of plurally, so also is God often singularly used, for that Supreme Deity which containeth the whole.

But this will be most of all manifest, from what hath been recorded concerning the *Pythagorick* Philosophy and its making a Monad the First Principle. It is true indeed that the Writer *de Platonicis Philosophorum*, doth affirm, *Pythagoras* to have asserted Two Sub-

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stantial

However if *Pythagoras* his *Dyad* be to be understood of a Substantial Matter, it will not therefore follow, that he supposed Matter to be Self-existent and Independent upon the Deity, since according to the best and most ancient Writers, his *Dyad* was no Primary but a Secondary Thing only, and derived from his *Monad*, the sole Original of all things. Thus *Diogenes Laertius* tells us, that *Alexander* who wrote the Successions of Philosophers, affirmed he had found in the Pythagorick Commentaries, ἀρχὴν μὲν τῆς ἀπειρίας, μονάδα δὲ τῆς μονάδος, ἀόριστον δὲ τῆς ἀπειρίας, ὡς ἐν ὅλῳ τῇ μονάδι αἰτία ἐστὶ ὑπερβολῇ. That a *Monade* was the Principle of all things, but that from this *Monade* was derived infinite Duality, as Matter for the *Atonade* to work upon, as the *Active Cause*. With which agreeth *Hermias*, affirming this to be one of the greatest of all the Pythagorick Mysteries, that a *Monade* was the sole Principle of all things. Accordingly whereunto *Clement* *Alexandrinus*, cites this Passage out of *Thearidas* an ancient Pythagorean in his Book concerning Nature, Ἄ ἀρχὴ τῶν ὄντων, ἀρχὴ μὲν οὕτως ἀκίνητος, μία. καὶ αὐτὴ δὲ ἀρχὴ τῶν ὄντων ἐν τῇ μὲν, The true Principle of all things was only One; for this was in the beginning One and Alone. Which words also seem to imply the World to have had a Novity of Existence or beginning of Duration. And indeed, however *Ocellus Lucanus* write, yet that *Pythagoras* himself, did not hold the Eternity of the World, may be concluded from what *Porphyrinus* records of him, where he gives an Account of that his superstitious abstinence from Beans, ὅτι τῆς πρώτης ἀρχῆς ἐξ ἧς ἦλθεν τὰ ζῷα, καὶ πολλὰ ἄλλα συνεγερμένων καὶ συνεπλεγμένων καὶ συνεκπερμένων ἐν τῇ γῇ, κατ' ὀλίγον ἡλικίας καὶ διακομίας συνίεν, ἕως τε ὅμῃ θρομβήσαν, καὶ φυνῆ ἀναδιδομένων, τότε δὲ ἀπὸ τῆς αὐτῆς συνεπιδόσης, ἀνθρώπων σθένος καὶ κρέμας βλαστῶναι. That at the beginning, things being confounded and mingled together, the Generation and Secretion of them afterwards proceeded by degrees, Animals and Plants appearing; at which time also from the same putrified Matter, sprung up both Men and Beans.

Pythagoras is generally reported to have held a Trinity of Divine Hypostases; and therefore when *St. Cyril* affirmeth *Pythagoras* to have called God ψύχην τῆς ὅλης κτίσεως, ἐξ ὧν πάντα κινεῖται, the Animation of the whole Heavens, and the Motion of all things; adding that God was not, as some supposed, ἑκτὸς τῆς διακοσμίας, ἀλλ' ἐν αὐτῇ ὅλη, ἐν ὅλῳ, without the Fabrick of the World, but whole in the whole, this seems properly to be understood, of that Third Divine Hypostasis of the Pythagorick Trinity, namely the Eternal *Psyche*. Again when God is called in *Plutarch* according to *Pythagoras*, αὐτὸς ὁ νῦς, Mind it self, this seems to be meant properly of his Second Hypostasis; the Supreme Deity according to him being something above Mind or Intellect. In like manner when in *Cicero*, *Pythagoras* his Opinion concerning the Deity is thus represented, Deum esse animi, per naturam rerum omnium intentum & commensum, ex quo Animi nostri carperentur, That God was a Mind passing through the whole Nature of things, from whom our Souls were, as it were, decerped or cut out. And again, Ex universa mente Divina, delibatos esse animos nostros; this in all probability was to be understood also ei-

Met. L. 1. 6.

ther of the *Third* or *Second* Divine *Hypostasis*, and not of the *First*, which was properly called by him, τὸ ἓν and *μὴτας*, a *Unity* and *Monade*, and also as *Plutarch* tells us, τὸ ἀγαθόν, *Goodness* it self. *Aristotle* plainly affirmeth that some of the ancient Theologers amongst the Pagans made ἔρως or *Love*, to be the *First Principle* of all things, that is, the *Supreme Deity*; and we have already shewed, that *Orpheus* was one of these. For when ἔρως πολυτελής and πολύμωσις, *Delightful Love*, and that which is not blind, but full of *Wisdom* and *Counsel*, is made by him to be αὐτοτελής and πρῶτος, *Self-perfect* and the *Oldest* of all Things, it is plain that he supposed it to be nothing less than the *Supreme Deity*. Wherefore since *Pythagoras* is generally affirmed, to have followed the *Orphick Principles*, we may from hence presume that he did it in this also. Though it be very true, that *Plato* who called the *Supreme Deity* τὰ ἄνω, as well as *Pythagoras*, did dissent from the *Orphick Theology* in this, and would not acknowledge *Love* for a name of the *Supreme Deity*; as when in his *Symposium* in the person of *Agathon* he speaks thus: εὐλόγω πολλὰ ἄλλα ὀμολογῶν, τὸτο ἔχ' ὀμολογῶν, ὡς ἔρως κεῖν καὶ ἵαται ἀρετῆς. ἔστιν ἄλλα φημι πᾶσι τινι αὐτὸν εἶναι θέναι, καὶ ἀντίον. *Though I should readily grant to Phædrus many other things, yet I cannot consent to him in this, that Love was Older than Saturn and Japet, but on the contrary I do affirm him to be the Youngest of the Gods; as he is always youthful.* They who made *Love Older* than *Saturn* as well as *Japet*, supposed it to be the *Supreme Deity*; wherefore *Plato* here on the contrary affirms *Love* not to be the *Supreme Deity* or *Creator of all*, but a *Creature*, a *Certain Junior God*, or indeed as he afterwards adds, not so much a *God* as a *Dæmon*; it being a thing which plainly implies Imperfection in it. *Love* (saith he) is a *Philosopher*, whereas θεὸς ἐδίδεκε φιλοσοφῆν, ἐδὲ ἐπιθυμῶν σοφῆς γινώσκειν, ἔσθ' ἔτι, *no God philosophizeth, nor desires to be made wise, because he is so already.* Agreeably with which Doctrine of his, *Plotinus* determines that *Love* is peculiar to that middle rank of Beings, called Souls, πᾶσα ψυχὴ ἀπεδίδοται. καὶ τὸτο αἰνεῖται καὶ τὰ ὅ ἀπεδίδοται γινώσκειν, καὶ ὁ ἔρως ὁ μετ' αὐτῆς ἡρώμενος. ἔσθ' ἔτι καὶ φέρον ἔχουσα ψυχὴ θεῶν, ἐρωδῶναι θύλακα, ἢ ἄρ' παρθέτου· καλὰ πρὸς καλὴν ἀνδρα. ἔστιν ὅς τις ἡρώσῃ ἐλθεῖν, οἷον μυσταῖος ἀπατηθῇ, ἄλλον ἀξέμενον ἐκ τῆς ἑρῶτας, ἐρημίας πᾶσις ὑπερβῆται, &c. *Every Soul is a Venus, which is also intimated by Venus her Nativity, and Loves being begotten with her; wherefore the Soul being in its right natural state, Loves God desiring to be united with him, which is a pure, heavenly and virgin Love; but when it descends to Generation, being courted with these Amorous allurements here below, and deceived by them, it changeth that its Divine and Heavenly Love, for another Mortal one; but if it again shake off these lascivious and wanton Loves, and keep it self chaste from them, returning back to its own Father, and Original, it will be rightly affected as it ought.* But the reason of this difference betwixt the *Orphicks* and *Plato*, that the former made *Love* to be the *Oldest* of all the *Gods*, but the latter to be a *Junior God* or *Dæmon*, proceeded only from an Equivocation in the word *Love*. For *Plato's* Love was the *Daughter of Penia*, that is, *Poverty* and *Indigency*, together with a mixture of *Πεῖρα* or *Riches*, and being so as it were compounded of *Plenty* and *Poverty*, was in plain language, no other than the *Love of Desire*,

Desire, which as *Aristotle* affirmeth is μετὰ λύπης, accompanied with Grief and Pain. But that *Orphick* and *Pythagorick Love*, was nothing else but πλεον and ἀντορία, Infinite Riches and Plenty, a Love of Redundancy and Overflowing Fulness, delighting to communicate it self, which was therefore said to be, the Oldest of all things and most Perfect, that is, the Supreme Deity; according to which notion also in the Scripture it self, God seems to be called Love, though the word be not there, ἔως but ἀγάπη. But to say the Truth, *Parmenides* his Love (however made a Principle somewhere by *Aristotle*) seems to be neither exactly the same with the *Orphick*, nor yet with the *Platonick Love*, it being not the Supreme Deity, and yet the First of the Created Gods; which appears from *Simplicius* his connecting these Two Verses of his together in this manner,

ἔν τῳ μέτῳ τῶτων διαίμων ὅς πάσης κατεστῶ,

ταύτῳ δὲ θεῶν αἰτίαν θεῶν φησι, λίγαν,

πρώτιστον μὲν ἔστωι θεῶν μετῴσας πάντων.

In the midst of these Elements is that God which governeth all things; and whom Parmenides affirmeth to be the cause of Gods, writing thus, God first of all created Love, before the other Gods. Wherefore by this Love of Parmenides, is understood nothing else, but the Lower Soul of the World, together with a Plastic Nature, which though it be the Original of Motion and Activity in this Corporeal World, yet is it but a Secondary or Created God. Before whose Production, Necessity is said by those Ethnick Theologers to have reigned; the true meaning whereof seems to be this, that before that Divine Spirit moved upon the Waters and brought things into an orderly System, there was nothing but the Necessity of Material Motions, unguided by any orderly Wisdom or Method for Good (that is, by Love) in that confused and floating Chaos.

But *Pythagoras* it seemeth, did not only call the Supreme Deity a *Monad*, but also a *Tetrad* or *Tetraδys*, for it is generally affirmed, that *Pythagoras* himself was wont to swear hereby; though *Porphyrius* and *Jamblichus*, and others write, that the Disciples of *Pythagoras* swore by *Pythagoras*, who had delivered to them the Doctrine or *Cabala* of this *Tetraδys*. Which *Tetraδys* also in the Golden Verses, is called πηγή ἀεὶνός φλόως, the Fountain of the Eternal Nature, an expression that cannot properly belong to any thing but the Supreme Deity. And thus *Hierocles*, ὅτι ἐν ἐπὶ τῷ δὲ μὴ τῷ τέλει τοῦ κόσμου, ὡς εἶναι, καὶ ἀρχὴς ἑστῆαι. ἔσ τῷ, ὡς ἐφαμὲν, δημιουργὸς τῷ ὅλῳ, καὶ αἰτία ἡ τέτρας, διὸς πάντες, αὐτῷ τῷ ὅλῳ, καὶ αὐτῷ τῷ θεῷ. There is nothing in the whole World, which doth not depend upon the Tetradys, as its Root and Principle. For the Tetrad is, as we have already said, the Maker of all things; the Intelligible God, the Cause of the Heavenly and Sensible God, that is of the Animated World or Heaven. Now the Latter Pythagoreans and Platonists, endeavour to give Reasons, why God should be called *Tetras* or *Tetraδys*, from certain Mysteries in that Number Four, as for example,

First,

First, because the Tetrad is δυνάμει δαδδ', *the Power of the Decad*, it virtually containing the whole Decade in it, which is all Numbers or Beings; but the bottom of this Mystery is no more than this, that *One, Two, Three, and Four*, added all together, make up *Ten*. Again because the Tetrad is an Arithmetical Mediety, betwixt the *Monad* and the *Hebdomad*, which *Monad* and *Hebdomad* are said to agree in this, that as the *Monad* is Ingenit or Unmade, it being the Original and Fountain of all Numbers, so is the *Hebdomad* said to be, not only παρδενδ' but ἀμήτωρ, *a Motherless* as well as *Virgin Number*. Wherefore the Tetrad lying in the middle betwixt the *Ingenit Monad*, and the *Motherless Virgin Hebdomad*; and it being both begotten and begetting, say they, must needs be a very Mysterious number and fitly represent the Deity. Whereas indeed it was therefore unfit to represent the Deity, because it is begotten by the Multiplication of another Number; as the *Hebdomad* therefore doth not very fitly symbolize with it neither; because it is barren or begets nothing at all within the Decad, for which cause it is called a *Virgin*. Again it is further added, that the Tetrad fitly resembles that which is Solid, because as a *Point* answers to a *Monad*, and a *Line* to a *Dyad*, and a *Superficies* to a *Triad* (the first and most simple figure being a *Triangle*) so the Tetrad properly represents the *Solid*, the first *Pyramid* being found in it. But upon this consideration, the Tetrad could not be so fit a Symbol of the Incorporeal Deity neither as of the Corporeal World. Wherefore these things being all so trifling, slight and phantastical, and it being really absurd for *Pythagoras* to call his *Monad* a *Tetrad*; the late conjecture of some Learned men amongst us, seems to be much more probable, that *Pythagoras* his *Tetradys* was really nothing else but the *Tetragrammaton*, or that proper name of the Supreme God amongst the Hebrews, consisting of *Four Letters or Consonants*. Neither ought it to be wondered at, that *Pythagoras* (who besides his travelling into *Egypt*, *Persia*, and *Chaldea*, and his sojourning at *Sidon*, is affirmed by *Josephus*, *Porphyrius* and others, to have conversed with the Hebrews also) should be so well acquainted with the Hebrew *Tetragrammaton*, since it was not unknown to the *Hetrurians* and *Latins*, their *Jove* being certainly nothing else. And indeed it is the opinion of some Philologers, that even in the *Golden Verses* themselves, notwithstanding the seeming repugnancy of the Syntax, it is not *Pythagoras* that is sworn by, but this *Tetradys* or *Tetragrammaton*, that is, *Jova* or *Jehovah*, the Name of God, being put for God himself, according to that received Doctrine of the Hebrews יהוה שמו ושמו אחד, *That God and his Name are all one*; as if the meaning of those words

Ναι μὲν τ' ἀμήτωρ ψυχῇ ὁδαδδ'α τετραγμήν
Πάγον ἀννάα φλοῦς.—

were this; *By the Tetragrammaton or Jovah, who hath communicated [himself, or] The Fountain of the Eternal Nature, to our Humane Souls*; for these according to the *Pythagorick Doctrine*, were said to be *ex Mente Divina carpta & delibata*, i. e. nothing but *Derivative Streams* from that first Fountain of the Divine Mind.

Wherefore

Wherefore we shall now sum up all concerning *Pythagoras* in this Conclusion of *St. Cyril's*, ἰδὲ δὲ σαφέως, ἕνα τι ἦναι λόγον τῶν ὅλων ὡς οὐρανόν, καὶ πάσων ἀρχῶν ἰσχυρὸν τι τῷ αὐτῷ δυνάμει, φασίγες καὶ ψόχον, ἥτοι ζωοποιόν τῷ ὅλῳ καὶ κοινὸν πάντων κίνησον· παρρησιαὶ δὲ τὰ πάντα παρ' αὐτοῦ καὶ τὸ ἐκ τῆς μηδενότητος ὡς τὸ ἕνα κίνησον λαχόντα φθίνον· Behold we see, clearly, that *Pythagoras* held there was One God of the whole Universe, the Principle and Cause of all things, the Illuminator, Animator and Quickener of the Whole, and Original of Motion; from whom all things were derived, and brought out of Non-entity into Being.

Next to *Pythagoras* in order of time, was *Xenophanes* the Colophonian, the Head of the Eleatick Sect of Philosophers, who that he was an Affirmer both of *Many Gods* and *One God*, sufficiently appears from that Verse of his before cited, and attested both by *Clement* *Alexandrianus*, and *Sextus* the Philosopher,

ὁς θεὸς ἐν τε θεοῖσι καὶ ἀνθρώποισι μέγιστος,

There is One God, the Greatest both amongst Gods and Men. Concerning which greatest God, this other Verse of *Xenophanes* is also vouched,

καὶ ἀπάνευθε ποιοῦντες, φρενὶ πάντα κερδαίνει·

That he moveth the whole world without any labour or toil, merely by Mind. Besides which, *Cicero* and others tell us, that this *Xenophanes* philosophizing concerning the *Supreme Deity*, was wont to call it ἐν καὶ πᾶν, *One and All*, as being One most Simple Being that virtually containeth all things. But *Xenophanes* his Theosophy, or Divine Philosophy, is most fully declared by *Simplificius* out of *Theophrastus* in this manner, μίαν ἢ τὴν ἀρχῶν, ἥτις ἐν τῷ ὄντι καὶ πᾶν, καὶ ὅτι πεπερασμένον ὅτι ἀπειρον, ὅτι καὶ μέρον ὅτι ἡγεμον, *Xenophάνης* τὸ κολοφώνιον τὸ Παρμενίδειον διδόντα ὑποτίθεται φησὶ ὁ σοφιστής· ὁμοιοῦν ἐπὶ θεῷ ἕνα μάλλον ἢ τὸ ὅλον φύσιν ἰσχυρῶς, τὴν μὲντοι τὸ τότε δόξαν· τὸ γὰρ ἐν τῷ καὶ πᾶν, τὸ θεὸν ἔλεγον ὁ *Xenophάνης*· ὅν ἕνα μὲν δέοντων ὡς τὸ πάντων κρείττονι ἔσθαι· πλεονέκων γάρ φησι οὕτως, ὁμοίως ἀνάγκη ὑπάρχειν πᾶσι τὸ κρεῖττον· τὸ δὲ πάντων κρείττονι καὶ ἄπειρον, θεὸς· ἀγρόπῃ δὲ ἐδέκνυται— καὶ ὅτι δὲ ἀπειρον ὅτι πεπερασμένον ἔσθαι· διὸ ἀπειρον μὲν τὸ μὴ ὄν, ὡς ὅτι ἀρχὴν ἔχει μὴ μίσην μὴ τιλμ· περιέχει δὲ πρὸς ἅλλα τα πᾶν· ὁ ἀπληρώς δὲ καὶ τὴν κίνησιν ἀφαίρει καὶ τὴν ἡγεμίαν· ἀκίνητον μὲν, &c. *Theophrastus* affirmeth, that *Xenophanes* the Colophonian *Parmenides* his Master, made One Principle of all things, he calling it One and All, and determining it to be neither Finite nor Infinite (in a certain sence) and neither Moving nor Resting. Which *Theophrastus* also declares, that *Xenophanes* in this, did not write as a Natural Philosopher or Physiologer, but as a Metaphysician or Theologer only; *Xenophanes* his One and All, being nothing else but God. Whom he proved to be One solitary Being from hence; because God is the Best and Most Powerful of all things, and there being many degrees of Entity, there must needs be something Supreme to rule over all. Which Best and most Powerful Being can be but One. He also did demonstrate

monstrate it to be Unmade, as likewise to be neither Finite nor Infinite (in a certain sense) as he removed both Motion and Rest from God. Wherefore when he saith that God always remaineth or resteth the same, he understands not this, of that Rest which is opposite to Motion, and which belongs to such things as may be moved; but of a certain other Rest which is both above that Motion and its Contrary. From whence it is evident, that Xenophanes supposed (as Sextus the Philosopher also affirmeth) God to be Incorporeal, a Being unlike to all other things, and therefore of which no Image could be made. And now we understand, that Aristotle dealt not ingenuously with Xenophanes, when from that expression of his, that God was σφαίροειδής, or Spheryform, he would infer, that Xenophanes made God to be a Body, and nothing else but the Round Corporeal World Animated; which yet was repugnant also to another Physical Hypothesis of this same Xenophanes, ἀνέρες ἄλλος ἕνα καὶ οὐκ ἓν, that there were Infinite Suns and Moons; by which Moons he understood Planets, affirming them to be all habitable Earths, as Cicero tells us. Wherefore as Simplicius testifies, God was said to be σφαίροειδής, or Spheryform, by Xenophanes, only in this sense, as being παντοχρόνιος ἕμαιοις, every way like and uniform. However it is plain that Xenophanes asserting One God who was All or the Universe, could not acknowledge a Multitude of Partial Self-existent Deities.

Heraclitus was no Clear but a Confounded Philosopher (he being neither a Good Naturalist nor Metaphysician) and therefore it is very hard or rather impossible, to reconcile his Several Opinions with one another. Which is a thing the less to be wondred at, because amongst the rest of his Opinions, this also is said to have been One; That Contradictories may be true; and his writings were accordingly as Plato intimates, flust with Unintelligible Mysterious Non-sense. For First he is affirmed to have acknowledged no other Substance besides Body, and to have maintained, That All things did Flow, and nothing Stand, or remain the same; and yet in his Epistles (according to the common opinion of Philosophers at that time) doth he suppose the *Præ & Post-existence* of Humane Souls in these words, *τὴν καὶ ψυχὴν μαντεύσθαι ἀπὸ λυγρῆς αὐτῆς ἡδὴ πρὶν ὅτι τὸ διασπασθῆναι τὸν σώματος καὶ σφαιρῶν τὸ σώματος ἐκκλῆσθαι, ἀναμνησθῆναι τὰ παλαιὰ καὶ ἔτι, ἵνα κατελθῶσα ἐνθάδε ὅσον σώμα πίνεις τῷ, ὃ δοκῶ, &c.* My soul seemeth to vaticinate and presage its approaching dismission and freedom from this its prison; and looking out as it were through the cracks and cranies of this body, to remember those its native Regions or Countries, from whence descending, it was clothed with this Flowing Mortal Body; which is made up and constipated of Flegm, Choler, Serum, Blood, Nerves, Bones and Flesh. And not only so, but he also there acknowledgeth the Souls Immortality, which Stoicks, allowing its Permanency after Death, for some time at least, and to the next Conflagration, did deny, *δύσθαι τὸ σῶμα εἰς τὸ ἐμαρμόριον, ἀλλὰ ὃ ψυχὴ δύσθαι· ἀλλὰ ἀθάνατον ὥσα χεῖμα, ὡς ἄραν ἀναστήσεται μετέπειτα· διέσθαι δὲ με εἰθέλωσι θεοί, κατελύσθαι δὲ ἐν ἀνθρώποις ἀλλ' ὃ θεῶν·* This Body shall be fatally changed to something else, but my Soul shall not die or perish, but being an Immortal thing, shall fly away mounting upwards to Heaven; those Ethereal Houses shall receive me, and I shall no longer

longer converse with men but Gods. Again though *Heraclitus* asserted the Fatal Necessity of all things, yet notwithstanding was he a strict Moralist, and upon this account highly esteemed by the Stoicks, who followed him in this and other things; and he makes no small pretence to it himself, in his Epistle to *Hermodorus*, ἔμοιγε πολλὰ καὶ δυσχερῆσαι ἄλλοι καταβῶμαι· νείκεα ἔδωκε, νείκεα χρημαῖα, νείκεα φιλοτιμίαν, καταπλάουσα δ' ἔλκιν, καταπλάουσα κολακείαν· ἢ αὐτὸν γὰρ μοι φόβος, ἢ αὐτὸν γὰρ μοι μῖσος· φοβέται με λύπη, φοβέται με ὀργή· καὶ τὸ τῶτον αὐτῷ καὶ αὐτὸς ἱσφάνομαι, ἑμαυτῷ ὑπὸ πλάτῃ, ὅς ἔστι· Εὐρυθείας· I have also had my difficult Labours and Conflicts as well as *Hercules*; I have conquer'd Pleasures, I have conquer'd Riches, I have conquer'd Ambition; I have subdued Cowardise and Flattery; neither Fear nor Intemperance can control me; Grief and Anger are afraid of me, and fly away from me. These are the Victories for which I am crown'd, not by *Eurytheus*, but as being made Master of myself. Lastly though *Heraclitus* made Fire to be the First Principle of all things and hath some odd Passages imputed to him, yet notwithstanding was he a Devout Religionist, he supposing that Fiery Matter of the whole Universe, *Animantem esse & Deum*, to be an Animal and God. And as he acknowledged Many Gods, according to that which *Aristotle* recordeth of him, That when some passing by had espied him sitting in a smoaky Cottage, he bespake them after this manner, *Introite, nam & hic Dis sunt*, Come in, I pray, for here there are Gods also, he supposing all places to be full of Gods, Demons and Souls; so was he an undoubted Asserter of One Supreme Numen, that governs all things, and that such as could neither be represented by Images, nor confined to Temples. For after he had been accused of Impiety by *Euthycles*, he writes to *Hermodorus* in this manner, ἄλλ' ὃ ἀμαθεὺς ἀνδρῶν διδόνεστι πρῶτον ἡμῶς τί ἔστιν ὁ Θεός, πῶς δ' ἔστιν ὁ Θεός; καὶ οὐ τίς παρὶς ἀπεικονισμένης; ἀσπεύεις γὰρ, οἱ ὦ σκότ' ἢ Θεὸν ἰδεύεις—— ἀπαλθῶμι, ἢ ἵνα ὅτι ἢ ἵνα Θεός· χερσὶ μὴ γάρ, ὅθεν ἔξ ἀρχῆς βάσις· ἔχει ὅθεν ἔχει ἕνα ὁρίζεσθαι· ἄλλ' ἔλθ' ὁ κέκιμ' αὐτὰς ναὶς ἔστι, ἑλπίς καὶ αὐτοῖς καὶ ἄσπερος πεπικυμένῃ. But O you unwise and unlearned! teach us first what God is, that so you may be believed in accusing me of Impiety: Tell us where God is? Is he shut up within the Walls of Temples? Is this your Piety to place God in the dark, or to make him a Stony God? O you unskilful! know ye not, that God is not made with hands, and hath no basis or fulcrum to stand upon, nor can be inclosed within the Walls of any Temple; the whole World, variegated with Plants, Animals and Stars, being his Temple. And again, ἄρ' ἢ ἐμὶ ἀσπεύεις, Εὐθύκλεις, ἔς μὲν οὖσα Θεὸς ἵαν ἢ μὴ ἰδρυσθῇ Θεὸς βραχὺς, ἢ ἵνα Θεός; ἵαν ἢ ἰδρυσθῇ μὴ Θεός, Θεός ἔστιν; ἄρα λίθου Θεὸς μάστιγες· ἔρχα δ' αὖ μαρτυρεῖται, οὐκ ἴδμεν· τίς αὐτῷ καὶ ἡμεῖς μαρτυροῦμεν; ὡς αὐτῷ μάστιγες, γὰρ ἔστι κατεπορεῖσθαι, μάστιγος σιδήρεος ὁ κύκλος, ἐκείνου ἔργον, ἐκείνου μαρτυρεῖται· Am I Impious, O *Euthycles*, who alone know what God is? Is there no God without Altars? or are Stones the only witnesses of him? No, his own Works give testimony to him, and principally the Sun; Night and Day bear witness of him; the Earth bringing forth fruits, declares him; the Circle of the Moon, that was made by him, is a Heavenly Testimony of him.

In the next place *Anaxagoras* the Clazomenian Philosopher comes

to be considered, whose Predecessors of the *Ionick Order* (after *Thales*) as *Anaximander*, *Anaximenes* and *Hippo*, were (as hath been already observed) *Materialists* and *Albeists*; they acknowledging no other Substance besides Body, and resolving all things into the Motions, Passions, and Affections of it. Whence was that cautious advice given by *Jamblichus*, περιμα τῷ Ἰταλινῷ φιλοσοφίαν τῷ τὰ ἀσώματα κατ' αὐτὰ θεωρεῖσαν, ἢ Ἰονικῆς ἢ τὰ σώματα προσημαμένως ὁπαιοκοπεμένης. *Prefer the Italic Philosophy, which contemplates Incorporeal Substances by themselves, before the Ionick, which principally considers Bodies.* And *Anaxagoras* was the first of these *Ionicks* who went out of that Road, for seeing a necessity of some other Cause, besides the *Material* (Matter being not able, so much as to move it self, and much less if it could, by Fortuitous Motion, to bring it self into an Orderly System and Compages;) he therefore introduced *Mind* into the *Cosmopœia*, as the Principal Cause of the Universe; which *Mind* is the same with *God*. Thus *Themistius*, speaking of *Anaxagoras*, νῦν δὲ θιδὲν πρῶτον ἐκπαγαμῆμεν τῇ κοσμοποιῶ, δὲ ὅτι πρῶτα ἀνάγκης ἢ φύσεως ἢ συνιμάτων. *He was the first* (that is, amongst the *Ionick Philosophers*) *who brought in Mind and God, to the Cosmopœia, and did not derive all things from Senseless Bodies.* And to the same purpose *Plutarch* in the Life of *Pericles*, τοῖς ἴλοις πρῶτος ὁ τυχὼν ὁδὸν ἀνάγκης, θεοκοσμοποιῶς ἀρχῇ, ἀλλὰ νῦν ἐπεὶ οὐ καθερὶν δὲ ἀκρίστον, *The other Ionick Philosophers before Anaxagoras, made Fortune and blind Necessity, that is, the Fortuitous and Necessary Motions of the Matter, to be the only Original of the World, but Anaxagoras was the first who affirmed a pure and sincere Mind to preside over all.* *Anaxagoras* therefore supposed Two Substantial Self-existent Principles of the Universe, one an Infinite Mind or God, the other an Infinite Homoiomery of Matter, or Infinite Atoms; not Unqualified, such as those of *Empedocles* and *Democritus*, which was the most Ancient and Genuine Atomology; but Similar, such as were severally endued with all manner of Qualities and Forms, which Physiology of his therefore was a spurious kind of Atomism. *Anaxagoras* indeed, did not suppose God to have created Matter out of nothing, but that he was πανσπους ἀρχὴ, the Principle of its Motion, and also τὸ δὲ καλῶς αἰτία, the Regulator of this motion for Good, and consequently the Cause of all the Order, Pulchritude, and Harmony of the World: for which reason this Divine Principle, was called also by him, not only *Mind* but *Good*; it being that which acteth the Sake of Good. Wherefore according to *Anaxagoras*, First, the World was not Eternal but had a Beginning in time, and before the World was made, there was from Eternity an Infinite Congeries of Similar and Qualified Atoms, Self-existent, without either Order or Motion; Secondly, The World was not afterwards made by Chance, but by Mind or God, first moving the Matter, and then directing the Motion of it so, as to bring it into this orderly System and Compages. So that νῦν was κοσμοποιῶς, Mind the first Maker of the World, and νῦν βασιλεὺς ἡγετὴ τῆς γῆς, Mind, that which still governs the same, the King and Sovereign Monarch of Heaven and Earth. Thirdly, *Anaxagoras* his Mind and God, was purely Incorporeal; to which purpose his words recorded by *Simplicius* are very remarkable, νῦν μὴ μιῶν ὁμοῖν χρεμάτι· ἀλλὰ μόνον αὐτὸς ἐφ' ἑαυτῷ ἴσιν, εἰ μὴ γὰρ ἐφ' ἑαυτῷ ἴν,

Symb. 36. p.
159.

Orat. 25.

In Arist.
1. 1. Fol.
33. c. 1.

ἦν, ἀλλὰ τὴν ἐμμετὴν ἄλυσιν, μετέειπεν ὅτι ἀπὸ πάντων χρεμάτων, ἡ ἐμμετὴς πᾶσι
 ὡς πᾶσι γὰρ πᾶσις μαίει ἵσταν· ὧς οὖν ὡς τοῖς περὶ αὐτὴν ἐμοὶ λέλυται, καὶ ἀ-
 παύσει αὐτὴ τὰ συμπεφυμένα, ὥς μὴδὲν χρεμάτος μορᾶν ὁμοῖως, ὡς καὶ
 μόνον εἶπαι ἐφ' ἑαυτῇ· ὅτι γὰρ λεγόμενα τε πάντα χρεμάτων, καὶ χωρὶς
 ταύτης· καὶ γινώσκω γὰρ οὐ πᾶσις πᾶσις ἵσταν· καὶ ἵσταν μάλιστα· *Mind is*
mingled with nothing, but is alone by it self and separate, for if it
were not by it self secrete from Matter, but mingled therewith, it would
then partake of all things, because there is something of all in every
thing; which things mingled together with it would hinder it, so that it
could not master or conquer any thing, as if alone by it self; for Mind is
the most subtil of all things, and the most Pure, and has the know-
ledge of all things, together with an absolute Power over all. Lastly;
Anaxagoras did not suppose a Multitude of Unmade Minds, coexist-
 ent from Eternity, as so many partial Causes and Governours of
 the World, but only One Infinite *Mind* or *God*, ruling over All.

Indeed it may well be made a Question, whether or no besides this Supreme and Universal Deity, *Anaxagoras* did acknowledge any of those other Inferiour Gods, then Worshipped by the Pagans? because it is certain, that though he asserted Infinite Mind to be the Maker and Governour of the whole World, yet he was accused by the Athenians for Atheism, and besides a Mult^o impos'd upon him, Banished for the same; the true ground whereof was no other than this, because he affirmed the Sun to be nothing but a Mass of Fire, and the Moon an Earth, having Mountains and Valleys, Cities and Houses in it; and probably concluded the same of all the other Stars and Planets; that they were either Fires, as the Sun, or Habitable Earths, as the Moon; wherein, supposing them not to be Animated, he did consequently deny them to be Gods. Which his Ungodding of the Sun, Moon and Stars was, then look'd upon by the Vulgar as nothing less than absolute Atheism, they being very prone to think, that if there were not Many Understanding Beings Superiour to Men, and if the Sun, Moon, and Stars were not such, and therefore in their Language Gods; there was no God at all. Neither was it the Vulgar only who condemn'd *Anaxagoras* for this, but even those Two grave Philosophers *Socrates* and *Plato* did the like; the First in his Apology made to the Athenians, where he calls this opinion of *Anaxagoras* Absurd; the Second in his Book of Laws, where he complains of this Doctrine as a great In-let into Atheism, in this manner: *ἑμὲ καὶ τοὺς ὄντας νεαυμένους λέγουσιν ὡς εἰσι θεοὶ, ταῦτα αὐτοὶ προσφέρουσιν, ἥλιόν τι καὶ σελήνην, καὶ ἄστρα καὶ γῆν ὡς θεοὺς καὶ θεία ὄντα, ὑπὸ τοῦτο σαρῶν τέτοιαν ἀναπνεύσειν, ὥστε ἂν λέγῃεν, ὡς γῆν καὶ λίθος ὄντας αὐτὰ, καὶ ὅθινα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις προσημαίνων διαμάρμεν·* When *Ton* and *I*, endeavouring by Arguments to prove that there are Gods, speak of the Sun and Moon, Stars and Earth, as Gods and Divine Things, our young men presently, being principled by these new Philosophers, will reply; that these are nothing but Earth and Stones (Senseless and Inanimate Bodies) which therefore cannot mind nor take notice of any Humane affairs. Where we may observe these Two things, First, that nothing was accounted truly and properly a God amongst the Pagans, but only what was endued with Life and Understanding. Secondly, that the taking away of those Inferiour Gods of the

the Pagans, the Sun, Moon, and Stars, by denying them to be *Animated*, or to have Life and Understanding in them, was according to *Plato's* Judgment, then the most ready and effectual way to introduce Absolute Atheism.

Moreover it is true, that though this *Anaxagoras* were a professed Theist, he asserting an *Infinite Self-existent Mind*, to be the Maker of the whole World, yet he was severely taxed also, by *Aristotle* and *Plato*, as one not thorough-paced in *Theism*, and who did not so fully, as he ought, adhere to his own Principles. For whereas, to assert *Mind* to be the *Maker of the World*, is really all one, as to assert *Final Causality* for things in Nature, as also that they were made after the *Best manner*; *Anaxagoras* when he was to give his particular account of the *Phænomena*, did commonly betake himself to *Material Causes* only, and hardly ever make use of the Mental or Final Cause, but when he was to seek and at a loss; then only bringing in *God* upon the Stage. *Socrates* his discourse concerning this in *Plato's Phædo*, is very well worth our taking notice of: *Hearing one sometime read* (saith he) *out of a Book of Anaxagoras, ὡς τὸς ὄντιν ὁ διακείμεν τὴν καὶ πέν- του αἰτίαν, that Mind was the Orderer and Cause of all things, I was exceedingly pleased herewith, concluding that it must needs follow from thence, that All things were ordered and disposed of as they should and after the best manner possible; and therefore the Causes even of the things in Nature (or at least the grand Strokes of them) ought to be fetched from the τὸ βέλτιστον, That which is Absolutely the Best. But when afterwards I took Anaxagoras his Book into my hand, greedily reading it over, I was exceedingly disappointed of my expectation, finding therein no other Causes assigned, but only from Airs, and Ethers, and Waters, and such like Physical and Material things. And he seemed to me to deal, just as if one having affirmed that Socrates did all by Mind, Reason and Understanding; afterward undertaking to declare the Causes of all my Actions, as particularly of My Sitting here at this time, should render it after this manner; Because forsooth my Body is compounded of Bones and Nerves, which Bones being solid, have Joints in them at certain distances, and Nerves of such a nature, as that they are capable of being both Intended and Remitted: Wherefore my Bones being lifted up in the Joints and my Nerves some of them intended and some remitted, was the cause of the bending of my Body, and of my sitting down in this place. He in the mean time neglecting the true and proper Cause hereof, which was no other than this; Because it seemed good to the Athenians, so condemn me to die, as also to my self most Just, rather to submit to their censure and undergo their punishment, than by flight to escape it; for certainly otherwise, these Nerves and Bones of mine, would not have been here now in this posture, but amongst the Megarensians and Scotians; carried thither ὑπὸ δέκναι τὸ βέλτιστον, by the Opinion of the Best; had I not thought it Better to submit to the sentence of the City, than to escape the same by flight. Which kind of Philosophers (saith he) do not seem to me, to distinguish betwixt the True and Proper Cause of things, and the Cause Sine qua non, that without which they could not have been effected. And such are they, who devise many odd Physical Reasons, for the firm Settlement of the Earth, without any regard to that*

Power

Power which orders all things for the Best, (as having θεαγονία ἰσχύϊν, a Divine Force in it;) but thinking to find out an Atlas far more Strong and immortal, and which can better hold all things together; τὸ γὰρ ἀγασθὲν τὸ θεῶν, ἂν εἴη ξυμῆσαι, καὶ ξυλῆσαι. Good and Fit, being not able, in their Opinions, to Hold, or Bind any Thing.

From which passage of *Plato's* we may conclude, that though *Anaxagoras* were so far convinced of *Theism*, as in Profession to make *One Infinite Mind* the Cause of all things, Matter only excepted, yet he had notwithstanding too great a Tang of that *Old Material and Atheistical Philosophy* of his Predecessors, still hanging about him, who resolved all the *Phænomena* of Nature, into *Physical*, and nothing into *Mental* or *Final Causes*. And we have the rather told this long story of him, because it is so exact a Parallel with the *Philosophick Humour* of some in this present Age, who pretending to assert a *God*, do notwithstanding discard all *Mental* and *Final Causality*, from having any thing to do with the *Fabrick* of the World; and resolve all, into *Material Necessity*, and *Mechanism*; into *Vortices*, *Globuli* and *Striate Particles*, and the like. Of which *Christian Philosophers* we must needs pronounce, that they are not near so good *Theists* as *Anaxagoras* himself was, though so much condemned by *Plato* and *Aristotle*; so far as he, did not only assert *God* to be the Cause of *Motion*, but also the Governour, Regulator and Methodizer of the same, for the production of this Harmonious System of the World, and therefore τὸ καὶ κατὰ λόγον αἰετῶν, the Cause of *Well* and *Fit*. Whereas these utterly reject the Latter, and, only admitting the Former, will needs suppose *Heaven* and *Earth*, *Plants* and *Animals*, and all things whatsoever in this orderly *Compages* of the World, to have resulted meerly from a certain *Quantity of Motion*, or *Agitation*, at first impress'd upon the *Matter*, and determin'd to *Vortex*.

XXXI. The Chronology of the old Philosophers having some uncertainty in it, we shall not scrupulously concern our selves therein, but in the next place consider *Parmenides*, *Xenophanes* his Auditor and a *Philosophick Poet* likewise, but who conversing much with two *Pythagoreans*, *Amenias* and *Diocletes*, was therefore look'd upon as one that was not a little addicted to the *Pythagorick Sect*. That this *Parmenides* acknowledged *Many Gods*, is evident from what hath been already cited out of him; notwithstanding which he plainly asserted also, *One Supreme*, making him, as *Simplicius* tells us, αἰετὸν θεόν, the Cause of all those other Gods, of which *Love* is said to have been first produced. Which Supreme Deity, *Parmenides* as well as *Xenophanes* called, ἐν τῷ πᾶσι, *One that was All*, or the *Universe*; but adding thereunto of his own, that it was also ἀκίνητον, *Immovable*.

Now though it be true, that *Parmenides* his Writings being not without obscurity, some of the Ancients, who were less acquainted with *Metaphysical Speculations*, understood him *Physically*; as if he had asserted the whole *Corporeal Universe*, to be all but *One Thing*, and that *Immovable*, thereby destroying together with the *Diversity* of things, all *Motion*, *Mutation*, and *Alſion*; which was plainly to make *Parmenides*

nides not to have been a Philosopher but a Mad man. Yet *Simplicius*, a man well acquainted with the Opinions of Ancient Philosophers, and who had by him a Copy of *Parmenides* his Poems, (then scarce, but since lost) assures us that *Parmenides* dreamt of no such matter, and that he wrote ὁ ὢν τῷ φυσικῷ στοιχείῳ, ἀλλὰ ὢν τῷ ὄντι ἐπὶ τοῦ, or ὢν τῷ ὄντι ἐπὶ τοῦ φυσικοῦ, not concerning a Physical Element or Principle, but concerning the True Ens, or the Divine Transcendancy: Adding, that though some of those Ancient Philosophers did not distinguish, τοὶ φυσικὰ ἀπὸ τοῦ ὄντι ὑπὲρ φύσιν, Natural things from Supernatural; yet the Pythagoreans, and *Xenophanes*, and *Parmenides*, and *Empedocles*, and *Anaxagoras*, did all διακρίνειν, handle these Two distinctly; καὶ οὐ τῇ ἀσαφείᾳ λαοδιδόντες τὰς πολλὰς, however, by reason of their obscurity it were not perceived by many; for which cause they have been most of them misrepresented, not only by Pagans, but also by Christian Writers. For as the same *Simplicius* informs us, *Parmenides* propounded Two several Doctrines, one after another; the First concerning Theological and Metaphysical things, called by him ἀλήθεια, Truth, the Second concerning Physical and Corporeal things, which he called δόξαν, Opinion. The Transition betwixt which, was contained in these Verses of his,

ἔν τῷ Ζοι τοῦτο πᾶσι λέγειν ἡδὲ νόημα
 Ἀμφὶς ἀλήθειας· δόξας δ' ἀπὸ τῶνδε βεβέβηκε
 μάθαν· κέζον ἱμῶν ἐπὶ τῶν ἀπατηλῶν αἰῶνα.

In the Former of which Doctrines, *Parmenides* asserted One Immoveable Principle; but in the Latter, Two movable ones, Fire and Earth. He speaking of Souls also as a certain Middle or Vinculum, betwixt the Incorporeal and the Coporeal World, and affirming that God did, τὰς ψυχὰς περικυβνύει μὲν ἐκ τῶν ἰμμενέων εἰς τὸ αἰετὶς, πᾶσι ὁ ἀνάγκη, sometimes send and translate Souls, from the Visible to the Invisible Regions, and sometimes again, on the contrary from the Invisible to the Visible. From whence it is plain, that when *Parmenides* asserted his One and All Immoveable, he spake not as a Physiologer, but as a Metaphysician and Theologer only. Which indeed was a thing so evident, that *Aristotle* himself, though he had a mind to obscure *Parmenides* his sense, that he might have a sting at him in his Physicks, yet could not altogether dissemble it. For when he thus begins, There must of necessity be either One Principle or Many; and if there be but One, then must it either be Immoveable, as *Parmenides* and *Melissus* affirm, or else Movable, ὥς περ οἱ φυσικοὶ, as the Naturalists or Physiologers; he therein plainly intimates, that when *Parmenides* and *Melissus*, made One Immoveable the Principle of all things, they did not write this as Physiologers. And afterwards he confesses, that this Controversie, whether there were One Immoveable Principle, does not belong to Natural Philosophy, but to some other Science. But this is more plainly declared by him elsewhere, writing concerning *Parmenides* and *Melissus* after this manner, εἰ καὶ τ' ἄλλα λέγουσι καλῶς, ἀλλ' ὁ φυσικῶς γὰρ δὲ νομίζοντες λέγουσιν; τί γὰρ ἔστιν ἄλλα τοῦ ὄντος ἀλλότῳ καὶ ὄλως αἰετῶν, μᾶλλον, ὅτι ἐστὶς καὶ περὶ τοῦ, ἢ τὸ φυσικῶς ἐπιτελέειν. Though it be granted that *Parmenides* and *Melissus* otherwise said well, yet we must not imagine them to have spoken Physically. For this, that there

there is something Unmade and Immoveable, does not so properly belong to Physicks, as to a certain other Science which is before it.

Wherefore *Parmenides* as well as *Xenophanes* his Master, by his *One and All*, meant nothing else, but the *Supreme Deity*, he calling it also *Immoveable*. For the *Supreme Deity* was by these Ancient Philosophers styled, First τὸ ἐν and μονὰς a *Unity and Monad*, because they conceived, that the First and most Perfect being and the beginning of all things, must needs be the *most Simple*. Thus *Eudorus* in *Simplicius* declares their sense; ἀρχὴν ἵφασται εἶναι τῶν πάντων τὸ ἐν, ὡς καὶ τὸ ἕλκος καὶ τῶν ὅλων πρώτην, ὥστε τὸ γινώμενον, τὸ τοῦ εἶναι τὸ ἑσθάναι διδοί. These Ancients affirmed, that the *One* or *Unity*, was the first Principle of All, Matter it self as well as other things being derived from it, they meaning by this *One*, that Highest or Supreme God, who is over all. And *Syrrianus* to the same purpose, οἱ θεοὶ καλεῖται ἄνδρες, τὸ ἐν διδοῦντες, ὡς ἐκείνους τοὺς ὅλους αἰῶνα, καὶ παῖδες τῆς οὐσίας καὶ πάσης ζωῆς. Those Divine Men, called God The *One*, as being the cause of *Unity* to all things, as likewise he was of *Being* and *Life*. And *Simplicius* concludes, that *Parmenides* his ἐν εἶ, his *One Ens*, was a certain Divine Principle Superior to Mind or Intellect, and more Simple, λαμβάνει ἐν τὸ ἰοντὶ πᾶσι αἰῶνα, δι' ὃ καὶ ὁ νῦν ὄν καὶ τι ποῦν, ἀρ' ὅτι πάντα ἐστὶ μίαν ἑνῶσιν συνεκμετρίας κατελέγηται, καὶ ἑνωμένως, τὸ τοῦ εἶναι τὸ παρεκμετρίως ἐν ὅν. It remaineth therefore, that that *Intelligible*, which is the Cause of all things, and therefore of *Mind* and *Understanding* too, in which all things are contained and comprehended compendiously and in a way of *Unity*, I say that this was *Parmenides* his *One Ens* or *Being*. F. 31. Gr.

In the next place, *Parmenides* with the others of those Ancients, called also his ἐν εἶ, τὸ πᾶν, his *One Ens* or *First most Simple Being*, *All*, or the *Universe*; because it virtually contained all things, and as *Simplicius* writes, πᾶσα διακεκομμένη ἐμφανίται ἀπ' αὐτοῦ, All things are from this *One*, distinctly displayed. For which cause, in *Plato's Parmenides*, this *One* is laid to be, ὡς πᾶσα πολλὰ ὄντα νημεμετρίως, distributed into All things, that are Many. But that *Parmenides* by his ἐν τὸ πᾶν, *One-All*, or the *Universe*, did not understand the Corporeal World, is evident from hence, because he called it ἀδιαιρέτον or *Indivisible*, and as *Simplicius* observes, supposed it to have no Magnitude; because that which is Perfectly *One*, can have no Parts. In Phys. F 17.

Wherefore it may be here observed, that this expression of ἐν τὸ πᾶν, *One being All*, hath been used in very different Sences; for as *Parmenides* and *Xenophanes* understood it of the *Supreme Deity*; that *One* most Perfect and most Simple Being, was the Original of all things, so others of them meant it *Atheistically*, concerning the most Imperfect and Lowest of all Beings, Matter or Body, they affirming all things to be nothing but *One* and the same Matter, diversly modified. Thus much we learn from that place of *Aristotle's* in his *Metaphysics*, εἶναι μὲν ἐν ἑνὶ τὸ πᾶν καὶ μίαν εἶναι πᾶσι φύσιν ὡς ἕλκος πηλῶς, καὶ ταῦτ' ὅλον συναπλοῦν καὶ μέγεθος ἔχουσαν, ὅλον ὅτι πολλὰ καὶ ἀμαρτάνον, They who affirm *One* to be *All* in this sense, as if All things were nothing but one and the same Matter, and that corporeal and endued with magnitude, it is manifest L. 1. c. 7.

nifest that they err sundry ways. But here is a great Difference betwixt these Two to be observed, in that, the *Atheistical asserters* of *One and All* (whether they meant Water or Air by it, or something else) did none of them suppose their *One and All* to be *Immovable* but *Movable*; but they whose Principle was *One and all Immovable* (as *Parmenides*, *Melissus* and *Zeno*) could not possibly mean any thing else thereby, but the *Deity*; that there was one most Simple, Perfect, and Immutable Being Incorporeal, which virtually contained *All Things*, and from which All things were derived. But *Heraclitus*, who is one of those who are said to have affirmed *ἓν εἶναι τὸ πᾶν*, *that One was All*, or *that the Universe was but One Thing*; might possibly have taken both those senses together (which will also agree in the Stoical Hypothesis) that All things were both from *One God*, and from *One Fire*; they being both alike Corporeal Theists, who supposed an intellectual Fire, to be the First Principle of All Things.

L. 6. c. 1. C
L. 13. c. 7.

And though *Aristotle* in his *Physicks* quarrel very much with *Parmenides* and *Melissus*, for making *One Immovable Principle*, yet in his *Metaphysicks*, himself doth plainly close with it and own it as very good Divinity, that there is One Incorporeal and Immovable Principle of All Things, and that the Supreme Deity is an Immovable Nature, *ἑνὲς ὑπερῆχθαι τὴν οὐσίαν πᾶσιν αὐτῇ, ὡς τὸ γὰρ ἓν καὶ ἀκίνητον, ὅπερ πρῶτον ἐστὶν ἀκίνητον, ἀτάκτον δὲ ἂν ἦν πρὸς καὶ τὸ θεόν, καὶ αὐτὸν ἂν ὡς πρῶτον καὶ κενὸν αὐτῇ ἀρχῇ*. If there be any such Substance as this, that is separate (from Matter, or Incorporeal) and Immovable (as we shall afterwards endeavour to shew that there is) then the Divinity ought to be placed here, and this must be acknowledged to be the First and most Proper Principle of all. But lest any should suspect, that *Aristotle*, if not *Parmenides* also, might for all that, hold Many such Immovable Principles, or Many Eternal, Uncreated and Self-existent Beings, as so many Partial Causes of the World, *Simplicius* assures us, *μὴ γὰρ ποτε οὐδὲν τοιούτων καὶ ἀκινήτων τὰς ἀρχὰς λέγουσιν*, i. e. that though divers of the Ancient Philosophers asserted a Plurality of Movable Principles (and some indeed an Infinity) yet there never was any Opinion entertained amongst Philosophers, of Many, or More than One, Immovable Principles. From whence it may be concluded, that no Philosopher ever asserted, a Multitude of Unmade Self-existent Minds, or Independent Deities, as Coordinate Principles of the World.

Indeed *Plotinus* seems to think that *Parmenides* in his Writings, by his *τὸ ὅν*, or *Ens*, did frequently mean a Perfect Mind or Intellect, there being no True Entity (according to him) below that which Understands (which Mind, though Incorporeal, was likened by him to a Sphere, because it comprehends all within itself, and because Intellection is not from without, but from within.) But that when again, he called his *One* or *Ens*, *One*, he gave occasion thereby to some, to quarrel with him, as making the same both *One* and *Many*; *Intellect* being that which contains the Ideas of all things in it. Wherefore *Parmenides* his whole Philosophy (saith he) was better digested and more exactly and distinctly set down in *Plato's Parmenides*, where he acknowledged, Three Unities Subordinate, or a Trinity of Divine Hypostases;

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ὁ δὲ Πλάτων παραβρίδης, ἀπορίσσειν λέγων, διαρῆ ἀπ' ἄλλων, τὸ πρῶτον *En. 5. L. 1. c. 8.*
 ἐν, ὃ κυριώτερον ἐν· καὶ δέτεται ἐν πολλὰ λέγων· καὶ τρίτον ἐν καὶ πολλὰ·
 καὶ σύμμετρον· ὅτε καὶ αὐτὸς ἐπὶ ταῖς φύσεσι ταῖς τελεσί· *Parmenides in*
Plato, speaking more exactly, distinguishes Three Divine Unities Sub-
ordinate; The First of that which is perfectly and most properly One;
the Second of that which was called by him, One-Many; the Third of
that which is thus expressed, One and Many. So that Parmenides did
also agree in this acknowledgment of a Trinity of Divine or Archical Hy-
postases. Which Observation of Plotinus is, by the way, the best Key,
that we know of, for that Obscure Book of Plato's Parmenides:
Wherefore Parmenides thus asserting a Trinity of Divine Hypostases, it
was the First of those Hypostases, that was properly called by him,
ἐν τῷ πᾶν, One the Universe or all: That is, One most Simple Being,
the Fountain and Original of all. And the Second of them (which
is a Perfect Intellect) was it seems by him called, in way of distinction
ἐν πολλὰ or πάντα, One-Many or One-All Things. By which All Things
are meant, the Intelligible Ideas of Things, that are all contained
together in One Perfect Mind. And of those was Parmenides to be
understood also, when he affirmed, That all Things did stand, and
nothing flow; not of Singular and Sensible Things, which, as the He-
raclicks rightly affirmed, do indeed all flow; but of the Immediate
Objects of the Mind, which are Eternal and Immutable; Aristotle
himself acknowledging, that no Generation nor Corruption belongeth
to them; since there could be no Immutable and Certain Science,
unless there were some Immutable, Necessary and Eternal Objects of
it. Wherefore, as the same Aristotle also declares, the true Mean-
ing of that Controversie, betwixt the Heracliticks and Parmenideans,
Whether All Things did flow or Some things stand? was the same with
this, Whether there were any other Objects of the Mind, besides
Singular Sensibles, that were Immutable; and consequently, Whe-
ther there were any such thing, as Science or Knowledge which had
a Firmitude and Stability in it? For those Heracliticks who contend-
ed, that the only Objects of the Mind, were Singular and Sensible
things, did with good reason consequently thereupon deny, that
there was any Certain and Constant Knowledge, since there can nei-
ther be any Definition of Singular Sensibles, (as Aristotle writes) nor
any Demonstration concerning them. But the Parmenideans on the
contrary, who maintained the Firmitude and Stability of Science,
did as reasonably conclude thereupon, that besides Singular Sensi-
bles; there were other Objects of the Mind, Universal, Eternal and
Immutable, which they called the Intelligible Ideas, all originally
contained in One Archetypal Mind or Understanding, and from
thence participated by Inferiour Minds and Souls. But it must be
here acknowledged, that Parmenides and the Pythagoreans, went
yet a step further, and did not only suppose those Intelligible Ideas,
to be the Eternal and Immutable Objects of all Science, but also as
they are contained in the Divine Intellect, to be the Principles and
Causes of all other things. For thus Aristotle declares their Sense,
αἰτία τὰ ἕδη τοῖς ἄλλοις, and again, τί τί ἦν αἰτία ἐκείνων τῶν ἄλλων τὰ ἕδη
παρίσταται, τῶς ὃ ἕδη τὰ ἐν· The Ideas are the Causes of all other things;
and, the Essence of all other things below, is imparted to them from the I-

Met. L. 4. c. 5.

Met. L. 1. c. 6.

deas, as the Ideas themselves, derive their Essence from the First Unity. Those *Ideas* in the Divine Understanding, being look'd upon by these Philosophers, as the Paradigms and Patterns of all Created things. Now these *Ideas* being frequently called by the Pythagoreans, *Numbers*, we may from hence clearly understand the Meaning of that seemingly monstrous Paradox or puzzling *Griphus* of theirs, that *Numbers were the Causes and Principles of all things*, or that *All things were made out of Numbers*; it signifying indeed no more than this, that All things were made from the *Ideas* of the Divine Intellect, called *Numbers*; which themselves also were derived from a Monad or Unity; *Aristotle* somewhere intimating this very account of that Assertion, τὰς ἀριθμὸς αἰτίας εἶναι τὰς ἀνάς τ' ἑξίας, *That Numbers were the Causes of the Essence of other things*, namely, because τὰ ἐκ ἀριθμοῦ, *the Ideas were Numbers*. Though we are not ignorant, how the Pythagoreans made also all the Numbers within the Decad, to be Symbols of Things. But besides these *Two Divine Hypostases* already mentioned, *Parmenides* seems to have asserted also a *Third*, which because it had yet more *Alterity*, for distinction sake was called by him, neither ἐν τῷ πᾶν, *One the Universe or All*; nor ἐν πᾶσι, *One-All Things*; but ἐν καὶ πᾶσι, *One and All things*; and this is taken by *Plotinus* to be the *Eternal Psyche*, that actively produceth All Things, in this Lower World, according to those *Divine Ideas*.

But that *Parmenides* by his *One-All Immoveable*, really understood nothing else but the Supreme Deity, is further unquestionably evident from those Verses of his cited by *Simplicius*, but not taken notice of by *Stephanus* in his *Poesis Philosophica*, of which we shall only set down some few here.

In *Arist. Phys.*
fol 7. c. 17. §
31.

— ὅς ἀρῶσται ἰδι εἰ ἀέλιον ἐστὶν,
οὐδέ ποτ' ἦν, ὅτ' ἔσται, ἐπεὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἑμὲ πᾶν·
"ἐν συνεχὲς· τίνα γὰρ ᾗλω διζῆσαι αὐτῷ;
αὐτοῖς ἀκίνητον μέγαν εἰς πάρος θάσσαν,
ταυτὸν τ' ὡς ταυτῶν τι μέγαν, καὶ ἰαυτὸ τι κῆται· &c.

In which together with those that follow, the Supreme Deity is plainly described, as One Single, Solitary, and most Simple Being, Unmade or Self-existent, and Necessarily Existing, Incorporeal and devoid of Magnitude, altogether Immutable or Unchangeable, whose Duration therefore was very different from that of ours, and not in a way of Flux or Temporary Succession, but a *Constant Eternity*, without either *Past* or *Future*. From whence it may be observed, that this Opinion of a *Standing Eternity*, different from that *Flowing Succession* of Time, is not so Novel a Thing, as some would persuade, nor was first excogitated by Christian Writers, Schoolmen or Fathers, it being at least as old as *Parmenides*; from whom it was also afterwards received and entertained by the best of the other Pagan Philosophers; however it hath been of late so much decried, not only by Atheistical Writers, but other Precocious and Conceited Wits also, as Non-sence and Impossibility.

It is well known that *Melissus* held forth the very same Doctrine with *Parmenides*, of *One Immoveable*, that was *All*, which he plainly affirmed to be Incorporeal likewise, as *Parmenides* did ; *ὅς ὁ μέλιστος ἐν εὐν φησιν, ὅτι αὐτὸ οὐ μὴ ἔχειν, εἰ ἢ ἔχει πᾶν, ἔχει ἂν μέρος, Melissus also declared, that his One Ens must needs be devoid of Body, because if it had any Crassities in it, it would have Parts.* But the only Difference that was between them was this, that *Parmenides* called this *One Immoveable* that was *All*, πεπερασμένον, *Finite or Determined*, but *Melissus* ἀπείρου, *Infinite*. Which Difference notwithstanding was in Words only, there being none at all, as to the reality of their Sense ; whilst each of them endeavoured in a different way, to set forth the greatest Perfection of the Deity ; there being an Equivocation in those words *Finite* and *Infinite*, and both of them signifying in one sense Perfection, but in another Imperfection. And the Disagreeing Agreement of these two Philosophers with one another, *Parmenides* and *Melissus* ; as also of *Xenophanes* with them both concerning the Deity, is well declared by *Simplicius* after this manner ; *ὅτιν ὁ ἴσως χεῖρον ὀλίγον παρεκάλεσεν, τῶν φιλομαθεύσεως ἐπιστήφει, πᾶς καίτοι διαφέρει δεικνύσας οἱ πάλαι, ὅτι τῶν ἑρμῶν ἀρχῶν δόξας, ὁσαυτεῖνος ὅμας συμπεριέσται· καὶ ὅτι οἱ μὲν ὅτι τῶν πρώτων ἀρχῶν διελύχοντο, ὡς κενοράνης καὶ παρμενίδος καὶ μέλιστος· ὁ μὲν παρμενίδης ἐν λέγειν καὶ πεπερασμένον· ἀνάγκη ὅτι τὸ ἐν τῷ πλείους περιέπερχειν, καὶ τὸ πᾶσι ὅρα καὶ περὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὸ πέρας μᾶλλον ἢ ὅτι τῷ ἀπείρῳ ἀφορίζεσθαι, καὶ τὸ πάντι τιτλῶν τιτλῶν τὸ οὐκ ἄπειρον, πεπερασμένον εἶναι, μᾶλλον ὃ τίτλῳ ὅτι πάντων ὡς ἀρχῆ· τὸ ὅτι ἀπλὴς ὁδὸς ἐν, ὅτι πᾶς ἀπείρου· μέλιστος ὃ τὸ μὲν ἀμεταμέλητον ὁμοίως καὶ αὐτὸς ἐθέσσει, καὶ τὸ ἀνέκλειστον ὃ ἐξέσται, καὶ τὸ ἀπείρου ὃ δυνάμει, ἀπείρου αὐτὸ ἀπεφρίσται, ὡς καὶ ἀρχή· πάλιν ὁ μὲν κενοράνης ὡς πάντων αὐτοῦ, καὶ πάντων ἡσφαίρειν, καὶ κατὰ αὐτὸ ἐν ἡμεῖς καὶ πᾶσι ἀπείρου καὶ ἐπέκεινα τίθεται, ὡς καὶ ὁ πλάτων αὐτῇ πρώτῃ ὑποθέσει· ὁ ὃ παρμενίδης, τὸ καὶ αὐτὸ καὶ ὡς αὐτὸς ἔχει αὐτῷ, καὶ πᾶσι μεταλλάξαι, τὰ καὶ ὡς ἐργείας καὶ δυνάμει ἐπέκεινα, θεσπάζοντες, ἀνέκλειστον αὐτὸ ἀνωμῶν.* Perhaps it will not be improper for us to digress a little here, and to gratify the studious and inquisitive Reader, by showing how those Ancient Philosophers, though seeming to dissent in their Opinions concerning the Principles, did notwithstanding harmoniously agree together. As first of all, they who discoursed concerning the Intelligible and First Principle of *All* ; *Xenophanes*, *Parmenides* and *Melissus* ; of whom *Parmenides* called it *One Finite and Determined* ; because as *Unity* must needs exist before *Multitude*, so that which is to all things the cause of *Measure*, *Bound* and *Determination*, ought rather to be described by *Measure* and *Finitude*, than *Infinity* ; as also that which is every way perfect, and hath attained its own end, or rather is the end of all things (as it was the beginning) must needs be of a *Determinate Nature* ; for that which is imperfect and therefore indigent, hath not yet attained its Term or *Measure*. But *Melissus*, though considering the *Immutability* of the Deity likewise, yet attending to the *Inexhaustible* perfection of its Essence, the *Unlimitedness* and *Unboundedness* of its Power, declareth it to be *Infinite*, as well as *Ingenit* or *Unmade*. Moreover *Xenophanes* looking upon the Deity, as the Cause of *All things* and above *All things*, placed it above *Motion* and *Rest*, and all those *Antitheses* of *Inferiour Beings*, as *Plato* likewise doth in the first Hypothesis of his *Parmenides* ;

whereas Parmenides and Melissus, attending to its Stability and constant Immutability, and its being perhaps above Energy and Power, praised it as Immovable. From which of Simplicius it is plain, that Parmenides when he called God, πεπεγμένον, Finite and Determined, was far from meaning any such thing thereby, as if he were a Corporeal Being of Finite Dimensions, as some have ignorantly supposed; or as if he were any way limited as to Power and Perfection; but he understood it in that sense, in which πέρας is taken by Plato, as opposite to ἀπειρα, and for the Greatest Perfection, and as God is said to be πέρας ἡ μέτρον πάντων, The Term and Measure of All Things. But Melissus calling God ἀπείρα, Infinite, in the sense before declared, as thereby to signify his Inexhaustible Power and Perfection, his Eternity and Incorruptibility, doth therein more agree with our present Theology, and the now received manner of speaking. We have the rather produced all this, to shew how Curious the ancient Philosophers were, in their Enquiries after God, and how exact in their Descriptions of him. Wherefore however Anaximanders Infinite, were nothing but Eternal Senseless Matter (though called by him the τὸ θεῖον, the Divinest thing of all) yet Melissus his ἀπείρα, or Infinite, was the true Deity.

With Parmenides and Melissus fully agreed Zeno Eleates also, Parmenides his Scholar, that One Immovable, was All, or the Original of All things, he meaning thereby nothing else, but the Supreme Deity. For though it be true, that this Zeno did excogitate certain Arguments against the Local Motion of Bodies, proceeding upon that Hypothesis of the Infinite Divisibility of Body, one of which was famously known by that name of Achilles, because it pretended to prove that it was impossible (upon that Hypothesis) for the Swift-footed Achilles, ever to overtake the creeping Snail; (which Arguments of his, whether or no they are well answered by Aristotle, is not here to our purpose to enquire) yet all this was nothing else, but Lusus Ingenii, a sportful exercise of Zeno's Wit, he being a subtil Logician and Disputant, or perhaps an Endeavour also, to shew how puzzling and perplexing to humane Understanding, the conception even of the most vulgar and confessed Phenomena of Nature may be. For that Zeno Eleates by his One Immovable that was All, meant not the Corporeal World, no more than Melissus, Parmenides, and Xenophanes, is evident from Aristotle writing thus concerning him; τί τοῦτον ἐν ᾧ τὸ θεῖον λέγει, ὅτι κινήσθαι, ὅτι κινήσας εἶναι, Zeno by his one Ens which neither was moved, nor moveable, meant God. Moreover the same Aristotle informs us, that this Zeno endeavoured to Demonstrate, that there was but One God, from that Idea which all men have of him, as that which is the Best, the Supreme and most Powerful of all, or as an absolutely Perfect Being; εἰ δ' ἔστιν ὁ θεὸς ἀπείρων κρείττων, ἵνα φασὶ προέκειναι αὐτῷ. If God be the Best of All things, then he must needs be One. Which Argument was thus pursued by him; τίτῳ θεὸς ἢ θεὸς δύναμις κρείττων ἄλλῃ μὴ κρείττωσιν; ὥστε καὶ αὐτὸ μὴ κρείττων, καὶ τὸ κρείττων ἢ ἑστῶσι θεοί; πλείονας ἢ ὄντων, εἰ μὲν ὅταν τὰ μὲν ἄλληλα κρείττωσιν, καὶ ἢ ἴσῃς, ἢ ἂν εἶναι θεὸς; πεφυκέναι γὰρ θεῖον μὴ κρείττωσιν; ἴσων, ἢ ὄντων, ἢ ἂν ἔχον θεῖον φύσιν δ' ὅντων εἶναι κρείττων; τί ἢ ἴσων, ὅτι βέλτερον ἢ

χρεῖστον

De Xenoph. Zeno.
G. Gor.

χῦρεν ἔσται τῷ ἸϞα' ὡς' ἑαυτ' ἔν τι, καὶ τιώσται ἐν θεῷ, ἕνα μόνον ἔσται τ' θεὸν
 ἔσθ' ὃδ' ἔσθ' πάντα δύναιται ἂν ἔν βούλοιο· This is God and the Power of
 God, to prevail, conquer and rule over all. Wherefore by how much
 anything falls short of the Best, by so much does it fall short of being
 God. Now if there be supposed more such Beings, whereof some are
 Better, some worse, those could not be all Gods, because it is Essential
 to God not to be transcended by any; but if they be conceived to be so
 many Equal Gods; then would it not be the nature of God to be the
 Best, one Equal being neither better nor worse than another, Wherefore
 if there be a God, and this be the nature of him, then can there be but
 One. And indeed otherwise he could not be able to do whatever he
 would.

Empedocles is said to have been an Emulator of *Parmenides* also,
 which must be understood of his Metaphysics, because in his Phy-
 siology (which was *Atomical*) he seems to have transcended him. Now
 that Empedocles acknowledged One Supreme and Universal Numen
 and that Incorporeal too, may be concluded from what hath been
 already cited out of his Philosophick Poems. Besides which the ^{P. 26.}
 Writer *De Mundo* (who though not *Aristotle* yet was a Pagan of
 good antiquity) clearly affirmeth, that Empedocles derived all things
 whatsoever, from One Supreme Deity; τὰ γὰρ δι' αἰέρος ἀπύκνα, καὶ ἔπ' αὐ-
 γῆς, καὶ τὰ αἰ' ὑδατὶ, θεῷ λέγουσι' ἂν ὄντως ἔργα εἶναι, τῷ τ' κλέμεν ἐπέχοιτος.
 ἐξ οὗ καὶ τ' φυσικὴν ἔμπειρευα,

πάντ' ὅσα τ' ἦν, ὅσα τ' ὄντι, ἰδ' ὅσα τε ἔσται ὅπισθα, &c.

All the things that are upon the Earth and in the Air and Water, may
 truly be called the works of God, who ruleth over the World. Out of whom,
 according to the Physical Empedocles, proceed all things that were, are,
 and shall be, viz. Plants, Men, Beasts and Gods. Which notwithstanding
 we conceive, to be rather true as to Empedocles his sence, than
 his words, he affirming, as it seems, in that cited place, that all
 these things were made, not immediately out of God, but out of
 Contention and Friendship; because *Simplicius* who was furnished with
 a Copy of Empedocles his Poems, twice brings in that cited Passage of
 his in this connexion,

ἔν ᾧ κέτω δέμερφα καὶ ἀνδρες πάντα πύλονται,
 σὺν δ' ἔν α' φιλότῃ καὶ ἀλλήλοισι πόθεσσι,
 ἔκ τ' ὃ γὰρ πάντα ὅσα ἦν, ὅσα τέ ὄντι, καὶ ἔσται,
 αἰδέσθαι τε βασιλεύει, καὶ ἀνδρες ἰδὲ γυναῖκες,
 θῆρες, τ' αἰαντοί τε, καὶ ὑδατοβέμμενος ἰχθύς,
 καὶ τι θεοὶ δολιχαίωτες τιμῇ φέρεται.

Things are divided and segregated by Contention, but joyned together
 by Friendship; from which Two (Contention and Friendship) all that
 was, is, and shall be, proceeds; as trees, men and women, beasts, birds
 and fishes, and last of all the long lived and honourable Gods. Where-
 fore the sence of Empedocles his words here was this; that the whole
 created World, together with all things belonging to it, viz. Plants,
 Beasts

Beasts, Men and Gods, was made from *Contention* and *Friendship*. Nevertheless, since according to *Empedocles* *Contention* and *Friendship*, did themselves depend also upon one Supreme Deity, which he with *Farmenides* and *Xenophanes* called, τὸ ἓν, or *The Very One*; the Writer *De Mundo* might well conclude, that according to *Empedocles*, all things whatsoever, and not only men, but Gods, were derived from *One Supreme Deity*. And that this was indeed *Empedocles* his sense, appears plainly from *Aristotle* in his *Metaphysics*, τὸ μὲν γὰρ ἓν [ἐμπεδοκλέους] ἀρχὴν παντὸς φύσεως τὸ νῦν αὖτ' ἀδείκει δ' αὖ ἐν τῷ ἑκάστῳ καὶ τῷ τοῦ ὅλκου ἕξ αὐτῶν τῶ ἑνός. Ἀπαῖνα γὰρ ὅτι τότε τ' ἄλλα ἕξι πάλιν ὁ Διὸς λέγει αὖν.

L. 3, c. 4.

[illegible]

Empedocles makes Contention to be a certain Principle of Corruption and Generation : Nevertheless he seems to generate this Contention it self also from the Very One (that is, from the Supreme Deity.) For all things according to him are from this Contention, God only excepted ; he writing after this manner, From which (that is, Contention and Friendship) all the things that have been, are and shall be (Plants, Beasts, Men and Gods) derived their Original. For Empedocles it seems supposed, that were it not for ~~the~~ Discord or Contention, all things would be One : So that according to him, all things whatsoever proceeded from Contention or Discord, together with a mixture of Friendship, save only the Supreme God, who hath therefore no Contention at all in him, because he is Essentially τὸ ἓν, Unity it self and Friendship. From whence Aristotle takes occasion to quarrel with Empedocles, as if it would follow from his Principles, that the Supreme and most Happy God, was the Least wise of all, as being not able to know any thing besides himself, or in the World without him, διότι συμβαίνει αὐτῷ, ὅτι ἀναγκαῖον αὐτῷ εἶναι ὅσον φέρματι εἶναι τῷ ἑλάνῳ· ὅ γὰρ γνωρίζει τὰ συνήα πάντα τὰ ὅτι εἴνεκεν οὐ ἔχει· ἢ γὰρ οὐκ οἶσιν τὰ ὁμοῖα τὰ ὁμοῖα.

Mgt. L.3-6.4

Ταῖς μέντοι τοῖς (φυσ.) γαῖαν ὀπώπυμιν, ὑδατὶ δ' ὑδαρ, δεσ.

This therefore happens to Empedocles, that according to his Principles, the most Happy God, is the least Wise of all other things, for he cannot know the Elements, because he hath no Contention in him; all Knowledge being by that which is like; himself writing thus; We know Earth by Earth, Water by Water, Air by Air, and Fire by Fire; Friendship by Friendship, and Contention by Contention. But to let this pass; Empedocles here making the Gods themselves to be derived from Contention and Friendship, the Supreme Deity, or most Happy God, only excepted, (who hath no Contention in him, and from whom Contention and Friendship themselves were derived) plainly acknowledged both One Unmade Deity, the Original of all things under the name of $\gamma\alpha\iota\alpha$, The very One, and many other Inferiour Gods, generated or produced by him; they being Juniors to Contention, or Discord, as this was also Junior to Unity, the First and Supreme Deity. Which Gods of Empedocles, that were begotten from Contention (as well as Men and other things) were doubtless the Stars and Demons.

1

Moreover

Moreover we may here observe, that according to *Empedocles* his Doctrine, the true Original of all the *Evil*, both of *Humane Souls* and *Demons* (which he supposed alike *Lapſable*) was derived from that *Nēkōs*, *Discord* and *Contention*, that is necessarily contained in the Nature of them, together with the the Ill Use of their Liberty, both in this *Present* and their *Pre-existent State*. So that *Empedocles* here trode in the footsteps of *Pythagoras*, whose Praises he thus loudly sang forth in his Poems,

According to
that Poet, *Empedocles*
wrote *eleven*.
P. 23.

Ἦν δὲ τις ὡς κείνοισιν ἀνὴρ ἄζωπος εὐδὲς,
Ὅς δὴ μύκιστον περὶ πῶν ὀλέσσετο πλεῖστον,
παντῶν τε μέλυστα σπάρων ἐπὶ πύργῳ ἔχων, &c.

Forſeyer de Gm.
Pyth. p. 194.

Horum de numero quidam præstantia norat
Plurima, Mentis Opes Amplas sub peſſore ſervans,
Omnia Veſtigans Sapientum Doſſa Reperta, &c.

XXII. Before we come to *Socrates* and *Plato*, we ſhall here take notice of ſome other *Pythagoreans*, and *Emiaent Philoſophers*, who clearly affirmed *One Supreme and Univerſal Numen*, though doubtleſs acknowledging withal, *Other Inferiour Gods*: *Philo* in his Book *De Mundi Opificio*, writing of the *Hebdomad* or *Septenary Number*, and obſerving that according to the *Pythagoreans*, it was called both a *Motherleſs* and *Virgin Number*, becauſe it was the only number within the *Decad*, which was neither *Generated*, nor did it ſelf *Generate*, tells us that therefore it was made by them a *ſymbol* of the *Supreme Deity*, οἱ πυθαγόρειοι τὸ ἀεὶ ὄντων ἑξομοίωσι τὰς ἡγεμονίας τῆς συμπάντων. *The Pythagoreans likened this Number, to the Prince and Governour of All Things, or the Supreme Monarch of the Univerſe*, as thinking it to bear a reſemblance of his *Immutability*; which Phancy of theirs was before taken notice of by us. However *Philo* hereupon, occaſionally cites this Remarkable Teſtimony of *Philolaus* the *Pythagorean*, Ἐπὶ γὰρ, φησὶ, ἡγεμονίᾳ καὶ ἀρχῇ ἀπαντῶν ὁ θεὸς, ὅς ἐστί τις, μόνιμος, ἀκίνητος, αὐτὸς αὐτῷ ἕμειος, ἔνθεος γὰρ ἕνδω. *God ſaith he is the Prince and Ruler over all, alwayes One, Stable, Immoveable, Like to himſelf, but Unlike to every thing elſe*. To which may be added what in *Stobæus* is further recorded, out of the ſame *Philolaus*, ἢ ἐπεὶ ὁ κόσμος ἔξ αἰῶνος, καὶ εἰς αἰῶνα διαμνέσθῃ, εἰς ὑπὲρ ἐνὸς τοῦ σφύγγου καὶ ἀεὶ ὄντος καὶ ἐκτενέως μόνου. *This World was from Eternity and will remain to Eternity, One governed by One, which is Cognate and the Beſt*. Where notwithstanding he ſeemeth, with *Ocellus*, to maintain the *Worlds Pre-eternity*. And again, διὸ καὶ καλῶς ἔχειν ἕλεγε, κόσμον ἡμῶν ἀτέρνησαν αἰδιον. *Wherefore, ſaid Philolaus, the World might well be called the Eternal Energy or Effect of God, and of Succeſſive Generation*.

P. 23.

Ed. Phil. p. 44.

Jamblichus in his *Protrepticks* cites a Paſſage out of *Archylæus* another *Pythagorean*, to the ſame purpoſe, ὅς ἀναλίσκεται οὐδὲς τι ἐξ ἡμῶν τὰ ἅπαντα ἐπὶ μίᾳ τε καὶ αὐτῇ ἀρχῇ, ὅτι δυνάμις μοι καλὰν σκοποῦσαν διεικέναι, ἀφ' ἧς δυνατὸς ἐστὶν πάντα τὰ θεῶν καλοφρονεῖν, &c. *Whoſoever is able to reduce all kinds of things under One and the ſame Principle, this man ſeems to me, to have found out an excellent Specula, or high Station,*

C. 4. p. 206.

from

of the *Eternal and Unmade Idea*. In which words of *Timæus*, there are these Three several Points of the Pagan Theology contained; First, that there is *One Supreme God*, Eternal and Unmade, the Creator and Governour of the whole World, and who made it according to the Best Pattern or Exemplar of his own *Idea's* and Eternal Wisdom. Secondly, that this World Created by God, is compounded and made up of other *Inferiour Gods*, Men, and Brute Animals. Thirdly, that the Supreme God hath committed the Administration of our Humane Affairs to Demons and Inferiour Gods, who are constant inspectors over us, some of which he also makes use of for the punishment of wicked men after this life. Moreover in this Book of *Timæus* *Locrus* the Supreme God is often called, ὁ Θεός; and sometime ὁ δαίμων, God in way of eminency; sometime νόος, Mind, sometime τ' ἀγαθόν, *The Very Good* sometime ἀρχὴ τῶ ἀρίστων, *The Principle of the Best things*, sometime δημιουργὸς τῶ βελτίων, *The Maker of the Better*; (Evil being supposed not to proceed from him;) sometime ἀρχὴν πάντων, *the Best and most Powerful Cause*, sometime ἀρχὴς καὶ ἡγετὴς πάντων, *The Prince and Parent of all things*. Which God, according to him, is not the Soul of the World neither, but the Creator thereof, he having made the World an *Animal*, and a *Secondary Generated God*; διδόνμενον ὡς ἄριστον ἡννομα πῦν, τῷ τῷ πᾶσι θεῷ ἡγετῇ, ἡγετῇ φανερῶς ὡς ἄλλῳ αἰσῶ, ἔγω γὰρ αὐτὸν συνταγματῶν θεῷ, ἡγετῇ δίδωμι αὐτὸν δαίμονα, God willing to make the world the Best, that it was capable of, made it a *Generated God*, such as should never be destroyed by any other Cause but only by that God himself who framed it, if he should ever will to dissolve it. But since it is not the part of that which is good to destroy the Best of Works, the World will doubtless ever remain Incorruptible and Happy; the best of all Generated things, made by the Best Cause, looking not at Patterns Artificially framed without him, but the Idea and Intelligible Essence, as the Paradigm, which whatsoever is made conformable to, must needs be the Best, and such as shall never need to be mended. Moreover he plainly declares, that this *Generated God* of his, the World, was produced in Time, so as to have a Beginning, πρὶν ἀρχὴν ἡγετῇ, λόγῳ ὡς ἰδὲν τι καὶ ἔλα, καὶ ὁ θεὸς δημιουργὸς τῶ βελτίων, *Before the Heaven was made, existed the Idea, Matter, and God the Oupitex of the Best*. Wherefore whatever *Ocellus* and *Philolaus* might do, yet this *Timæus* held not the Worlds Eternity; wherein he followed, not only *Pythagoras* himself (as we have already shewed) but also the generality of the first *Pythagoreans*, of whom *Aristotle* pronounces without exception, ἡγετῇ καὶ τὸ καὶ μόνον, *that they Generated the World*. *Timæus* indeed in this Book, seems to assert the *Pre-eternity* of the Matter, as if it were a *Self-existent Principle* together with God, and yet *Clement Alexandrinus* cites a passage out of him looking another way, ἀλλ' αἰσῶ καὶ μίαν ἀρχὴν καὶ παρ' ἑλλῶν ἀκούσαι τοῦ θεοῦ, τιμῶν ὁ λογὸς ὡς τῷ φυσικῷ συγγεγραμμένῳ καὶ λέγει ὡς μὴ μαθητῶν. μίαν ἀρχὴν πάντων ὡς ἀρχὴν, ἡ καὶ τῷ ἡγετῇ, ἡ καὶ τῷ ἡγετῇ ἀρχὴ, ἀλλ' αἰσῶ ἀρχὴ, ἡ καὶ τῷ ἡγετῇ. *Would you hear of one only Principle of all things amongst the Greeks? Timæus Locrus in his Book of Nature, will bear me witness thereof; he there in express words writing thus, There is One Principle of All Things Unmade; for if it were made it would not be a Principle, but that would be the Principle, from whence it was made.* Thus

Met. L. i. c. 7.

Ström. § p. 604

we see that *Timæus Locutus* asserted One Eternal and Unmade God, the maker of the whole World, and besides this, another Generated God, the World it self Animated, with its several Parts; the difference betwixt both which Gods, is thus declared by him, οὐκ ἔστι τι μὴ αἰδίου νότον ὅν μόνος, ἢ ἀνάρχων ἀρχαῖον καὶ γένετα τῶντων, ἢ ὃ γενετὴς ἐκ ἀόλου, καὶ χρόνον δὲ τῶνδε, καὶ τὰ μέρη αὐτῶν ὅντα ἀόλου ἀντί. That Eternal God, who is the Prince, Original, and Parent of all these things, is seen only by the Mind, but the other Generated God, is visible to our eyes, viz. this world and those parts of it which are Heavenly, that is, the Stars, as so many particular Gods contained in it. But here it is to be observed, that that Eternal God, is not only so called by *Timæus*, as being without beginning, but also as having a distinct kind of duration from that of Time, which is properly called *Æon* or Eternity, he therein following *Parmenides*, εἰναι δὲ ἐν τῷ ἀφύκτονῳ χρόνῳ, δι' αἰῶνα πανταχόθεν. ὥς γὰρ πρὶν αἰῶνα ἀφύκτου καὶ ἰδιῶτου καὶ χρόνον οὐδὲ ἀεὶς ἐφύκειν, ὥς καὶ πρὶς ἀφύκτου καὶ αἰῶνα οὐδὲ χρόνον σὺν χρόνῳ ἐπαμεινύειν. Time is but an Image of that Unmade Duration, which we call Eternity; wherefore as this sensible World was made according to that Eternal Exemplar or Pattern of the Intelligible World, so was Time made together with the World, as an Imitation of Eternity.

Page 233.

It hath been already observed, that *Oratus* another Pythagorean, took notice of an Opinion of some in his time, that there was *One only God*, who comprehended the *whole World*, and no other Gods besides, or at least, none such as was to be religiously worshipped; himself in the mean time asserting, That there was both *One God*, and *Many Gods*; or besides *One Supreme and Universal Nomen*, *Many other Inferiour and Particular Deities*, to whom also men ought to pay Religious Worship. Now his further account of both these Assertions, is contained in these following words; τοι ὁ λέγωντες ἓνα θεὸν εἶμεν, ἀλλὰ μὴ πολλὰς ἀμαρτανόουσι· τὸ γὰρ μέγιστον ἀξίωμα τῷ θεῷ ὅτι οὐκ ἐστὶν ὅμοιος τῷ ὅτι ἀρχὴν καὶ καθυπέρχεται τῷ ὅτι ἐμείλου, καὶ κρατεῖται καὶ καθυπερβαίνει εἶμεν τῷ ὅτι ἄλλων· τοι δ' αἰμοὶ θεοὶ ποτὶ τὸ πρῶτον καὶ ἰσότην ἔσας ἔχουσι· ὡς περ χεῖρα τοι καρυφαίον, καὶ σκεπτικόν τοι σκεπτικόν, καὶ λογικόν, καὶ αἰσθητικόν τοι ταίφειρον καὶ λυσιτελεῖται, ἔχοντες φύσιν, ἐπεὶ οὐ καὶ ἰσχυροὺς οὖν τῷ καλῶς καθυποτασσόμενοι· κοπὴν μὲρ τοι αὐτῷ τὸ ἔργον ἔχει, καὶ τὸ πρῶτον, καὶ τὸ ἀρχαίον αἰὶν καὶ διὰ τοῦτο συντηροῦνται τοι ἀρχαίον τοι τὸ ἔργον, ἀποκαταστάσεις ἀγνέμενος· ὡς περ ἐπὶ χεῖρα τοι σκεπτικόν, ἐπὶ σκεπτικόν τοι σκεπτικόν, ἀποκαταστάσεις ἀγνέμενος, τοι μὲρ σκεπτικόν, τοι ὁ καρυφαίον· *They who maintain that there is only One God, and not Many Gods, are very much mistaken, as not considering aright, what the Dignity and Majesty of the Divine Transcendence chiefly consisteth in, namely, in Ruling and Governing those which are like to it (that is, Gods) and in excelling or surmounting Others, and being Superiour to them. But all those other Gods, which we contend for, are to that First and Intelligible God, but as the Dancers to the Coryphaeus or Choragus, &c. as the Inferiour Common Soldiers, to the Captain or General; to whom it properly belongeth, to follow and comply with their Leader and Commander. The work indeed is common or the same to them both, to the Ruler and them that are Ruled; but they that are ruled, could not orderly conspire and agree together.*

Sub. Ecl. Phys
P. 4.

In the next place we shall take notice of *Antisthenes*, who was the Founder also of another *Sett*, to wit, the *Cynick*; for he in a certain Physiological Treatise, is said to have affirmed, *Esse Populares Deos Multos, sed Naturalem Unum*, That though there were many Popular Gods, yet there was but One Natural God: Or, as it is expressed in *Laërtius*, *Unum esse Naturalem Deum, quamvis Gentes & Urbes suos habeant Populares*; That there was but One Natural God, though Nations and Cities had their Several Popular Ones. Wherefore *Velleius* the Epicurean in *Cicero* quarrels with this *Antisthenes*, as one who destroyed the Nature of Gods, because he denied a Multitude of Independent Deities, such as *Epicurus* pretended to assert. For this of *Antisthenes*, is not so to be understood, as if he had therein designed to take away all the Inferiour Gods of the Pagans, which had he at all attempted, he would doubtless have been accounted an Atheist, as well as *Anaxagoras* was; but his meaning was, only to interpret the Theology of the Pagans, concerning those other Gods of theirs, that were or might be look'd upon, as *Absolute and Independent*; that these, though Many Popular Gods, yet indeed were but One and the same Natural God, call'd by several Names. As for example, when the Greeks worshipp'd *Zeus*, the Latins *Jovis*, the Egyptians *Hammon*, the Babylonians *Bel*, the Scythians *Pappens*; these were indeed many Popular Gods, and yet nevertheless all but One and the same Natural God. So again when in the self same Pagan Cities and Countries, the respective Laws thereof, made mention of several Gods, as Supreme and Absolute in their several Territories, as *Jupiter* in the Heavens, *Juno* in the Air, *Neptune* in the Sea; or as being Chief in several kinds and Functions, as *Minerva* for Learning, *Bellona* for War, &c. (for this *Aristotle* takes notice of in his Book against *Zeno*, *ἡ τὸν νόμον, πολλὰ καὶ ἑκάστης ἀνθρώπων οἱ θεοὶ*, That according to the Laws of Cities and Countries, one God was Best for one thing, and another for another) *Antisthenes* here declared concerning these also, that they were indeed Many Popular or Civil Gods, but all really One and the same Natural God.

To *Antisthenes* might be added *Diogenes Sinopenfis*, of whom it is recorded by *Laërtius*, that observing a Woman too superstitiously worshipping the Statue or Image of a God, endeavouring to abate her Superstition, he thus bespake her, *ὦ Διλαρχή, ὡ γύναι, μὴ πῶς θεῷ ἐπιδόν ἑστῶς* (*πρὶς αὐτὴν πλήρη ἀχυμασίης*); Take you not care, O Woman, of not behaving your self unseemly, in the sight of that God, who stands behind you? for all things are full of him: Thereby giving her occasion, more to mind and regard, that Supreme and Universal Numen, that filleth the whole World, and is every where.

XXIII. It hath been frequently affirmed, that *Socrates* died a Martyr for One only God, in opposition to those Many Gods of the Pagans; and *Tertullian* for one, writeth thus of him, *Propter eum damnatus est Socrates, quia Deos destruebas*; *Socrates* was therefore condemned to die, because he destroyed the Gods. And indeed that *Socrates* asserted one Supreme God, the Maker and Governour of the whole World

your Eye can discern things several miles distant from it, why should it be thought impossible for the Eye of God, to behold all things at once? Lastly, if your Soul can mind things both here and in Egypt, and in Sicily; why may not the Great Mind or Wisdom of God, be able to take care of all things in all places? And then he concludes, that if *Aristodemus* would diligently apply himself to the worship of God, he should at length be convinced, ὅτι τοῦτον καὶ τοῦτον ἔστι τὸ θεῖον, καὶ ἅμα πάντα ὁρᾷ, καὶ πάντα ἀκούει, καὶ πάντα καὶ παρῶναι, καὶ ἅμα πάντα ἐπιμελεῖσθαι. That God is such and so great a Being, as that he can at once see all things, and hear all things, and be present every where, and take care of all affairs. Moreover *Socrates* in his discourse with *Enthydemus* in *Xenophon's* Fourth Book, speaks thus concerning that invisible Deity which governs the whole world; οἱ γὰρ ἄλλοι θεοὶ ἡμῖν παρὰ ἄρα θεὸν διδόντες, ὅθεν τῶτον εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν ἰόντες διδόνται, καὶ ὁ δὲ θεὸς καὶ ἅμα πάντα συντάττει τὰ καὶ συνήκον, ὡς καὶ πάντα καλὰ καὶ ἀγαθὰ ἔστι, &c. ἔτι δὲ τὰ μέγιστα μὲν περὶ ἡμῶν ὁρᾷται, τὸ δὲ οὐκ ὁρατὸν ἀεὶ ὁρᾷ καὶ ἡμῶν ἔστι. ὡς οὖν καὶ ὁ πᾶν φανερὸν δεῖναι εἶναι ἡμῶν, καὶ ἐπιτρέπει τοῖς ἀνθρώποις ἰσχυρὰ ἀνελκεῖν ὁρᾷν, ἀλλ' ἴσως οὐτ' ἀναμῶν ἐγγαρεῖ διαδιδόναι, τὸ δὲ ὅσον ἀφανίζεται. The other Gods giving us good things, do it without visibly appearing to us; and that God who Framed and Containeth the whole world (in which are all good and excellent things) and who continually supplieth us with them, He though he be seen to do the Greatest things of all, yet notwithstanding is himself Invisible and Unseen. Which ought the less to be wondered at by us, because the Sun, who seemeth manifest to all, yet will not suffer himself to be exactly and distinctly viewed, but if any one boldly and impudently gaze upon him, will deprive him of his sight: As also because the Soul of Man, which most of all things in him partaketh of the Deity, though it be that which manifestly rules and reigns in us, yet is it never seen, ἡ γὰρ καὶ οὐκ ὁρατὸν καὶ καὶ ἀφανιστὸν ὅτι ἀόρατον, ἀλλ' ὅσα τῶν γινόμενων τῶν δυνάμεων αὐτῶν, καταμαρτυροῦνται τιμὰν τὸ δαιμόνιον, Which Particulars be that considers, ought not so despise Invisible Things, but to honour the Supreme Deity, taking notice of his Power from his Effects. Where we have τὸ δαιμόνιον, as also before τὸ θεῖον, plainly put for the Supreme Deity. And we did the rather set down these passages of *Socrates* here, concerning God and Providence, that we might shame those who in these latter days of ours are so Atheistically inclined, if at least they have any Pudar or Shame left in them.

But notwithstanding *Socrates* his thus clear acknowledging One Supreme and Universal Numen, it doth not therefore follow, that he rejected all those other Inferiour Gods of the Pagans, as is commonly conceived. But the contrary thereunto appeareth, from these very passages of his now cited, wherein there is mention made of other Gods besides the Supreme. And how conformable *Socrates* was to the Pagan Religion and Worship, may appear from those Last Dying words of his (when he should be most serious) after he had drunk the poison, wherein he required his friends to offer a *Votive Cock* for him to *Aesculapius*: For which *Origen* thus persringeth him, καὶ ταῦτα αὐτὸς φιλοστοργητικῶς εἶπε ὁ ψυχρὸς καὶ διαχαλῶν καὶ καλῶς βελτιωμένος διελευσὼν, καὶ αὐτὸς ὁ θεὸς ἐφανέρωσεν, διὰ τὴν φρονεῖν καὶ συμμετρίαν ἀλεγεινῶν τῶν ἀσκληπιῶν ἐπιθεδόντων. And they who had Philo-

sophized

sophized so excellently concerning the Soul, and discoursed concerning the happiness of the future state to those who live well, do afterward sink down from those Great, High and Noble things, to a superstitious regard of Little, Small and Trifling Matters, such as the Paying of a Cock to Æsculapius. Where notwithstanding, Origen doth not charge Socrates with such gross and downright Idolatry, as he doth elsewhere, for his sacrificing to the Pythian Apollo, who was but an Inferiour Demon. And perhaps some may excuse Socrates here, as thinking that he look'd upon Æsculapius no otherwise, than as the Supreme Deity, called by that Name, as exercising his Providence over the Sickneſs and Health or Recovery of Men, and that therefore he would have an Eucharistick Sacrifice offered to him in his behalf, as having now cured him at once of all diseases by Death. However Plato informs us, that Socrates immediately before he drunk his Poyſon, did, ἄλλοις τοῖς θεοῖς, τῷ μέλειναι τῷ κολλῆσαι δαίμονι ἄνθρωπον ἄνα· pray (not to God, but to the Gods, that is, to the Supreme and Inferiour Gods both together, as in Plato's Phædrus he did to Pan and the other Tutelar Gods of that place) that his Translation from hence into the other world might be happy to him. And Xenophon in his Memoirs, informs us, that Socrates did both in his Words and Practice, approve of that Doctrine of the Pythian Apollo, That the Rule of Piety and Religion, ought to be the Law of every Particular City and Country ; he affirming it to be a Vanity for any man to be singular herein. Lastly, in his own Apology, as written by Plato, he professes to acknowledge, the Sun, Moon and Stars, for Gods ; condemning the contrary Doctrine of Anaxagoras, as Irrational and Absurd. Wherefore we may well conclude this Opinion, of Socrates his being Condemned for denying the Many Gods of the Pagans, or of his being a Martyr for One only God, to be nothing but a *Vulgar Error*.

But if you therefore demand, what that accusation of Impiety really was, which he was charged with, Socrates himself in Plato's Euthyphro, will inform you, that it was for his free and open condemning those Traditions concerning the Gods, wherein Wicked, Dishonest and Unjust Actions, were imputed to them. For when Euthyphro having accused his own Father, as guilty of Murther (meerly for committing a Homicide into prison who hapned to die there) would justify himself from the examples of the Gods, namely Jupiter and Saturn, because Jupiter the Best and Justest of the Gods, had committed his Father Saturn to Prison for devouring his sons ; as Saturn himself also had castrated his Father Cælius for some miscarriages of his, Socrates thus bespeaks him, Ἀνδρῶν, ἃ εὐδοκῶτε, τῶν ἑστῶν ἐν ταῖς πόλεσιν φέρω, ἐν ταῖς ταύταις ἐκδοχῶντις ὡς ἂν δαίμονι λίγῳ, διαχρησῆς πᾶς ἀνθρώπων, &c. Is not this the very thing, O Euthyphro, for which I am accused ? namely because when I hear any one affirming such matters as these concerning the Gods, I am very loath to believe them, and stick not Publickly to declare my dislike of them ? And can you, O Euthyphro, in good earnest think, that there are indeed Wars and Contentions amongst the Gods, and that those other things were also done by them, which Poets and Painters commonly impute to them ? such as the Peplum or Veil of Minerva, which in the Panathenæicks is with great pomp and ceremony brought

brought into the Acropolis, is embroidered all over with? Thus we see, that *Socrates* though he asserted one *Supreme Deity*, yet he acknowledged notwithstanding other *Inferiour created Gods*, together with the rest of the Pagans, honouring and worshipping them; only he disliked those *Poetick Fables* concerning them (believed at that time by the Vulgar) in which all manner of Unjust and Immoral Actions were Fathered on them; which together with the Envy of many, was the only true reason, why he was then accused of *Impiety* and *Atheism*.

It hath been also affirmed by many, that *Plato* really asserted *One only God* and no more, and that therefore whensoever he speaks of *Gods Plurally*, he must be understood to have done this, not according to his own Judgment, but only in a way of Politick Compliance with the Athenians, and for fear of being made to drink poyson in like manner as *Socrates* was. In confirmation of which opinion, there is also a Passage cited out of that Thirteenth Epistle of *Plato's* to *Dionysius*, wherein he gives this as a Mark, whereby his *Serious Epistles*, and such as were written according to the true sence of his own mind, might by his friends be distinguished from those which were otherwise; ὃ μὲν γὰρ συνεδρίας ἑταίρους τοῦ ἀρχοῦ, τοὶ δὲ ἡγήσιν, *When I begin my Epistles with God, then may you conclude I write seriously, but not so when I begin with Gods.* And this place seems to be therefore the more Authentick, because it was long since produced by *Eusebius* to this very purpose, namely to prove that *Plato* acknowledged *One Only God*; δὲλα γὰρ δὲ ὅτι πρὸς ἑνὶ θεῷ ἐλάλει, αἱ δὲ συνάδας ἑταίροις, τῇ τῶν πλειόνων ἑσπεῖ χειρὶ πεποιημένη, καὶ ἀπὸ τῆς πρὸς Διονυσίου ἑπιστολῆς, αὐτῇ συνήμωτοια διδόναι, ὅτι τὴν διὰ συνεδρίας αὐτῶν γεγραμμένην, καὶ τῶν ἀλλήλων ἀπεξηγήμεναι. *It is manifest, that Plato really acknowledged One only God, however in compliance with the Language of the Greeks, he often spake of Gods Plurally; from that Epistle of his to Dionysius, wherein he gives this Symbol or Mark, whereby he might be known to write seriously, namely, when he began his Epistles with God, and not with Gods.*

Prep. Ev. l. 12.
c. 13.

Notwithstanding which, we have already manifested out of *Plato's Timæus*, that he did in good earnest assert a *Plurality of Gods*; by which *Gods* of his are to be understood, Animated or Intellectual Beings Superiour to Men, to whom there is an Honour and Worship from men due. He therein declaring, not only the Sun, and Moon, and Stars, but also the Earth it self (as Animated) to be a *God* or *Goddess*. For though it be now read in our Copies, πρὸς οὐρανῶν σωματόν, *that the Earth was the Oldest of all the Bodies within the Heavens*, yet it is certain that anciently it was read otherwise, πρὸς οὐρανῶν θεῶν, *The Oldest of the Gods*; not only from *Proclus* and *Cicero*, but also from *Laertius* writing thus: γὰρ δὲ πρὸς οὐρανῶν μὲν ἔστιν ἡ γῆ, αὐτὴ δὲ πρὸς οὐρανῶν θεῶν, ὡς νύκτα καὶ ἡμέραν ποιῇ, ὅταν δ' ὅππῃ τῇ μέλει, καὶ οὕτως ὡς τὸ μέτρον, *Though Plato's Gods were for the most part Fiery, yet did he suppose the Earth to be a God or Goddess too, affirming it to be the Oldest of all the Gods within the Heavens, Made or Created to distinguish day and night, by its Diurnal Circumgyration*

P. 40. Str.

tion upon its own Axis, in the Middle or Centre of the World. For Plato when he wrote his *Timæus*, acknowledged only the Diurnal Motion of the Earth, though afterwards he is said to have admitted its Annual too. And the same might be further evinced from all his other writings, but especially his Book of Laws (together with his *Epinomis*) said to have been written by him in his old age, in which he much insists upon the Godships of the Sun, Moon, and Stars, and complains that the young Gentlemen of Athens, were then so much infected with that Anaxagorean Doctrine, which made them to be nothing but Inanimate Stones and Earth, as also he approves of that then vulgarly received Custom of Worshipping the Rising and Setting Sun and Moon, as Gods, to which in all probability he conformed himself; *Ἀναγνώσκεις τι ἡλίου καὶ σελήνης, καὶ πρὸς δυσμὰς ἰόντων, προσκυλίσας ἅμα καὶ προσκύνουσιν Ἑλλήνων τι καὶ βαρβάρων πάντων, ὡς συμφορῶν πανταίων ἐχρημάτων καὶ ὡς ἀποργίων, ὡς ἐπὶ μολυσσά ὄντων, καὶ ἄρα μὴ ὑπεψίαν ὡς διδόντων ὡς καὶ οἱ θεοὶ. The Prostrations and Adorations that are used both by the Greeks, and all Barbarians, towards the Rising and Setting Sun, and Moon (As well in their Prosperities as Adversities) declare them to be unquestionably esteemed Gods. Wherefore we cannot otherwise conclude, but that this Thirteenth Epistle of Plato to Dionysius, though extant it seems before Eusebius his time, yet was Supposititious and counterfeit by some Zealous but Ignorant Christian. As there is accordingly, a Νοθεύεται, or Brand of Bastardy prefixed to it in all the Editions of Plato's Works.* De Leg. io. p.

However though Plato acknowledged and worshipped Many Gods, yet is it undeniably evident, that he was no Polyarchist, but a Monarchist, an assertor of One Supreme God, the only αὐτάρκης, or Self-originated Being; the maker of the Heaven and Earth, and of all those other Gods. For first it is plain that according to Plato, the Soul of the whole World was not it self Eternal, much less Self-existent, but Made or produced by God in time, though indeed before its Body, the World, from these words of his; τὴν ψυχὴν ἣν ὡς τὴν ἀρχαίαν ἑπὶ τῆς οὐρανόθεν λέγειν, ὅπως ἐμνηστεύσας καὶ ὁ θεὸς κατασκευάσας, ὃ καὶ ἡγεῖσθαι καὶ ἀρχὴν προέβλεπεν καὶ πρὸς συντίθεν ψυχὴν σώματος, ὡς διακρίναι καὶ ἀρξομένην ἀρχομένην οὐκ ἐκείνου. *God did not fabricate, or make the Soul of the world, in the same order, that we now treat concerning it, that is After it, as Junior to it; but that which was to rule over the world as its Body, being more excellent, he made it First, and Senior to the same. Upon which account Aristotle quarrels with Plato as contradicting himself, in that he affirmed the Soul to be a Principle, and yet supposed it not to be Eternal, but Made together with the Heaven: ἀλλὰ μὴν ὅθι πλάττει γὰρ οἷόν τι λέγειν, ὅτι οἶεται ἀρχὴν εἶναι εἰσὶν αὐτὸ ἐαυτοῦ κινήσιν, ὑπάρχει γὰρ καὶ ἅμα τὰ ἀρχομένην καὶ ψυχὴν. Neither is it possible for Plato, here to extricate himself, who sometimes declares the Soul to be a Principle, as that which Moves it self, and yet affirms it again not to be Eternal, but made together with the Heaven. For which cause some Platonists conclude, that Plato asserted a Double Psyche, one the Third Hypostasis of his Trinity, and Eternal, the other Created in Time together with the World, which seems to be a Probable Opinion. Wherefore since according to Plato, the Soul of the World, which is the chief of all his Inferiour Gods, was not Self-existent but Made or Pro-*

duced by God Intimé, all those other *Gods* of his, which were but Parts of the World, as the *Sun, Moon, Stars* and *Demons*, must needs be so too. But lest any should suspect, that *Plato* might for all that, suppose the World and its Gods not to have been made by One only Unmade God, but by a Multitude of Co-ordinate Self-existent Principles, or Deities conspiring; we shall observe that the contrary hereunto, is plainly declared by him, in way of answer to that *Quære*, Whether or no there were Many and infinite Worlds (as some Philosophers had maintained) or only One? he Resolving in thus, *πίστεον ὅτι ὁ θεὸς ἓνα ἔργον προέβηκεν, ἢ πολλὰς καὶ ἀπείρους λέγειν ἢ ὁρίσσειν, ἓνα, ὡς καὶ τὸ ἀειδόμενον διδμυαρχημένος ἔχει· τὸ γὰρ εὐδαιμονία πάντα ὅπλα νοσῶν ζῶν, μετ' ἑτέρων δ' ἄλλων ὡς αἱ πτ' ἐν, &c. ἓνα ὅτι τὸ καὶ τὴν μόνην, ὁμοῦν ἢ τὴν κατελὼν ζῶν, διὰ τὰυτ' ὅτι δύο, ὅτ' ἀπείρους ἐκείνων οὐ ποῶν καὶ ζῶν, ἀλλ' ὅς ὅτι μόνον ἔργον γινώσκεις, ἔστι καὶ ἓνα* (Or World) or is it more agreeable to reason to hold Many or Infinite? We say there is but One, if it be made agreeable to its Intellectual Paradigm, containing the Ideas of all Animals and other things in it; For there can be but One Archetypal Animal, which is the Paradigm of all created Beings; wherefore that the World may agree with its Paradigms in this respect of Solitude or Onliness, therefore is it not Two nor Infinite, but One-only-begotten. His meaning is, that there is but One Archetypal Mind, the Demiurgus or Maker of all things, that were produced; and therefore but One World.

And this One God which according to *Plato*, was the Maker of the whole World, is frequently called by him in his *Timæus* and elsewhere, ὁ θεός, God or The God, by way of Excellency; sometimes ὁ δημιουργός, The Architect or Artificer of the World; sometimes ὁ ποιητής καὶ πατήρ τῶν πάντων, the Maker and Father of this Universe, whom it is hard to find out, but impossible to declare to the Vulgar; again, ὁ ἔστι πᾶσι θεός, the God over all; ὁ φύσιν κτίσας, the Creator of Nature; τὸ πάντων ἀρχή, the sole Principle of the Universe; πάντων αἰτίον, the Cause of all things; νῦν πάντων βασιλεύς, Mind the King of all things; νῦν αὐτοκράτωρ πάντων νοσῶν διὰ πάντων ἰδὼν, that Sovereign Mind, which orders all things and passes through all things; τὸ πάντων κυβερνήτης, The Governour of the Whole; τὸ ἐν αὐτῷ ἡρώδην δὲ ἐκ ἑαυτοῦ, that which always is and was never made; ὁ πρῶτος θεός, the First God; ὁ μέγας θεός, and ὁ μέγιστος θεός, The Greatest God, and the Greatest of the Gods; ὁ ἡλιος γενέσας, He that Generated or Produced the Sun; ὁ γὰρ, ἔργον καὶ θεός, καὶ πάντα τὰ ἐν ἔργῳ καὶ τὰ ἐν αἰθέρι, καὶ ὑπὸ γῆς, ἀπαντα ἐργάζεται, He that makes Earth, and Heaven, and the Gods; and doth all things both in Heaven, and Hell, and under the Earth: Again, he by whose Efficiency the Things of the World, ἔργον ἐγγύς, πρὸς ἑαυτὸν ὄντα, were afterwards made when they were not Before; or from an Antecedent Non-existence brought forth into Being. This Philosopher somewhere intimating, that it was as easie for God to produce those Real Things, the Sun, Moon, Stars and Earth, &c. from himself, as it is for us to produce the Images of our selves and whatsoever else we please, only by interposing a Looking-glass. Lastly he is called ὁ πάντων πάντων ἄλλα ἐργάτης, καὶ ἰσχυρὸς, He that causeth or produceth both All other things, and even

Tim. p. 31.

De Rep. L. 10.

In Sophist.

D Rep. L. 10.

even Himself; the meaning whereof is this, He that is αὐτογενής, (as the same Plato also calls him) a Self-originated Being, and from no other Cause besides Himself, but the Cause of All other things. Neither doth Lactantius Firmianus himself refuse, to speak of God after this very manner; that *Seipsum fecit*, and that he was, *Ex Seipso procreatus, & propterea Talis, qualem se esse voluit*; that He made Himself, and that, being Procreated from Himself, He therefore was every way such, as he Willed himself to be. Which unusual and bold strain of Theology, is very much insisted upon by Plotinus in his Book, περὶ τοῦ θειοτάτου τοῦ ἐνός, Concerning the Will of the First One, or Unity. He there writing thus of the Supreme God, αὐτὸν αὐτῷ, καὶ παρ' αὐτῷ, καὶ δι' αὐτῷ αὐτῷ; He is the Cause of himself, and he is from Himself, and Himself is for Himself. And again αὐτὸς ἔστιν ὅστις ὁ ποιεῖν ἰαυτῷ, καὶ κτιστὸς ἑαυτοῦ, καὶ οὐκ ὡς τις ἕτερος ἐποίησεν ἡρώμεος, ἀλλ' ὡς εἶλεν αὐτῷ; This is He, who is the Maker of himself; and is Lord over himself; (in a certain sence) for he was not made ~~thus~~, which Another willed him to be, but he is that which he willetth himself to be. Moreover, αὐτῷ ἐν τούτῳ ὡς ἡγάπησι, τούτῳ ἢ ἔστιν ὑποστάσις αὐτῷ, ὡς αἰετὶς μέγιστος· ὡς αἰετὶς αὐτῷ, ἀλλὰ ἄλλο μὲν ὅτις, ἑαυτῷ αἰετὶς αὐτῷ, καὶ αἰετὶς αὐτῷ, ἀλλ' ὡς αἰετὶς αὐτῷ, καὶ ὡς αὐτῷ εἶλεν, &c. The Supreme Deity loving himself as a Pure Light, is himself what he loved; Thus as it were begetting and giving subsistence to himself, he being a standing Energy. Wherefore since God is a Work or Energy, and yet he is not the Work or Energy of any other Being, he must needs be (in some sence) his own Work or Energy; so that God it not, that which he happened to be; but that which he willetth himself to be. Thus also a little before, ἀνακτὴν εἰς ἐν τῷ βάλῃαν καὶ τῷ ὀρίαν· τὸ δὲ εἶλεν παρ' αὐτῷ, ἀνάγκη ἄρα τὸ εἶναι παρ' αὐτῷ, ὡς αὐτὸ πεποινηκέναι αὐτῷ, ὁ λόγος ἀνακτὴν· εἰ γὰρ ἡ βάλῃαν παρ' αὐτῷ, καὶ εἰς ἔργον αὐτῷ, αὐτῷ ἢ ταντὺν τῇ ὑποστάσει αὐτῷ αὐτῷ ὅστις ἂν ὅστις ὑποστάσις ἂν εἴη αὐτῷ, ὡς οὐκ ἔπρε ἔτι καὶ ἔστιν, ἀλλ' ὅτις ἐκείνου αὐτῷ. We must of necessity make Will and Essence the same in the First Being. Wherefore since his Willing is from himself, his Being must needs be from himself too; the consequence of which Ratiocination is this, that He made himself. For if his volition be from himself, and his own work, and this be the same with his Hypothesis or Substance; he may be then said to have given subsistence to himself. Wherefore he is not what he happen'd to be, but what he willed himself to be. But because this is so unusual a Notion, we shall here set down yet one or two passages more of this Philosophers concerning it; καὶ ἔτι ὁ βελόντας αὐτῷ ἡ ὀρίαν, ἀλλὰ σὺν αὐτῷ τῇ ὀρίαν ὅτις ἡ θείας· καὶ εἰς ἔστιν αὐτῷ λαβὴν, ἀπὸ τοῦ θείου ἑαυτοῦ ὅτις ἔστι· καὶ σὺν αὐτῷ αὐτῷ ἑαυτοῦ, θείαν αὐτῷ εἶναι, καὶ τούτῳ ἐν ὅτις εἶλεν· καὶ ἡ θείας καὶ αὐτῷ ἐν· καὶ τούτῳ οὐκ ἔστιν, ἐπὶ μὴ ἄλλο αὐτῷ ὅτις ἔπρε ἔτι, ἀλλὰ ἢ τῷ ὅτις ἐκείνου ἐν τῷ γὰρ ἂν καὶ εἶλεν, ἢ τούτῳ ὅτις· καὶ γὰρ ὁ ὑποβόλεται εἶλεν· εἰ αὐτῷ ἐπὶ θείας ἡρώδαι, καὶ εἶναι αὐτῷ ἀναίσχαι τῷ αὐτῷ φῶνι εἰς ἄλλο, μὴτὶ ἂν ἄλλο τι γινώσκαι βελόντας, μὴτ' ἂν ἑαυτοῦ τὸ μέγιστον, ὡς ὑπὸ ἀνάγκης τούτῳ ὅτις ὅτις, τὰ αὐτῷ εἶναι, ὅτις αὐτῷ αἰὶ ἡθλῶσι καὶ εἶλεν, ὅτις γὰρ ὅτις ἡ ἀνάγκη φῶνι, βελόντας αὐτῷ. The Essence of the Supreme God, is not without his Will, but his Will and Essence are the same; so that God concurrerth with Himself, himself willing to be as he is, and being that which he willetth; and his Will and Himself being one and the same. For Himself is not Nothing (as happening to be that which he is) and that he would will to be Another: For what could God will to be, but that

P. 755.

that which he is? And if we should suppose, that it were in his own choice, to be what he would, and that he had liberty to change his Nature into whatsoever else he pleased, it is certain that he would neither will to be any thing else, besides what he is, nor complain of himself as being now that which he is, out of necessity, he being indeed no other but that, which himself hath willed and doth always will to be. For his Will is his Essential Goodness, so that his Will doth not follow his Nature but concurr with it; in the very Essence of this Good there being contained his Choice, and Willing of himself to be such. Lastly, πᾶν ἄρα βούληται, καὶ οὐκ ἐστὶ τὸ μὴ βουλόμενον, ἔστι τὸ πρὸ βουλήσεως ἄρα· πρᾶττι ἄρα ἢ βούληται αὐτὸς, καὶ τὸ ἄς ἐβόλητο ἄρα καὶ οἷον ἐβόληται, καὶ τὸ τῇ βουλήσιν ἐπὶ τὸν αὐτὸν βούληται ἑχέμεν· ἑχέμεν ἢ ἄδινετι αὐτῷ· God is all Will, nor is there any thing in him which he doth not Will, nor is his Being before his Will, but his Will is Himself, or he Himself the first Will. So that he is as he would himself, and such as he would, and yet his will did not Generate or Produce any thing, that was not before. And now we may in all Probability conclude, that *Laërtius* derived this Doctrine from Plato and Plotinus; which how far it is to be either allowed of or excused, we leave others to judge; only we shall observe, that as the word αὐτοβούλη, frequently attributed to God by Christians as well as Pagans, seems to imply as much; so the Scope and Drift of Plotinus in all this, was plainly no other, than partly to set forth the Self-existence of the Supreme Deity after a more lively manner; and partly to confute that odd Conceit, which some might possibly entertain of God, as if he either Happened by Chance, to be what he is; or else were such by a Certain Necessity of Nature, and had his Being imposed upon him: whereas, he is as much every way, what he would Will and Chuse to be, as if he had Made himself by his own Will and Choice. Neither have we set down all this, only to give an account of that one Expression of Plato's, That God causeth Himself and all things, but also to show how punctually precise, curious and accurate, some of these Pagans were, in there Speculations concerning the Deity.

. To return therefore to Plato; Though some have suspected that *Trinity*, which is commonly called *Platonick*, to have been nothing but a meer Figment and Invention of some later Platonists, yet the contrary hereunto seems to be unquestionably evident, that Plato himself really asserted such a Trinity of Universal and Divine Hypostases, which have the nature of Principles. For first, whereas in his Tenth Book of Laws, he professedly opposing Atheists, undertakes to prove the Existence of a Deity, he does notwithstanding there ascend no higher than to the *Psyche*, or Universal Mundane Soul, as a Self-moving Principle, and the immediate or proper Cause of all that Motion which is in the World. And this is all the God, that there he undertakes to prove. But in other places of his Writings he frequently asserts, above the Self-moving *Psyche* an Immoveable and Standing Nous or Intellect, which was properly the *Demiurgus*, or Architectonick Framer of the whole World. And lastly, above this Multiform Intellect, he plainly asserts yet a higher Hypostasis, One most Simple and most absolutely Perfect Being; which he calls τὸ ὄν, in

in opposition to that *Multiplicity* which speaks something of Imperfection in it, and *ἡ ἀγαθὴ*, *Goodness it self*, as being above *Mind* and *Understanding* ; the *First Intelligible*, and an Infinite *Fecundity* together with overflowing *Benignity*. And accordingly in his Second Epistle to *Dionysius*, does he mention a *Trinity of Divine Hypostases*, all together. Now the words *ὁ Θεός* and *τὸ Θεῖον*, *God* and *the Divinity* in *Plato*, seem sometimes to comprehend this whole *Trinity of Divine Hypostases*, as they are again sometimes severally applied to Each of them, accordingly as we have already observed, that *Zeus* or *Jupiter* in *Plato*, is not always taken for the *First* and *Highest Hypostasis* in his *Trinity*, but sometimes the *Second Hypostasis of Mind* or *Intellect* is meant thereby, and sometimes again his *Third Hypostasis* of the Universal and Eternal *Psyche* ; nevertheless the *First* of these Three *Hypostases*, is that which is properly called by the *Platonists*, *πηγὴ ἢ θρόνος*, the *Fountain of the Godhead*, and by *Plato* himself, *ὁ πάντων βασιλεὺς* *ὅστις ἐν παντί ἐστι, ὃ ἔστιν πάντα, καὶ ὃ αὐτὸν πάντων τῶν κἀνδ' αὐτοῦ* *The King of All things, about whom are All things, and for whose sake are All things, and the Cause of all Good and Excellent Things.*

And this *First Divine Hypostasis*, which in *Plato's* Theology, is properly *ἀνάδειξις*, the *Original Deity*, is largely insisted upon by that *Philosopher* in the Sixth of his *Politicks*, under the Name and Title of *ἡ ἀγαθὴ*, *The Good* ; but principally there illustrated by that Resemblance of the Sun, called by that *Philosopher* also, a *Heavenly God*, and said to be the Off-spring of this Highest Good, and something Analogous to it in the Corporeal World, *ὅ, τι περ αὐτὸς ὡς τὰς ὁρατὰς τινάς, πρὸς τὰ ὄντα καὶ τὰ νοήματα, τὸτο τῶτον αὐτὸς ὡς ἀστὴρ πρὸς τὰ ὄντα καὶ τὰ νοήματα* *This is the same in the Intelligible World, to Intellect (or Knowledge) and Intelligibles, that the Sun is in the Sensible World, to Sight and Visibles.* For, as the Sun is not Sight, but only the Cause of it ; nor is that Light, by which we see, the same with the Sun it self, but only *ἡμωδὸς*, a *Sun-like Thing* ; so neither is the Supreme and Highest Good (properly) Knowledge, but the Cause of Knowledge ; nor is Intellect (precisely considered as such) the Best and Most Perfect Being, but only *ἀγαθόειδης*, a *Boniform Thing*. Again, As the Sun gives to things not only their Visibility, but also their Generation ; so does that Highest Good ; not only cause the Cognoscibility of things, but also their very Essences and Beings. *οὐκ ἔστις αὐτῷ τὸ ἀγαθόν, ἀλλ' ἔτι ἐπ' αὐτῷ ἡ ἔστις, πρὸς δὲ καὶ δυνάμει ὑπερχεῖται* *This Highest Good being not it self properly Essence, but above Essence, transcending the same, both in respect of Dignity and Power.* Which Language and Conceit of *Plato's*, some of the Greek Fathers seem to have entertained, yet so as to apply it to the whole Trinity, when they call God *ὑπερῤῥον*, or *Super-essential*. But the meaning of that *Philosopher*, was as we conceive, no other than this, that this Highest Good, hath no Particular Characteristick upon it, limiting and determining of it, it being the Hidden and Incomprehensible Source of all things. In the Last place, we shall observe, that this *First Divine Hypostasis* of the *Platonick Trinity*, is by that *Philosopher* called, *πῶς ἡγεμὼν καὶ αὐτὸς πάντων πατὴρ*, *The Father of the Prince and Cause of All things.* Wherein we cannot but take notice of an Admirable

Admirable Correspondency, betwixt the Platonick Philosophy and Christianity, in that the Second *Hypostasis* of both their Trinities (called also sometimes *Λόγος* by the Platonists, as well as *vēs*) is said to be the Immediate Cause of All things; and the *Demurgus*, the Architect, Maker or Artificer of the Whole World.

Now to *Plato* we might here joyn *Xenophon*, because he was his Equal, and a Socratick too; (though it seems there was not so good Correspondence betwixt them) which *Xenophon*, however in sundry places of his Writings, he acknowledge a Plurality of Gods, yet doth he give plain Testimony also of One Supreme and Universal Numen, as this particularly, ὁ πᾶσι θεῶν ἡ ἀρχή, ὡς καὶ μέγας, καὶ διὰ πάντων πάντες, ὅπου δ' ἔστι μαρτυρὴ ἀφανής. He that both agitates all things, and establisheth the Frame of the whole world, though he be manifest to be great and powerful, yet is he, as to his Form Inconspicuous.

L. 19. c. 3.

XIV. In the next place we come to *Aristotle* : Who that he acknowledged more Gods than *One* (as well as the other Pagans) appears from his using the word so often *Plurally*. As particularly in this Passage of his *Nicomachian Ethics*, ἡ ὃ πλεῖστα διδοιμάνεια, ἐπὶ θεωρητικῇ τῇ ἐπιεικείᾳ, καὶ αὐτὸν ἐν. φαίει. τὰς γὰρ μάλιστα ὑπαλάττειν μὴ μακροτέρως ἢ διδοίμηναι εἶναι. περὶ δὲ τοῦ ἀποτύχειν χρεῖαν αὐτοῦ, πῶς τοῖς θύοις, καὶ ἡ γὰρ αὐτοῖς συλλαβήσονται καὶ ἀποδοῦναι ἀποδοῦναι, καὶ ὅσα ἄλλα τοῦτο; ἄλλα τὰς ἀνθρώπων; ὑπερβύσας τὰ φορεῖα καὶ καθιδύσας, ἐπὶ καλόν. ἢ τοῖς ἐλάττωσιν; τῇ ὃ δόσας; ἀπὸ πρὸς δ' αὖ καὶ αὐτῶν νόμους, ἢ τὶ τοῦτο; αἱ ὃ πᾶσι τῶν ἐν εἶναι; ἢ φορητὸς ἐστὶν αὐτοῖς, ἐπὶ καὶ ἐκείνῃ φαύλας ὑπαλάττειν; διὰ τὴν ὃ τὰ πάντα φαίειν ἐν τοῖς ὅσιν τὰς περὶ μὴ μὴ καὶ ἐλάττω εἶναι. ἄλλα μὴ ἔστι τὸ πᾶσι τοῖς ὑπαλάττειν αὐτοῖς. καὶ αὐτοῖς ἄρα, ὃ γὰρ τὸ καθύπερθε, ὅπως τὸ εὐδαιμόνεια. τὰ δὲ ἔστι τὸ περὶ τὴν ἀφ' ἑκείνου, ἐπὶ δὲ μὴ τὸ πᾶσι, τὸ λείπεται πᾶσι θεωρίας. *That Perfect Happiness is a Speculative or Contemplative Energy, may be made manifest from hence; because we account the Gods most of all Happy. Now what Moral Actions can we attribute to them? Whether those of Justice amongst one another; as if it were not ridiculous to suppose the Gods to make Contrasts and Bargains among themselves, and the like. Or else those of Fortitude and Magnanimity? As if the Gods had their Fears, Dangers and Difficulties to encounter withal. Or those of Liberality? as if the Gods had some such thing as Money too, and there were among them Indigent to receive Alms. Or Lastly, shall we attribute to them the Actions of Temperance? but would not this be a Reproachful Commendation of the Gods, to say, that they conquer and master their vitious Lusts and appetites? Thus running through all the Actions of Moral Virtue, we find them to be small and mean and unworthy of the Gods. And yet we all believe the Gods to live, and consequently to Act; unless we should suppose them perpetually to sleep as Eudymion did. Wherefore if all Moral Actions, and therefore much more Mechanical Operations be taken away from that which Lives and Understands, what is there left to it besides Contemplation? To which he there adds a further Argument also of the same thing. Because other Animals, who are deprived of Contemplation, partake not of Happiness. For to the Gods*

all their Life is Happy; to men so far forth, as it approacheth to Contemplation; but brute Animals, that do not at all contemplate, partake not at all of Happiness. Where Aristotle plainly acknowledges a Plurality of Gods, and that there is a certain Higher Rank of Beings above Men. And by the way we may here observe, how from those words of his, *ἔστι τι πάντες ὑπελάμβανον θεῶς*, All men suppose the Gods to live; and from what follows in him; that Opinion of some late Writers may be confuted, that the Pagans generally worshipped, the Inanimate Parts of the World as true and proper Gods: Aristotle here telling us, that they Universally agreed in this, that the Gods were Animals, Living and Understanding Beings, and such as are therefore capable of Contemplation. Moreover Aristotle in his Politicks, L. 5. c. 12. writing of the means to conserve a Tyranny, as he calls it; sets down this for one amongst the rest. *ἔτι δὲ πρὸς τὰς θεὰς σπουδάζειν αἰσπρόθυμα διαφροβήτως, ἢ ἢν τι γὰρ φοβούνται, τὸ πᾶν τι ἐξομῶμεν ὑπὸ τῶν πάντων, ἵαν δ' ἡσθαίμενα νομίζουσιν εἶναι τὰ ἄρχεῖν καὶ φροντίζον τῶν θεῶν· καὶ ὑπερβαλόντων ἡθόν, ὥς συμμάχους ἔχοντι καὶ τὰς θεὰς·* For a Prince or Monarch, to seem to be always, more than ordinarily sedulous about the Worship of the Gods: because men are less afraid of suffering any Injustice from such Kings or Princes, as they think to be Religiously disposed, and devoutly affected towards the Gods. Neither will they be so apt to make conspiracies against such, they supposing that the Gods will be their Abettors and Assistants. Where the word *ἐξομῶμεν*, seems to be taken in a good sense, and in way of Commendation, for a Religious Person; though we must confess, that Aristotle himself, does not here write so much like a *δεδωκίμας*, as a Meer Politician. Likewise in his First Book *De Cælo*, he writeth thus, *πάντες ἀνθρώποι ὡς θεῶν ἔχουσιν ὑπελήψιν, καὶ πάντες τὸ ἀνωτάτω τῶν θεῶν τόπον ἀποδέδωκεν, καὶ παράδορον καὶ ἑλλενος, ὥς τὰ ἀθανάτων τὸ ἀθάνατον συνεκτιμήσιν, ὥστε ἐν ἑστὶ τι θεῶν, ὥστε καὶ ἱσ, &c.* All men have an Opinion or Perswasion That there are Gods. And they who think so, as well Barbarians as Greeks, attribute the Highest place to that which is Divine, as supposing the Immortal Heavens, to be most accommodate to Immortal Gods. Wherefore if there be any Divinity, as unquestionably there is, the Body of the Heavens must be acknowledged to be of a different kind from that of the Elements. And in the following Book he tells us again, That it is most agreeable τῇ μαρτυρᾷ ὅτι τῶν θεῶν, to that Vaticination, which all men have in their minds concerning the Gods, to suppose the Heaven to be a Quintessence, distinct from the Elements, and therefore Incorruptible. Where Aristotle affirmeth, that men have generally μαρτυρά, a Vaticination in their Minds, concerning Gods; to wit, that Themselves are not the Highest Beings, but that there is a Rank of Intellectual Beings, superiour to men; the chief of which is the Supreme Deity; concerning whom there is indeed, the Greatest μαρτυρά or Vaticination of all.

We acknowledge it to be very true, that Aristotle does not so much insist upon Demons, as Plato and the generality of Pagans in that Age did, and probably he had not so great a Belief of their Existence: though he doth make mention of them also, as when in his Metaphysics, speaking of Bodies compounded of the Elements, he

same Passage, we have again also in his *Metaphysics*, from whence it was before cited to another purpose. To these might be added another place out of his Book, of *Generation and Corruption*, τὸ θεὸν συνεπλήρωσεν ὁ θεὸς, ἐνταλαχῇ πᾶσι τὰς γενέσας. *God hath filled up the Whole or Universe, and constantly supplies the same, having made a Continual Successive Generation.* Lastly, τὸ θεῖον is sometimes plainly used by *Aristotle* also, not for *The Divinity* in general, or *Any thing that is Divine*, but for that *One Supreme Deity*, the Governour of the whole World. Thus in that Passage of his *Rhetorick* to *Alexander*, τὸτὶ ἔστι ὃ διαφέρει μὲν τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἕως ἡμῶς οἱ μεγίστη τιμὴς ὑπὸ τῷ θεῷ, μὲν τινος περὶ τυχάνει. *This is that wherein we Men differ from other Animals having recieved the greatest honour from God, that though they be endowed with Appetite and Anger and other Passions, as well as we, yet we alone are furnished with Speech and Reason.* Cap. I. p. 602

Over and besides which, *Aristotle* in his *Metaphysics* (as hath been Lib. 14 c. 10; already observed) professedly opposeth that *Imaginary Opinion* of *Many Independent Principles* of the Universe, that is, of *Many Unmade Self-existent Deities*; he confuting the same from the *Phænomena*, because πάντα πρὸς ἓν συντάσσεται, *All things are plainly Coordered to One*, the whole world conspiring into *One agreeing Harmony*; whereas if there were many Principles or Independent Deities, the System of the World must needs have been ἐκαστοδιδόν, *Incoherent and Inconspiring*, like an *Ill-agreeing Drama*, botch'd up of *Many Impertinent Interfusions*. Whereupon *Aristotle* concludes after this manner, τὸ δ' οὕτως ἐβλάπτεται κακῶς πολιτεύεσθαι,

οὐκ ἀγαθὸν Πολυκοιρανίην, ἢ Εἰς Κάκειν.

But Things will not be ill administered (which was then it seems a kind of Proverbial Speech) and according to *Homer*, the Government of *Many* is not Good, (nor could the affairs of the World be evenly carried on under it) wherefore there is *One Prince or Monarch over all*. From which Passage of *Aristotle's*, it is evident, that though he asserted *Πολυθεϊαν*, a *Multiplicity of Gods* in the *Vulgar Sense*, as hath been already declared, yet he absolutely denied *Πολυκοιρανίην*, and *Πολυαρχίαν*; a *Polyarchy* or *Mundane Aristocracy*, that is, a *Multiplicity of First Principles and Independent Deities*. Wherefore though *Aristotle* doted much upon that Whimsy of his, of as many *Intelligibles*, or *Eternal and Immovable Minds* (now commonly called *Intelligences*) as there are *Movable Spheres* of all kinds in the *Heavens* (which he sticks not also sometimes to call *Principles*;) yet must he of necessity be interpreted to have derived all these, from *One Supreme Universal Deity*, which, as *Simplicius* expresseth it, is ἀρχὴ ἀρχῶν, the *Principle of Principles*; and which comprehends and contains those *Inferiour Deities* under it, after the same manner, as the *Primum Mobile* or *Highest Sphere*, contains all the *Lesser Spheres* within it. Because otherwise there would not be εἰς Κάκειν, *One Prince or Monarch over the whole*; but the Government of the World would be a *Polyckarany* or *Aristocracy* of Gods, concluded to be an *Ill Government*. Moreover as *Plotinus* represents *Aristotle's* sense, it is not conceivable that, so ματῶ Eno. 3. L. 1. c. 7

ny Independent Principles, should thus constantly Conspire, *πρὸς ἓν ἔργον τὴν τῶ πάντες ἀρετῶ συμφωνίαν, into one Work, that Agreeable Symphony, and Harmony of the Whole Heaven.* As there could not be any reason neither, why there should be just so many of these *Intelligences*, as there are *Spheres* and no more; and it is absurd to suppose, *ἡ πρώτη συνταχίαν τοῖς ἀρχαῖς οὐρα, that the First Principles of the Universe happened by Chance.*

Now this Highest Principle, as it is *ἀκίνητος ὄνεια, An Im-movable Essence*, is by Aristotle in the First place, supposed to be *ἀρχὴ κινήσεως, the Principle of Motion in the Universe*, or at least of that *Chiefest Motion* of the *Primum Mobile* or *Highest Sphere* (which according to the Astronomy of those times seems to have been the *Sphere of Fixed Stars*) by whose Rapid Circumgyration, all the other Spheres and Heavens, were imagined to be carried round, from East to West. And accordingly the Supreme Deity, is by Aristotle called, *τὸ πρῶτον καὶ ὡς ἀκίνητον, The First Immovable Mover*, or the *Mover of the Primum Mobile*, and whole Heaven. Which *First Mover* being concluded by him to be but *One*, he doth from thence infer the *Singularity* of the Heaven or World, *ἐν μὲν ἀρχῇ τῆς λόγου καὶ ἀεὶ οὐκ ἑνός, τὸ πρῶτον καὶ ὡς ἀκίνητον ὄν· καὶ τὸ καὶ ὡς ἀκίνητον ἀρχὴ αἰεὶ καὶ συνεχὴς ἐν μόνῳ· ὥς ἀρχὴ ὅσων μόνον.* *There is One Numerically, First Immovable Mover and no more; and therefore there is but One Movable neither, that is, but One Heaven or World.* In which Doctrine of Aristotle, there seems to be a Great Difference, betwixt his Philosophy and that of Plato's; in that Plato makes the Principle of Motion in the Heavens and Whole World, to be a *Self-moving Soul*, but Aristotle supposeth it to be an *Immovable Mind* or *Intellect*. Nevertheless, according to Aristotle's Explication of himself, the Difference betwixt them is not great, if any at all; Aristotle's *Immovable Mover* being understood by him, not to move the Heavens *Efficiently*, but only *Objectively* and *Finally*, *ὡς ἐκείνην, as being Loved.* Which Conceit of his, Proclus upon Plato's *Timæus*, perstringeth after this manner, *τῶ παλαιῶν οἱ μὲν ἡ κίνησις ὅταντι καί τις ἐστὶν, καὶ διὰ τὴν ἑλπίδα, τὴν αὖτις τὸ πρῶτον ἐκείνην, δένοντι αὐτῇ τὴν κίνησιν, ὅθεν ἔφασαν ἀπὸ τοῦ τοῦ καλῆς αἰεὶ αὐτῇ, ὡς ἵδω προσημαίνοντι αὐτὴν τοῖς ἐκείνην μὲν τῇ αἰσθητῇ, μεθὲν ὃ γινώσκον ἔχοντι αὐτὴν τῇ αἰσθητῇ φησὶ.* *Some of the ancients converting the World, to Mind (or Intellect) and making it move, only by Love of that first Desirable; acknowledged nothing at all to descend down from Mind (or God) upon the World; but equalized the same with other Amiable things, amongst Sensibler, that have nothing Generative in their Nature.* Where Proclus seems to suppose Aristotle to have attributed to God, no *Efficiency* at all upon the World; the Contrary whereunto, shall be evidently proved afterwards. In the mean time it is certain, that Aristotle, besides his *Immovable Mover* of the Heavens, which moveth only *Finally*, or as *Being Loved*, must needs suppose another *Immediate Mover* of them, or *Efficient Cause* of that Motion; which could be nothing but *A Soul*, that enamoured with this *Supreme Mind*, did as it were in Imitation of it, continually Turn round the Heavens. Which seems to be nothing but Plato's Doctrine disguised; that Philosopher affirming likewise, the Circular Motions of the Heavens, caused *Efficiently*

Met. L. 14 c. 8.
p. 1003 P.

Met. L. 14.
c. 8.

P. 167.

scientifically, by a *Soul of the World* in his *Timæus* to be, τὸ αὐτὸ τὸν ἐν ᾧ φέρεται μακάριον ζῶντα, a *Motion* that is most agreeable to that of *Mind* or *Wisdom*: And again in his *Laws*, τὸ τὸν ὅλον κόσμον περιτρεχόντων ἀσθενέστατον ἐστὶν ἰσχυρίαν, that which of all *Corporeal Motions* only resembles the *Circuit* of *Intellect*. Which *Platonick Conceit* found entertainment with *Boetius*, who writing of the *Soul of the World*, represents it thus, De Consol. L. 3. Met. 9.

*Quæ cum scella duos motum glomeravit in Orbes,
In semet reditura meat, Mentemque Profundam
Circuit, & simili convertit Imagine Cælum.*

Wherefore as well according to *Plato's Hypothesis* as *Aristotle's*, it may be affirmed of the *Supreme Deity*, in the same *Boetius* his Language, that,

————— *Stabilisque manens dat cuncta Moveri,*

Being it self *Immovable*, it causeth all other things to *Move*. The *Immediate Efficient Cause* of which *Motion* also, no less according to *Aristotle* than *Plato*, seems to have been a *Mundane Soul*; however *Aristotle* thought not so fit to make this *Soul*, a *Principle*; in all *Probability*, because he was not so well assured, of the *Incorporiety* of *Souls*, as of *Minds* or *Intellects*.

Nevertheless this is not the only thing, which *Aristotle* imputed to his *First and Highest Immovable Principle*, or the *Supreme Deity*, its turning Round of the *Primum Mobile*, and that no otherwise than as being *Loved*, or as the *Final Cause* thereof, as *Proclus* supposed; but he as well as *Anaxagoras*, asserted it to be also, τὸ αὐτὸ καλῶς αἰτιῶν, Met. L. 14. c. 7. P. The *Cause of Well and Fit*, or τὸ εἶναι ὅλον τὸ αἶον, that without which, there could be no such thing as *Well*; that is, no *Order*, *Proportion*, *Harmony* in the *Universe*. He declaring excellently, that εἰ μὴ ἔστι τι ἄλλο τὸ αἰσθητὸν ἄνω, ἢ ἔστι ἀρχὴ καὶ τέλος, ἀλλ' αἶν' ἡ ἀρχὴ ἀρχή, Unless there were something else in the world besides *Sensibles*, there could be neither *Beginning* nor *Order* in it, but one thing would be the *Principle* of another infinitely, or without end; and again in another place already cited, τὸ αὐτὸ καλῶς, ὥς ἐστι πᾶς ὅτι γινώσκει. εἰδ' αὐτὰ αὐτομάτως καὶ τύχῃ περὶ ἑστῆναι πρᾶγμα καλῶς ἔχει, It is not at all likely, that either *Fire* or *Earth* or any such *Body*, should be the *Cause* of that *Well and Fit* that is in the *World*; nor can so *Noble an Effect* as this, be reasonably imputed to *Chance* or *Fortune*. Wherefore himself agreeably with *Anaxagoras* concludes, that it is *Nice* or *Mind*, which is properly αἰτιῶν τὸ καλῶς καὶ ὀρθῶς, The *Cause of Well and Right*, and accordingly does he frequently call the *Supreme Deity* by that Name. He affirming likewise that the *Order*, *Pulchritude* and *Harmony* of the whole *World*, dependeth upon that One *Highest and Supreme Being* in it, after the same manner as the *Order* of an *Army* dependeth upon the *General* or *Emperour*; who is not for the *Order*, but the *Order* for him. Which *Highest Being* of the *Universe*, is therefore called by him also, conformably to *Pla-*

Met. I. 14.
cap. 10.

το τὸ ἀγαθὸν καὶ χωρὶς ὧν ἄλλο τι ἐστὶν ἀγαθόν, *The Separate Good of the World, in way of distinction from that Intrinsick or Inherent Good of it, which is the Order and Harmony it self: ἑποικονομήσειν δὲ καὶ ποτὶς ἔχει τὸ ἐκείνου τὸ ἀγαθὸν καὶ τὸ ἄριστον ἢ ποτὶς καὶ χωρὶς ὧν ἄλλο τι ἐστὶν ἀγαθόν, καὶ αὐτὸ κατ' αὐτὸ, ἢ τῷ τάξει, ἢ ἀμφοτέρως ὡς αὐτὸ ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ καὶ ὡς τῷ τάξει τὸ δὲ κατὰ τὸν ἄριστον, καὶ ὡς ὅτις διὰ τῷ τάξει, ἀλλ' ὅταν διὰ τῷ ἄριστον πάντα γὰρ συντάσσεται πᾶσι. It is to be considered also, What is the Good, and Best of the Universe; Whether its own Order only? or Something Separate and existing by it self? Or rather Both of them together? As the Good of an Army, consisteth both in its Order, and likewise in its General or Emperor, but principally in this Latter; because the Emperor is not for the Order of the Army, but the Order of the Army is for him; for all things are coordered together with God, and respectively to him. Wherefore since Aristotle's Supreme Deity, by what name soever called, whether Mind or Good, is the proper Efficient Cause of all that Well and Fit, that is in the Universe, of all the Order, Pulchritude and Harmony thereof; it must needs be granted, that besides its being the Final Cause of Motion, or its Turning round the Heavens by being Loved, it was also the Efficient Cause of the Whole Frame of Nature and System of the World. And thus does he plainly declare his Sense,*

Met. L. 1. 3.

Met. L. 14.
7.

where he applauds *Anaxagoras* for maintaining, *Νῦν ἐστὶ καὶ τὸ νόημα καὶ τὸ τάξις πάντων αἰσίων, that Mind is the Cause not only of all Order, but also of the whole World: and when himself positively affirms, ὅτι τῷ αἰσίῳ ἀρχὴς ἐστὶν αἰσίων καὶ φύσις, that from such a Principle as this depends the Heaven, and Nature. Where by Heaven is meant the whole World, and by Nature, that Artificial Nature of his before insisted on, which doth nothing in vain, but always acteth for*

De Part. An.
L. 1.

Ends Regularly, and is the Instrument of the Divine Mind. He also somewhere affirmeth, that if the Heavens or World were Generated, that is, Made in Time, so as to have had a Beginning, then it was certainly Made, not by Chance and Fortune, but by such an Artificial Nature, as is the Instrument of a Perfect Mind. And in his Physicks,

Lib. 1. 4. 6.

where he contends for the Worlds Ante-Eternity, he concludes nevertheless, *ἀνάγκη νῦν αἰσίων καὶ φύσις εἶναι τὴν πᾶν, That Mind together with Nature must of necessity be the Cause of this Whole Universe. For though the World were never so much Coeternal with Mind; yet was it in order of Nature after it and Junious to it as the Effect thereof, himself thus generously resolving, ἀπολογησάμενος εἶναι νῦν περὶ φύσιν, καὶ νόμον κατὰ φύσιν. τὰ δὲ στοιχεῖα φύσιν πρῶτα ἢ νόμον εἶναι, that though some, (that is, the Atheists) affirm the Elements to have been the First Beings; yet it was the most reasonable thing of all to conclude, that Mind was the Oldest of All things, and Senious to the World and Elements; and that according to Nature, it had a Princely and Sovereign Dominion over all. Wherefore we think it now sufficiently evident; that Aristotle's Supreme Deity, does not only move the Heavens as being Loved, or is the Final Cause of Motion, but also was the Efficient Cause, of this Whole Mundane System, framed according to the Best Wisdom, and after the Best manner Possible.*

Ar. de An.
L. 1. 6 7.

For perhaps it may not be amiss here to observe, That God was not called *Mind*, by Aristotle and those other ancient Philosophers, according

according to that Vulgar Sense of many in these days of ours; as if he were indeed an *Understanding* or *Perceptive Being*, and that perfectly *Omniscient*, but yet nevertheless such, as acted all things *Arbitrarily*, being not determined by any *Rule* or *Nature of Goodness*, but only by his own *Fortuitous Will*. For according to those ancient Philosophers, that which acts without respect to *Good*, would not so much be accounted *Mens* as *Dementia*, *Mind*, as *Madness* or *Folly*; and to impute the Frame of Nature or System of the World, together with the Government of the same, to such a Principle as this, would have been judg'd by them all one, as to impute them to *Chance* or *Fortune*. But *Aristotle* and those other Philosophers, who called the *Supreme God*, *Nos* or *Mind*, understood thereby, that which of all things in the whole world, is most opposite to *Chance*, *Fortune*, and *Temerity*; that which is regulated by the τὸ εὖ καὶ καλῶς, *The Well and Fit* of every thing, if it be not rather the very *Rule*, *Measure* and *Essence of Fitness* it self; that which acteth all for *Ends* and *Good*, and doth every thing after the *Best manner*, in order to the *Whole*. Thus *Socrates* in that place before cited out of *Plato's Phædo* interprets the Meaning of that Opinion, *That Mind made the World*, and was the *Cause of all things*: ἡγουμένῳ, εἰ τὸ τοιοῦτον ἔχει, ὅτι νῦν πάντα κοσμοῦν, καὶ ἔκαστον τιθεῖται ταῦτα ὅπως ἐστὶν ἔχον· *That therefore every thing might be concluded to have been disposed of after the Best Manner possible*. And accordingly *Theophrastus*, *Aristotle's Scholar* and Successor, describeth God after this manner; τὸ πρῶτον καὶ θεώτατον, πάντα τὰ ἀρετὰ βεβλόμενον, *That First and Divine Being of all, which willeth all the Best things*. Whether of these Two Hypotheses concerning God, One of the ancient Pagan Philosophers, that God is as essentially *Goodness* as *Wisdom*, or as *Plotinus* after *Plato* calls him *Decency* and *Fitness* it self; the Other of some late Professors of Christianity, that he is nothing but *Arbitrary Will*, *Omnipotent* and *Omniscient*, I say whether of these Two is more agreeable to *Piety* and *True Christianity*, we shall leave it to be considered:

Lastly, it is not without Probability, that *Aristotle* did, besides the *Frame of Nature*, and *Fabrick of the World*, impute even the very Substance of Things themselves also, to the Divine Efficiency (nor indeed can there well be any doubt of any thing save only the Matter;) partly from his affirming God to be a *Cause and Principle to all things*; and partly from his Commending this Doctrine of *Anaxagoras*, *Ma. L. c. 1.* ἡμᾶς τὸ καλῶς, αἰτίαν καὶ ἀρχὴν εἶναι τῶν ὄντων πάντων, *That Mind was together with Well and Fit, the Cause and Principle of Things themselves*. However that *Aristotle's* Inferiour Gods at least, and therefore his *Intelligences of the Lesser Spheres*, which were *Incorporeal Substances*, were all of them Produced or Created by One *Supreme*, may be further confirmed from this Definition of his in his *Rhetorick*, *L. 2. c. 13.* τὸ θεῖον οὐδὲν ἔστιν, ἀλλ' ἢ θεὸς, ἢ θεοῦ ἔργον, *The Divinity is nothing but either God or the Work of God*. Where θεὸς is unquestionably used in way of Eminency, for the Supreme Deity, as in those other places of *Aristotle's* before cited, to which sundry more might be added, as, πάντα ἔχει τὰ γὰρ θεὸς ὁ θεός, καὶ ἔστιν αὐτοῦ καὶ, *God possess-* *Met. Met. L. 2. c. 13.*

eth all Good things, and is Self-sufficient; and again where he speaks of things that are more than praise-worthy, *τιςτοιεν δι' ε'σται τ' θεον καλ* *Est. Nic. L. 1. τ' αγαθον, προς ταυτα γ'ε καλ' αλλα αναφερισται*, such are God and Good, for to these are all other things referred. But here Aristotle affirming, that there is nothing Divine, but either God himself, or the Work and Effect of God, plainly implies, that there was no Multitude of Self-existent Deities, and that those Intelligences of the Lesser Stars or Spheres, however Eternal, were themselves also Produced or Caused by One Supreme Deity.

Met. L. 6. c. 1.

Furthermore Aristotle declares, that this Speculation concerning the Deity, does constitute a Particular Science by it self, distinct from those other Speculative Sciences of Physiology, and the Pure Mathematicks, so that there are in all, Three Speculative Sciences, distinguished by their several Objects, Physiology, the Pure Mathematicks, and Theology or Metaphysics: The Former of these, that is, Physiology, being conversant, *ᾧδε ἀχώριστα μὲν, ἀλλ' ὅτε ἀκίνητα, about Things both Inseparable from Matter, and Moveable;* the Second (*viz. Geometry or the Pure Mathematicks*) *ᾧδε ἀκίνητα μὲν ἀλλ' ὅτε χωριστὰ, ἀλλ' ὅς ἐστι ὄν, About things Immoveable indeed, but not really separable from Matter,* so as to exist alone by themselves; but the Third and Last, *ᾧδε χωριστὰ καὶ ἀκίνητα, Concerning things both Immoveable and Separable from Matter,* that is, *Incorporeal Substances Immoveable*: This Philosopher there adding, *εἰ μὴ ἦεν τις ἐν τῇ φύσει αὐτῇ τῶς φύσεως φυσικῆς ἢ φυσικῆς ὅν ἐν πρώτῃ ἐπιστήμῃ, εἰ δ' ἦεν τις ἑτέρα ἀκίνητος, αὐτὴ περὶ τῆς, καὶ φιλοσοφία πρώτης*. That if there were no other Substance besides these Natural things, which are Material and Moveable; then would Physiology be the First Science; but if there be any Immoveable Substance, the Philosophy thereof must needs in order of Nature be before the other. Lastly he concludes, that as the Speculative Sciences in General, are more Noble and Excellent than the other, so is Theology or Metaphysics the most Honourable of all the Speculatives. Now the chief Points of the Aristotelick Theology, or Metaphysical Doctrine concerning God, seem to be these Four following. First, That though all things be not Ingenit or Unmade, according to that in his Book against Xenophanes, *ἂν ἀνάγκη ἀχρηστώτα πάντα εἶναι, ἢ ὅθεν καλῶς γενέσθαι ἔτι καὶ ἐν τῇ φύσει*, There is no necessity that all things should be Unmade, for what hinders but that some things may be Generated from other things? Yet there must needs be something Eternal and Unmade; as likewise Incorruptible, because *εἰ πάντες ἑταίροι φθαρταί, πάντα φθαρέα*. If all Substances were Corruptible, then All might come to nothing. Which Eternal, Unmade (or Self-existent) and Incorruptible Substance, according to Aristotle is not Senseless Matter, but a Perfect Mind. Secondly, that God is also an Incorporeal Substance, *καὶ χωριστὸν τῶν αἰσθητῶν*, Separate from Sensibles, and not only so, but according to Aristotle's Judgment likewise, *ἀδιασπῆκτον*, and *ἀμεγέθους*, Indivisible, and Devoid of Parts, and Magnitude. Nor can it be denied, but that besides Aristotle, the Generality of those other Ancients who asserted Incorporeal Substance, did suppose it likewise to be Unextended, they dividing Substances (as we learn from Philo) into *διασπασίμα, καὶ ἀδιάσπαστα ἑταίροι*, Distant and Indistant, or Extended and Unextended Substances. Which Doctrine whether

True

True or no, is not here to be discussed. Thirdly, *τὸ αὐτὸ τὸς ἐς τὸ αὐτὸ*, *Met. L. 14. 7.*
That in God Intellect is really the same thing with the Intelligibles. Be-
 cause the *Divine Mind* being (at least in order of Nature) *Seniour*
to All things, and *Architonical* of the World, could not look abroad
 for its Objects, or find them any where without it self, and there-
 fore must needs contain them all within it self. Which Determina-
 tion of *Aristotle's*, is no less agreeable to *Theism*, than to *Plato-*
nism; whereas on the contrary, the *Atheists*, who assert *Mind* and
Understanding as such, to be in order of Nature *Junior* to *Matter*
and the World, do therefore agreeably to their own Hypothesis, sup-
 pose all *Intellection* to be by way of *Passion* from *Corporeal* things
 without, and no *Mind* or *Intellect*, to contain its *Intelligibles*, or *Im-*
mediate Objects within it self. Lastly, That *God* being an *Immovable*
Substance, his *ἔστιν ἐνέργεια*, *His Essence* and *Act* or *Operation* the *Met. Lib. 14.*
same, *ὅτι ἂν ἐστὶν ἔστιν ἐνέργεια* ὡς ἡ *ἔστιν ἐνέργεια*, *There must there-*
fore needs be some such Principle as this, whose Essence is Act or Energy.
 From which Theorem *Aristotle* indeed endeavours to establish the
Eternity of the World, that it was not made *ἐκ τοῦ οὐκ ὄντος, ἐξ ἐμῆς ποίησεως, καὶ*
ἐκ μὲν οὐκ ὄντος, from *Night*, and a *Confused Chaos* of things, and from
Nothing; that is, from an Antecedent Non-existence, brought forth
 into being; Because *God* who is an *Immovable Nature*, and whose *Es-*
sence is Act or Energy, cannot be supposed to have rested or Slept
 from Eternity, doing nothing at all, and then after Infinite Ages,
 to have begun to move the Matter, or make the World. Which
 Argumentation of *Aristotle's*, perhaps would not be Inconsiderable,
 were the *World*, *Atom* and *Time*, capable of Existing from Eternity,
 or without Beginning. Of which more elsewhere. However, from
 hence it is undeniably evident, that *Aristotle*, though asserting the
Worlds Eternity, nevertheless derived the same from *God*, because
 he would prove this *Eternity of the World*, from the *Essential Ener-*
gy and *Immutability* of the Deity.

We shall now conclude all concerning *Aristotle*, with this short
 Summary, which himself gives us of his own Creed and Religion, a-
 agreeably to the Tradition of his Pagans Ancestors; *παράδοξαι ὑπὸ τῶν* *Met. L. 14.*
αρχαίων καὶ παλαιῶν, ὅτι θεοὶ τὰ εἶναι ἔστι, καὶ ὁ θεὸς τὸ θεῖον τὸν ὅλον *c. 6.*
φύλον· τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ μυθικῶς ἔδωκεν προσέχου πρὸς τὴν παιδείαν τῶν πολλῶν, καὶ
τὴν εἰς τοὺς νόμους καὶ τὸ συμφέρον χρηστὴν αἰσθητικῶς τι τῶν πάντων καὶ τῶν
ἄλλων ἔδωκεν ἰσχυροὺς καὶ λόγους, καὶ τότους ἐπεὶ ἀδύνατον καὶ ἀβυσπλήν.
It hath been delivered down to us from very ancient Times, that the Stars
are Gods also; besides that Supreme Deity which contains the Whole Na-
ture. But all the other things, were Fabulously added hereunto; for the
better Perswasion of the Multitude, and for Utility of Humane Life and
Political Ends, to keep men in Obedience to Civil Laws. As for example,
that these Gods are of Humane Form, or like to other Animals; with such
other things as are consequent hereupon. In which words of Aristotle,
these Three Things may be taken notice of. First, That this was the Ge-
neral Perswasion of the Civilized Pagans from all known Antiquity
downwards, that there is One τὸ θεῖον, which comprehends the whole
Nature. Where τὸ θεῖον is by Aristotle plainly taken for the Supreme
Deity. And his own sence concerning this Particular, is elsewhere
thus

ἑνὶ τῷ παντί, &c. That both a *Monad* and *Dyad*, were Gods, the one Masculine, having the order of a Father, which he calleth *Zen* and *Mind*, and which is also to him the First God; the other Feminine, as it were the Mother of the Gods, which is to him, the Soul of the Universe; besides which he acknowledgeth the Heaven to be Divine, that is, Animated with a Particular Soul of its own, and the Fiery Stars, to be *Celestial Gods*, as he asserted also certain *Sublunary Gods*, viz. the *Invisible Demons*. Where instead of the *Platonick Trinity*, *Xenocrates* seems to have acknowledg'd only a *Duality of Divine Hypostases*; the First called a *Monad* and *Mind*, the Second a *Dyad* and *Soul of the Universe*. And lastly, we have this Testimony of *Theophrastus*, besides others cited out of his *Metaphysics*, Δείξ ὅδ' ὅλον αὐτὸν εἶναι, δι' ἧς πάντα εἰς ἑνὶ εἰς διαμείβεται, There is one Divine Principle of all things, by or from which all things subsist and remain.

X X V. The Stoicks and their chief Doctors, *Zeno*, *Cleanthes* and *Chrysippus*, were no better *Naturalists* and *Metaphysicians*, than *Heraclitus*, in whose footsteps they trode: they in like manner admitting no other Substance besides *Body*, according to the true and proper Notion thereof, as that which is, not only *διὰ πᾶν*, *Diffant* and *Extended*, but also *ἀνέναντον*, *Resisting* and *Impenetrable*. So that according to these Stoicks, the Souls not only of other Animals, but of Men also, were properly *Corporeal*, that is, Substances *Impenetrably Extended*; and which differ'd from that other part of theirs, commonly called *their Body*, no otherwise, than that they were, *σῶμα ἀραιότερον καὶ λεπτομερέστερον*, a more *Thin* and *Subtil Body*, and *πῦρ καὶ ὕψιστον*, a *Hot and Fiery Spirit*: it being supposed by these Philosophers, that *Cogitation*, *Reason* and *Understanding*, are lodged only in the *Fiery Matter* of the Universe. And though the Generality of these Stoicks, acknowledged *Humane Souls*, to have a certain *Permanency* after *Death*, and some of them till the next *Conflagration* (unless perhaps they should be crushed and broken all to pieces, in their Passage out of the Body, by the down-fall of some Tower, Steeple, or the like, upon them) yet did they all conclude against their *Immortality*, there being nothing at all *Immortal* with them (as shall be afterwards declared) save only *Jupiter*, or the *One Supreme Deity*. And as for the *Punishment* of Wicked Souls after death, though some of them seem to have utterly exploded the same, as a meer *Figment* of Poets, (inasmuch that *Epictetus* himself denies, there was any *Acheron*, *Cocytus* or *Phlegethon*) yet others granted, that as the better Souls after *Death*, did mount up to the Stars, their First Original, so the Wicked wandered up and down here, in certain *Dark and Mirk Subterraneous Places*, till at length they were quite extinct. Nevertheless, they seem to have been all of this Perswasion, that the Frightning of men with punishments after *Death*, was no Proper nor Accommodate means to promote *Virtue*, because that ought to be pursued after for its own sake, or the *Good of Honesty*, as Vice to be avoided, for that *Evil of Turpitude* which is in it, and not for any other External Evil consequent thereupon. Wherefore *Chrysippus* reprehended *Plato* for subjoining to his Republick such affrightful Stories of Punishments after death, *οὐκ ἐπὶ τῷ ἀποτρέψαι τὴν ἀπὸ τῆς*

Plat. Stoic.
Rep. p. 1040.
Stoic.

θεῶν φόβῳ, ἢ ἀδικίας, ἢ κέραιον· ἀδικησάντων τ' ἵναί, καὶ πρὸς τὸν αὐτὸν ἐξ-
 ἀρχαῖα πολλὰς αἰτίας παρὰ τὴν αἰσθητικὴν αἰσθητικὴν, ἢ αἰσθητικὴν ὑπὲρ τῆς
 θεῶν κολάσεως λέγειν, ὡς ἐδὴν διαφύκειν αἰσθητικὴν καὶ τὴν ἀλφειτὴν, δι' ὧν τὴν
 παιδείαν τὴν κακοχολῶν αἰ γὰρ αἰσθητικὴν ἀνέγειν· Chrysippus affirmeth, that
 Plato (in the Person of Cephalus) does not rightly deter men from In-
 justice, by the Fear of Divine Punishments and Vengeance after Death ;
 since this opinion (of Torments after death) is liable to much Exception,
 and the contrary is not without Probabilities ; so that it seems to be but
 like to Women's frightening of Children from doing unhappy tricks,
 with those Bugbears of Accho and Alphito. But how fondly these
 Stoicks, doted upon that Hypothesis, That all was Body, may appear
 from hence, that they maintained even Accidents and Qualities them-
 selves to be Bodies ; for Voice and Sound, Night and Day, Evening
 and Morning, Summer and Winter ; nay, Calends and Nones, Months
 and Years, were Bodies with them. And not only so, but also the
 Qualities of the Mind it self, as Virtue and Vice, together with the
 Motions and Affections of it, as Anger and Envy, Grief and Joy ; ac-
 cording to that passage in Seneca, *Corporis Bona sunt Corpora, Corpo-
 ra ergo sunt & quæ animi, nam & hic Corpus est* ; The Goods of a Bo-
 dy are Bodies, now the Mind is a Body, and therefore the Goods of the
 Mind are Bodies too. And with as good Logick as this did they fur-
 ther infer, that all the Actions, Passions, and Qualities of the Mind,
 were not only Bodies but also Animals likewise. *Animam constat* An-
 imāl esse, *cum ipsa efficiat, ut simus Animalia* ; Virtus autem nihil ali-
 ud est quàm Animus taliter se habens, ergo Animal est ; It is manifest,
 that the Soul is an Animal, because it is that by which we are made A-
 nimals ; now Vertue and Vice are nothing else but the Soul so and so af-
 fected or modified, and therefore these are Animals too. Thus we see
 what fine Conclusions, these Doters upon Body (though accounted
 great Masters of Logick) made ; and how they were befooled in
 their Ratiocinations and Philosophy.

Nevertheless though these Stoicks were such sottish Corporealists,
 yet were they not for all that Atheists : they resolving that Mind or
 Understanding, though always lodged in Corporeal Substance, yet
 was not first of all begotten out of Senseless Matter, so or so Modified ;
 but was an Eternal Unmade thing, and the Maker of the whole Mun-
 dane System. And therefore as to that Controversie so much agita-
 ted amongst the Ancients, Whether the World were made by Chance,
 or by the Necessity of Material Motions, or by Mind, Reason and Un-
 derstanding ; they avowedly maintained that it was neither by Chance
 nor by Material Necessity, but Divine Mente, by a Divine and Eter-
 nal Mind every way perfect. From which One Eternal Mind, they
 also affirmed Humane Souls to have been derived, and not from
 Senseless Matter ; *Prudentiam & Mentem à Diis ad Homines pervenisse*,
 that Mind and Wisdom descended down to Men from the Deity. And
 that, *Ratio nihil aliud est, quàm in Corpus humanum Pars Divini Spi-
 ritus mersa* ; Reason is nothing else but Part of the Divine Spirit merg'd
 into a Humane Body ; so that these Humane Souls were to them, no
 other than μερὴ θεῶν καὶ ἀποσπασμοί, certain Parts of God, or Decer-
 ptions and Avulsions from him. Neither were the Reasons by which
 these

these Stoicks would prove, the World to have had a *Divine Original*, at all Contemptible, or much inferiour to those which have been used in these latter days; they being such as these: First, That it is no more likely, this Orderly System of the World, should have been made by Chance, than that *Ennius* his *Annals*, or *Homer's Iliads* might have resulted from the Fortuitous Projection or Tumbling out of so many Forms of Letters, confounded all together. There being as much continued and coherent Sense and as many several Combinations, in this *Real Poem* of the World, as there is in any *Phantastick Poem* made by men. And since we see no Houses or Cities, no Books or Libraries any where made by the fortuitous Motions of Matter, it is a madness to think that this Admirable Compages of the whole World should first have resulted from thence. Again, There could not possibly be such an Agreeing and Conspiring Cognation of things, and such a *Universal Harmony* throughout the whole World, as now there is, *nisi ea Uno Divino & Continuatō Spiritu continerentur*, were they not all contained by One and the same Divine Spirit: Which is the most obvious Argument, for the Unity or Onelyness of the Deity. They reasoned also from the *Scale of Nature*, or the Gradual Perfection of things in the Universe, one above another; That therefore there must be something *Absolutely Perfect*, and that either the World it self, or something presiding over it, was à *Principio Sapiens*, *Wise from the Beginning*, or rather without Beginning and from Eternity. For as in the Growth of Plants and Animals, *Natura suo quodam Itinere ad Ultimum pervenit*, Nature by a Continual Progress and Journeying forwards, arrives at length to the greatest Perfection, which those things are respectively capable of: And as those Arts of Picture and Architecture, aim at Perfection; *ita in omni Natura necesse est Absolvi aliquid & Perfici*, so in the Nature of the whole Universe, there must needs be something *Absolutely Perfect*, reach'd unto. *Necesse est præstantem aliquam esse Naturam qua nihil est Melius*; Since there is such a Gradual Ascent and Scale of Perfections in Nature one above another, there must needs be some most Excellent and Perfect Being, than which nothing can be Better, at the Top of all, as the Head thereof. Moreover they disputed *Socratically* after this manner, *Unde arripuit Homo Vitam, Mentem & Rationem?* Whence did man snatch Life, Reason, or Understanding? Or from what was it Kindled in him? For is it not plain, that we derive the Moisture and Fluidity of our Bodies, from the Water that is in the Universe, their Consistency and Solidity from the Earth, their Heat and Activity from the Fire, and their Spirituosity from the Air; *Illud autem quod vincit hæc omnia, Rationem, Mentem & Consilium, &c. Ubi invenimus? unde suscipimus?* An cetera Mundus habebit omnia? Hoc unum quod plurimi est non habebit? But that which far transcendeth all these things, our Reason, Mind and Understanding, where did we find it? or from whence did we derive it? Hath the Universe all those other things of ours in it, and in a far greater proportion? and hath it nothing at all of that which is the most excellent thing in us? *Nihil quod Animi, quodque Rationis est experti, id generare ex se potest Animantes, compositesque Rationis, Mundus autem generat Animantes composites Rationis*: Nothing that is devoid of Mind and Reason can Generate things Ani-

mant and Rational, but the World Generateth such, and therefore it self (or that which contains it and presides over it) must needs be Animant, and Rational or Intellectual. Which Argumentation is further set home by such Similitudes as these; Si ex Oliva modulati canentes Tibie nascerentur, non dubitares quin esset in Oliva Tibicinis quaedam Scientia. Quid si Platani Fidiculas ferrent numerosè sonantes, idem scilicet censeret in Platanis inesse Musicam. Cur igitur Mundus non Animans Sapiensque judicetur, cum ex se procreet Animantes atque Sapientes? If from the Olive-Tree should be produced Pipes sounding Harmoniously, or from the Plain-Tree Fiddles, playing of their own accord Musically, it would not at all be doubted, but that there was, some Musical either Skill or Nature, in those Trees themselves; Why therefore should not the World be concluded, to be both Animant and Wise (or to have something in it which is so) since it produceth such Beings from it self? And though perhaps some may think that of Cotta's here, to have been a smart and witty Repartie, Queris Socrates unde Animam arripuerimus, si nulla fuerit in mundo? Et ego quero unde Orationem? unde Numeros? unde Cantus? nisi verò loqui Solem cum Luna putemus, cum propius accesserit: aut ad harmoniam canere Mundum ut Pythagoras existimat. Socrates demandeth, whence we snatch'd Soul, Life, and Reason, if there were none in the world? and I demand (saith he) whence did we snatch Speech, Musick, and Numbers? Unless perhaps you will suppose the Sun to confabulate with the Moon, when he approaches near her in the Syzygie; or the World to sound Harmonically as Pythagoras conceited. Yet this how smart soever it may seem, was really but an Empty Flash of Academick Wit, without any Solidity at all in it, as shall be manifested afterward. Lastly the Stoicks endeavoured to prove the Existence of a God after this manner, Ut nulla pars Corporis nostri est quæ non sit minor quam Nosmetipsi sumus, sic Mundum Universum pluri esse necesse est quam Partem aliquam Universi; As there is no Part of our Body which is not Inferiour in perfection to Our selves, so must the Whole Universe needs be supposed, to be Better and more Perfect than any of the Parts thereof. Wherefore since it is Better to be endued with Life and Understanding, than to be devoid thereof, and these are Pure Perfections; they being in some measure in the Parts, must needs be much more in the Whole. Nullius sensu carentis Pars, potest esse Sentiens, No Part of that which is utterly dead and stupid, can have Life and Understanding in it. And it is a Madness for any man to suppose, Nihil in omni Mundo Melius esse quam se, that there is nothing in the whole World Better than himself, or than Mankind; which is but a Part thereof. Now Cotta here again exercises his jeering Academick Wit after the same manner as before; Hoc si placet, jam efficiet, ut Mundus optimè Librum legere videatur, &c. Iſto modo etiam Disertus, Mathematicus, Musicus, omni denique doctrina reſertus, poſtremo Philoſophus erit Mundus. By this same Argument you might as well prove, That the World is also Book-learned, an Orator, a Mathematician, a Musician, and last of all a Philosopher. But neither this Objection of his nor that Former, have any Firmitude at all in them: Because though an Effect cannot be Better or more Perfect than its Cause, nor a Part than the Whole; and therefore whatsoever there is

of

of *Pure Perfection* in any *Effect*, it must needs be more in the *Cause*; yet as to those things there mentioned by *Cotta* (which have all a plain Mixture of Imperfection in them) as they could not therefore *Formally* exist in that which is *Absolutely Perfect*, so is it sufficient, that they are all *Eminently* and *Verinally* contain'd therein.

By such Argumentations as these (besides that taken from the Topic of *Prefcience* and *Divination*) did the ancient Stoicks endeavour to Demonstrate the Existence of a God, or a Universal Numen, the Maker and Governour of the whole World; and that such a one, as was not a meer *Plastick* or *Methodical* and *Sensless*, but a *Conscious* and *Perfectly Intellectual Nature*. So that the World to them, was neither a meer *Heap* and *Congeries* of Dead and Stupid Matter, fortuitously compacted together; nor yet a *Hugo Plant* or *Vegetable*, that is, endued with a *Spermatick Principle* only; but an *Animal* enformed and enlivened by an *Intellectual Soul*. And though, being *Corporealists*, they sometimes called, the *Whole World* it self or *Mundane Animal*, God; and sometimes the *Fiery Principle* in it, as *Intellectual*, and the *Hegemonick* of the *Mundane Soul*; Yet was the God of the Stoicks properly, not the very *Matter* it self, but that *Great Soul*, *Mind* and *Understanding*, or in *Seneca's* Language, that *Ratio Incorporalis*, that Rules the Matter of the whole World. Which *Stoical God* was also called, as well *ῥαγαν* as *Νῦς*, *Good* as *Mind*; as that which is a *Most Moral*, *Benign*, and *Benificent Being*; according to that excellent *Cleanthean* Description of him, in *Clement Alexandrinus*,

ῥαγαν ἑρως μ' οἷόν τε ἀνὴρ δῖος,
τεταρβύλον, δίκαιον, ἕτοιμον, ἀσκήτως,
κοιτῶν ἑαυτῷ, χρίσμιον, καλόν, δέον, &c.

But this Maker and Governour of the Whole World was most commonly named by the Stoicks *Zeus* and *Zen*, or *Jupiter*; some of them concluding that therefore there was but one *Zeus* or *Independent Deity*, because the Whole World was but *One Animal*, governed by *One Soul*; and others of them endeavouring on the contrary to prove the *Unity* and *Singularity* of the World, from the Oneliness of this *Zeus* or the *Supreme Deity*, supposed and taken for granted, and because there is but *One Fate* and *Providence*. Which Latter Consequence, *Plutarch* would by no means allow of, he writing thus concerning it, where he pleads for a Plurality of Worlds, *ἡ μὲν τολ- D. Def. Or. p. 425.*
μα ἂν ἡ ἀλλὰ τῶ Στωικῶν τις ἐν φοβῶνται, καὶ ἀπομαρτυροῦνται πῶς εἰμαρμένῃ μία μέ-
νη καὶ πρόνοια, καὶ ὁ πολλοὶ δῖος καὶ Ζηνὸς ἑστίαι, πλείονας ὂντας κόσμων. τίς
γὰρ ἀνέγκη πολλὰς εἶναι δίας, ἐν πλείονες ὂντες κόσμοι, καὶ μὴ καθ' ἑαυτὸν ἀρ-
χαία πρόνοια καὶ ἡγεμὴνα τῷ ὅλῳ θέναι, ὅς ἐστι παρ' ἡμῶν καὶ ἐξ ἡμῶν ἀποδίδται καὶ
πατὴρ ἰσομετρίως, &c. Neither is it at all considerable, what the Stoicks here object against a Plurality of Worlds, they demanding how there could be but *One Fate*, and *One Providence*, and *One Jove* (or *Independent Deity*) were there many Worlds? For what Necessity is there, that there must be more *Zen's* or *Joves* than *One*, if there were *More Worlds*? and why might not that *One* and the same God of this Universe,

Universe called by us, the Lord and Father of all, be the First Prince, and Highest Governour in all those Worlds? Or what binders but that a Multitude of Worlds, might be all Subject to the Fate and Providence of one Jupiter or Supreme God, himself inspecting and ordering them every one; and imparting Principles and Spermatick Reasons to them, according to which all things in them might be Governed and Disposed. For can many distinct Persons in an Army or Chorus, be reduced into One Body or Polity? and could not Ten, or Fifty, or a Hundred Worlds in the Universe; be all Governed by One Reason, and be ordered together in Reference to One Principle? In which Place these Two things are plainly contained; First, that the Stoicks unquestionably asserted, One Supreme Deity, or Universal Monarch over the whole World; and Secondly, that Plutarch was so far from giving any entertainment to the Contrary Opinion; that he concluded, though there were Ten, or Fifty, or a Hundred worlds, yet they were all Subject to One Supreme, Solitary, and Independent Deity.

But however though these Stoicks thus unquestionably asserted One Sole Independent and Universal Numen, the Monarch over the whole World: yet did they notwithstanding, together with the other Pagans, acknowledge a Plurality of Gods: they concluding, πάντα ματὰ θεῶν ἔσται, καὶ διαίμωνων, *That all things were full of Gods and Demons.* And so far were they from falling short of the other Pagans, as to this Polytheism or Multiplicity of Gods, that they seem rather to have surpassed and outstripped them therein. Plutarch making mention of their τοσούτων πλῆθος θεῶν, *their So great Multitude of Gods;* and affirming them, ἐμπεπλημέναι τῇ λέγει θεῶν ἡ ἐργία, τῷ γλῶ, ἡ αἴετι, τῷ δαδασθῆναι, *to have filled the whole Heaven, Earth, Air, and Sea with Gods.* Nevertheless they plainly declare, that all this their Multiplicity of Gods (One only excepted) was Generated or Created in time by that One, called Zeus or Jupiter, who was not only the Spermatick Reason, but also the Soul and Mind of the whole Universe; and who from Himself produced the World and those Gods, out of Non-existence into Being. And not only so, but that also in the Successive Conflagrations, they are all again Resolved and Swallowed up into that One. Thus Plutarch in his Defect of Oracles, writing of the Mortality of Demons, τοὺς στανδὸς γὰρ χρομῶν, ὃ μόνον καὶ διαίμωνων ὡς λέγει δέξαν ἔχουσας, ἀλλὰ καὶ θεῶν, ὅταν τοσούτων τὸ πλῆθος ἐν χρομῶν αἰδῶν καὶ ἀφάρτοι, τὰς ἡ ἀλλας καὶ γερνῶναι καὶ φθαρίσθαι νομίζουσας. *We know the Stoicks to maintain this Opinion, not only concerning Demons, but also the Gods themselves, that they are Mortal. For though they own such a Multitude of Gods, yet do they acknowledge only one of them Eternal and Incorruptible; affirming concerning all the rest, that as they were made in time, so they shall be again Corrupted and Destroyed.* Plutarch himself, there defends the Mortality of Demons, but this only as to their Corporeal Part, that they die to their present Bodies, and transmigrate into others, their Souls in the mean time remaining Immortal and Incorruptible; but the Stoicks maintain'd the same as well concerning Gods as Demons; and that in such a manner, as that their very Souls, Lives and Personalities, should be utterly extinguish'd and Destroyed. To the same purpose

pose *Plutarch* again writeth, in his Book of *Common Notions* against the Stoicks, *χρόσιππος* ἢ *κλειάνθης* ἐμπειρηκότες (ὡς ἔπειτα ἑστὶν) τὰ λόγια *Θεῶν*, τὸ ἑρκεῖν, τὴν γῆν, τὴν αἴερα, τὴν θάλασσαν, ὅτινα τῶν τοσούτων ἀφαιρε-
τω, ὅδε αἰδῶν ἀπὸλελοιπεν, πλὴν μόνου τοῦ αἰός· ὅς ἐν ποταμῶν καὶ κυμα-
σιν αἰὲς ἄμωρος, &c. ταῦτα ὅτι ἔχουσιν ἄλλα πολλά τῶν ἀτέλεστον συλλογέ-
μενα ἔχει τὸς ὑποθέσεις αὐτῶν, ἢ τοῖς δόγμασι ἵπται, ἀλλὰ αὐτῶν μέγα
βοῶντες ἐν τοῖς ὅσοις θεῶν, ἢ πεποισας, ἐμαρμύζοντες, τε ἢ φόνους γερύμασι,
διαφέροντες λίγαν, τὸς θεὸς ἀπαίτας, εἶναι γυγνόμενους ἢ φθοροποιούμενους ὑπὸ π-
ερί, πάντες ἔτι αὐτὸς, ἔσχατ' ἀφαιρέσεις ἢ καὶ ἡμετέρας οἴας. *Chrysippus* and
Cleanthes, having filled the whole Heaven, Earth, Air and Sea with
Gods, leave not One of these their so Many Gods Incorruptible nor Eter-
nal, save Jupiter only, into whom they consume all the rest; thereby
making him to be a Helluo and Devourer of Gods; which is as bad,
as if they should affirm him to be Corruptible, it arguing as much Im-
perfection for one to be Nourished and Preserved by the Consumption of
other things into him, as for himself to die. Now this is not only ga-
thered by way of Consequence, from the other Principles of the Stoick,
but it is a thing which they expressly assert, and with a loud voice pro-
claim, in all their writings concerning the Gods, Providence, Fate and
Nature; that all the Gods were Generated (or Made in time) and
that they shall be all destroyed by Fire; they supposing them to be Mel-
table, as if they were Waxen or Leaden things. This indeed is Essen-
tial to the Stoical Doctrine, and from their Principles Inseparable
and Unavoidable; forasmuch as they held all to be Body, and that
in the Successive Conflagrations, all Corporeal Systems and Com-
pages shall be dissolved by Fire; so that no other Deity, can then
possibly remain safe and Untouch'd, save Jupiter alone, the Fiery Prin-
ciple of the Universe, Animated or Intellectual. Here therefore there
is a considerable Difference to be observed, betwixt these Stoicks
and the other Pagan Theists; that whereas the others for the most
part acknowledged their Gods to have been made in Time, by One
Supreme Universal Numen, but yet nevertheless to be Immortal and
to continue to Eternity; The Stoical Pagans maintained, that all
their other Gods, save Jupiter alone, were not only γυγνόμενοι but al-
so φθοροποιούμενοι, such as should be as well Corrupted, as they were Ge-
nerated, and this so also, as that their very Personalities should be
utterly abolished and annihilated: all the Stoical Gods in the Con-
flagration being as it were Melted and Confounded into One.

Wherefore during the Intervals of the Successive Conflagra-
tions, the Stoicks all agreed, that there is no more than One God
(*Zeus* or *Jupiter*) left alone (there being then indeed nothing else
besides himself) who afterwards produceth the whole *Mundane Sys-
tem*, together with All the Gods out of himself again. *Chrysippus* in
Plutarch affirmeth, *ἐοικέναι τὸν μὲν ἀνθρώπου τὸ δαία ἢ τὸν κόσμον, τῇ δὲ* P. 1077.
ψυχῇ τὴν περὶ αὐτὸν, ὅταν ἐν ἐκπύρωσι γῆνται, μένει ἀφωκεῖται οὐκ ἔτι δαία
ἢ θεὸς, ἀναχωρεῖν ἐπὶ τὴν περὶ αὐτὸν, ὅταν ἐν αὐτῇ γῆνται, ὅτι μὲν ὁ δὲ τῷ
αἰδέσθῃ ὁ δαίμων διατελὼν ἀμφοτέρως, That as Jupiter and the World may
be resembled to a Man, so may Providence be to the Soul; When there-
fore there shall be a Conflagration, Jupiter of all the Gods, being alone
Incorruptible and then remaining, will retire and withdraw himself
into

Ep. 6.

into Providence; and so both together remain in that same Ethereal Substance. Where notwithstanding Jupiter and Providence are really but One and the same thing. And Seneca writeth thus concerning the Life of a Wise man in Solitude, *Qualis futura est Vita Sapientis, si sine amicis relinquatur, in custodiam conjectus, aut in desertum latus ejectus? Qualis est Jovis, cum Resoluto mundo, & DIIS IN UNUM CONFUSIS, paulisper cessante Natura, acquiescit sibi, Cogitationibus suis traditus?* If you ask what would be the Life of a Wise man either in a Prison, or Desert? I answer, the same with that of Jupiter, when the World being resolved, and the GODS all CONFOUNDED into ONE, and the Course of Nature ceasing, he resteth in himself, conversing with his own Cogitations. Arrianus his Epictetus likewise, speaking of the same thing, Ironically introduces Jupiter, bemoaning himself in the Conflagration, as now left quite alone, after this manner, *Τάλας ἵζω, ὅτι τὴν Ἥγεγ ἔχω, ὅτι τὴν Ἀδμήτ, ὅτι ἡ Ἀπόλλωνα, ὅτι ἕλως ἢ Ἀδελφοί, ἢ υἱὸν, ἢ ἑταίρους, ἢ συγγενῆ.* Alas, I am now left all alone I have neither Juno, nor Minerva, nor Apollo with me; neither Brother nor Son, nor Nephew nor Kinsman (neither God nor Goddes) to keep me company. He adding also according to the sense of the Stoicks, that in all these successive Conflagrations, *ὁ ζῶν αὐτὸς ἑαυτῷ σόησι, καὶ ἡσυχαίᾳ ἐφ' ἑαυτῷ, καὶ ἐννοῇ τὴν διοίκησιν ἑαυτοῦ, οὐκ ἔστι καὶ αὐτὸς ἑπαινεύεται περιπέτοις ἑαυτοῦ,* Jupiter being left alone, converseth only with himself, and resteth in himself, considering his own Government, and being entertained with thoughts becoming himself. And thus have we made it unquestionably evident, that the Stoicks acknowledged, only One Independent and Self-existent Deity, One Universal Nomen, which was not only the Creator of all the other Gods, but also in certain Alternate Vicissitudes of time, the Decreator of them; he then swallowing them up, and devouring them all into himself, as he had before produced them together with the World, out of himself.

Ann. L. 3. c. 13.

It is granted, that these Stoicks as well as the other Pagans, did Religiously Worship More Gods than One, that is, More Understanding Beings Superior to Men. For it was Epictetus his own Exhortation, *Ἐχὼς θεοῖς, Pray to the Gods.* And the same Philosopher thus describeth the Disposition of a Person Rightly Affected, *Ὅλως ἐθνεύει τι μοι καὶ θεῶν περὶ τοὺς θεοὺς, I would willingly know what is my Duty, First to the Gods, and then to my Parents, and other Relations.* And they are M. Antoninus his Precepts, *Ἀιδεῖσθε θεοὺς, Revere the Gods, and αἰτῶμαι θεοὺς ὑποκλῆθαι, In every thing implore the Aid and Assistance of the Gods.* And accordingly in that Close of his First Book, himself does thankfully ascribe many Particular Benefits to The Gods in common; *Ὅτι θεῶν τὸ ἀγαθὸν πάντων, &c. I owe to the Gods, that I had good Progenitors and Parents, &c.* Where amongst the rest, he reckons up this for One, That he never was any great Proficient, either in Poetry or Rhetoric; because these would probably (had he succeeded in his Pursuit of them) have hindered him from the attainment of far better things: and after all his Enumeration, he concludeth thus, *πάντα γὰρ ταῦτα θεῶν περὶ δὲν καὶ τύχης δ' ἔσται, For all these things need the Assistance of the Gods and Fortune, viz. because they are not in our own power.*

Neither

Neither can it be denied, but that they did often derogate from the Honour of the *Supreme God*, by attributing such things to the *Gods* in common, (as the Donors of them) which plainly belong to the *Supreme God* only. As when *Epicetus* makes *Reason* in Men to be a gift of the *Gods*, ἡμῖν ἐν λόγῳ ἔστι ἀτυχία καὶ κακοδαίμονια δίδονται ὑπὸ τῶν Θεῶν; Is *Reason* therefore given us by the *Gods*, merely to make us Miserable and Unhappy? And when he again imputes *Virtue* to them; Hast thou overcome thy Lust, thine Intemperance, thine Anger? πόσον μείζον αἰτία δουλείας, ἢ ὑμᾶς αὐτὰ ἡ ὑπερχία, ταῦτα ὅσα ἔσονται αὐτῷ γίνεται καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν Θεῶν, how much greater Cause then hast thou of offering Sacrifice, than if thou hadst got a Consulship or Prætorship? for those things come only from thy Self, and from the *Gods*. Though the Reason of these Speeches of theirs seems to have been no other, than this, because they took it for granted, that those Understanding Beings Superiour to men, called by them *Gods*, were all of them the Instruments and Ministers of the *Supreme God* in the Government of the World; and had therefore some kind of Stroke or Influence more or less, upon all the Concernments of Mankind. Whence it came to pass also, that they often used those Words *God* and *Gods* promiscuously and Indifferently. As one and the same Celebrated Speech of *Socrates*, is sometimes expressed Singularly, εἰ ταῦτα τῶν Θεῶν φίλον, If *God* will have it so, let it be so, (Arr. *Epic.* L. 1. c. 29. and L. 4. c. 4.) and sometimes again Plurally, εἰ ταῦτα φίλον τοῖς Θεοῖς, If the *Gods* will have it so.

Wherefore notwithstanding the *Many Gods* of those Stoicks, they worshipped for all that One Supreme, that is, One Universal Numen, that contains and comprehends the whole World. Who was variously described by them, sometimes as the *Nature* and *Reason* of the whole World; ἡ τῶν ὅλων φύσις προεστώτη Θεῶν, The *Nature* of the whole, the Oldest of all the *Gods*; and ἡ τοῦ ὅλας διοικήσας φύσις, That *Nature* which governs all things; ὁ τῶν τῶν ὅλων ἐξάρχων διοικῶν λόγος, that *Reason* which governs the Substance of all; ὁ διὰ τῆς ὅλης διακῶν λόγος, καὶ διὰ παντὸς τοῦ αἰῶνος καὶ ἀεὶ μέλλων περὶ πάντων οἰκονομῶν τὸ πᾶν, that *Reason* which passes through the Substance of the Universe, and through all Eternity, orders and dispenses all according to appointed Periods. Sometimes is he called ἡ τῶν ὅλων αἰτία, the Cause of all things; sometimes τὸ τῷ κόσμῳ ἡγεμονικόν, the Hegemonick and Ruling Principle of the whole World, and ὁ ἡγεμὼν τοῦ κόσμου, the Prince of the World. Again, ὁ διοικῶν τὰ ὅλα, The Governour of the Whole, as in this of *Epicetus*, ὁ καλὸς καὶ ἀγαθὸς τὸ αὐτῷ γινώσκων ὑπερίταξε τῶν διοικούντων τὰ ὅλα; καὶ οὐδὲν οἱ ἀγαθὸν πολλοῖσι νόμοις πῶναι, A Good man submits his Mind to the Governour of the whole Universe; as good Citizens do theirs to the Law of the City. Also ὁ διατάσσων, The Orderer of all, in this other Religious Passage of the same Philosophers, τί παιδὸς ὁμοῦ, τούτου μαν. Δίδων ἕκαστῳ ὅτι θεῶν ἄς γίνεται πῶς ὃ γίνεται ἄς δίδωται αὐτῷ ὁ διατάσσων, To be Instructed is to Will things to be as they are Made: and how are they made? As that Great Disposer of all hath appointed. Again the *Supreme God* is sometimes called by them, τὸ θεῶν τὰ ὅλα νοεῖν, That Intellectual Principle which contains the whole, as in this Instruction of

- L. 8. ff. 45. *M. Antoninus*, μὴ μάλιστ' συμπνεῖν τὰς ψυχὰς αἰεὶ, ἀλλὰ καὶ συμφρονεῖν τὰς ψυχὰς πάλιν ποτε, *That as our Bodies breath the common Air, so should our Souls suck and draw in Vital Breath, from that Great Mind that comprehends the Universe, becoming as it were One Spirit with the same.* He is also called by them ὁ πῦρ ἅνθρωπος καὶ διάνοια, *The Mind and Understanding of the whole World, μία πάντων πῶρ ποτε, One Intellectual Fountain of all things*; and lastly, to name no more, θεὸς ὅς διὰ πάντων, καὶ ὅσα μία, καὶ νόμος ὅς, *One God through all, one Substance, and one Law.* Which Supreme God was commonly called also by the Stoicks, together with the Generality of the other Pagans, ὁ εὐδής, or *God*, Emphatically and in way of Eminency, as in this of *Epiſtetus*, μὴδὲν ἄλλο κλέει, ἢ ἃ ὁ εὐδής κλέει, καὶ τίς σε καλέσει; *Will nothing but what God Willeth, and then who can be able to hinder thee?* And again, θύλασσι καλῶς φανέσθαι τὰς διὰ, ἑπιδόμῃσιν καὶ παρὲς μετὰ καὶ παρὲς πάντων θύλασιν καὶ μετὰ τῷ θεῷ, *Affect to seem fair to God, desire to be Pure with thy Pure self, and with God.* Also where he speaks of the Regular Course of things in Nature, ταπεινὰ καὶ κατὰ τὴν περὶ τὰς φύσιν οὐρανίου, ὅταν ἐκέλευε ἡ φύσις τοῖς ἀνθρώποις εὖ εἶναι, ὅταν ἐκεῖνος ἐκέλευε τὰς φυτὰς ἀνθῆναι, ὅταν ἐκεῖνος ἐκέλευε τὰς ἀνθρώπους γεννᾶσθαι, ὅταν ἐκεῖνος ἐκέλευε τὰς ἀνθρώπους ἀποθνήσκειν, *That it proceedeth orderly, every thing as it were obeying the Command of God; when he bids the Plants to blossom they blossom; and when to bring forth fruit; they bring forth fruit.* To which Innumerable other Instances might be added. And *Zeus* or *Jupiter* was the Proper Name of this Supreme God amongst the Stoicks also; whence the Government of the Whole World is called by them αἰὲς διοίκησης, *the Government or Oeconomy of Jupiter.* Lastly, this Supreme God, is sometimes distinguished by them, from the other Gods, expressly and by name, as in this of *Epiſtetus*, ἔγω δ' ἔχω τὴν ὑποτάχθαι, τὴν πέπεισθαι, τὸν θεὸν καὶ τοὺς μετ' αὐτοῦ, *I have, whom I ought to be subject to, whom to obey, God and those who are next after him, that is, the Supreme and Inferior Gods.* So likewise, where he exhorteth not to desire things out of our own power, ἀλλὰ τὰς αἰὲς χεῖρας αὐτοῦ, καὶ τοὺς ἀλλοὺς θεοὺς, ἐκείνους ἀπαρτίζοντες, ἐκείνους κατεργάζεσθαι, *Let Jupiter alone with these things, and the other Gods, deliver them up to be ordered and governed by them.* And so again, where he personates one that places his happiness in those things without him, καὶ δὲ λέγει, καὶ εἰς τὸν θεὸν, καὶ εἰς τὸν δυνάμει λυσιτελεῖν, ὅτι δὲ τὸς θεοὺς ἄλλους, *I then shall sit lamenting, and speaking evil of every one, even Jupiter himself and the other Gods.*

And it must in reason be supposed, that this *Jupiter* or *Universal Nature* of the World, was honoured by these Stoicks far above all their other Particular Gods; he being acknowledged by them to have been the *Maker* or *Creator* of them as well as the whole World; and the only *Eternal* and *Immortal* God: all those other Gods, as hath been already declared, being as well *Corruptible*, *Mortal*, and *Annihilable*; as they were *Generated* or *Created*. For though *Cicero's* *Lucilius Balbus*, where he pretends to represent the Doctrine of the Stoicks, attribute the Very First Original of the World to a *Plurality of Gods*, in these words, *Dico igitur Providentiâ Deorum, Atundum & omnes Mundi partes, & initio constitutas esse, & omni tempore administrari*, yet unquestionably *Cicero* forgat himself herein, and

De N. D. l. 1. 1. *ro's* *Lucilius Balbus*, where he pretends to represent the Doctrine of the Stoicks, attribute the Very First Original of the World to a

p. 225. *Lamb.*

and rather spake the Language of some other Pagans, who together with the Generation of the World, held indeed a Plurality of *Eternal* (though not *Independent*) Deities, than of the Stoicks; who asserted One only *Eternal God*, and supposed in the Reiterated Conflagrations, all the Gods to be Melted and Confounded into *One*, so that *Jupiter* being then left alone, must needs make up the World again, as also all those other Gods, out of himself. And thus does *Zeno* in *Laertius* describe the *Cosmogonia*, ἡ δὲ οὐ κατ' ἀρχῆς, καὶ αὐτὸ ἦν κεν, *That God at First, being alone by himself, converted the Fiery Substance of the World by degrees into Water, that is, into a Crasser Chaos; out of which Water, himself afterwards as the Spermatick Reason of the World, formed the Elements and whole Mundane System.* And *Cicero* himself elsewhere, in his *De Legibus*, attributes the first Original of Mankind cautiously, not to the Gods in Common, but to the Supreme God only, *Hoc Animal Providum, &c. quem vocamus Hominem, præclara quadam conditione Generatum esse, à SUMMO DEO*: and this, rather according to the Sence of the Stoicks than of the Platonists, whose Inferiour Generated Gods also (being first made) were supposed to have had a stroke in the Fabrication of Mankind, and other Animals. Thus *Epicætus* plainly ascribes, the making of the whole World to *God*, or the One *Supreme Deity*, where he mentions the Galileans, that is, the Christians, their Contempt of Death, though imputing it only to Custom in them, and not to right Knowledge; (as *M. Antoninus* likewise ascribes the same to ψαλὴν ὀρθότητις, meer L. 1. 11. 3. Obstinacy of Mind) ὑπὸ μανίας μὴ δύναται τις ἑτα διακρίνειν, καὶ ὑπὸ φόβου οὐ θαλεροῦσι, ὑπὸ λόγῳ ἢ καὶ ἀποδείξεως ὁδὸς δύναται μαθεῖν, ὅτι ὁ οὐδὲ πάντα περιέχει τὰ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, καὶ αὐτὸ τὸν κόσμον. Can some be so affected out of Madness, and the Galileans out of Custom? and can none attain thereunto by Reason and true Knowledge, namely because God made all things in the World, and the whole World it self Perfect and Unbinderable; but the parts thereof, for the use of the Whole, so that the Parts ought therefore to yield and give place to the whole. Thus does he again elsewhere demand, ἢ ἕλιον τίς περιέχει, κατέρας δὲ τις; ὅκκ. Who made the Sun? Who the Fruits of the Earth? Who the Seasons of the Year? Who the agreeable Fitness of things? Wherefore thou having received all from another, even thy very self, dost thou murmur and complain against the Donor of them, if he take away any one thing from thee? Did he not bring thee into the World? shew thee the Light? bestow Sense and Reason upon thee? Now the Sun was the chief of the Inferiour Stoical Gods, and therefore he being made by another; all the Rest of their Gods must needs be so too. And thus is it plainly expressed in this following Citation, εἰ τις τῶ δόγματι τέττα συμ- L. 1. c. 3. παρῆται κατ' ἄλλαν δύναμι, ἐν γυναικὶ ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ πάντες προνοημένοι, καὶ ὁ οὐδὲς παρὲς ἐστὶ τῶ τ' ἀνθρώπων καὶ τῶ θεῶν, ὅδιν ἀλλήλους, ἐπὶ ταπεινὸν οὐδε μνησθῆναι οὐδε ἰαυτῶν. If any one could be thoroughly sensible of this that we are all made by God, and that as Principal Parts of the World, and that God is the Father both of Men and Gods, he would never think meanly of himself, knowing that he is the Son of *Jupiter* also. Where οὐδὲς is plainly put for the *Supreme God*, and οὐδὲ for the *Inferiour Gods* only. Again he thus attributes the Making of Man and Government of the whole World to God or *Jupiter* only. ὁ οὐδὲς πᾶν

- L. 3. c. 24. τας ἀνθρώπους ἔστι τὸ διδαιμονεῖν ἰπνίσιν, &c. τὴν ἡ ὁρίαν τὴν ἀγαθὴν καὶ τὴν κακὴν, ὡς παρ' ἄξιον τὸ καθήμενον ἡμῶν, καὶ πατερικῶς προϊστάμενον ἐν ταῖς ἰδίαις. *God made all men to this End, that they might be happy, and as became him who had a Fatherly care of us, he placed our Good and Evil in those things which are in our own power. And τὰς ὅπτι κακῶς διοικῆται τὰ ὅλα, εἰ μὴ ἐπιμελεῖται ὁ Ζεὺς τῆς αὐτοῦ πολιτείας, ἢ ὡς ὅμοιοι αὐτῷ διδαιμονεῖς, Things would not be well governed, if Jupiter took no care of his own Citizens, that they also might be happy like himself.*

And that these Stoicks did indeed Religiously Worship and Honour, the Supreme God above all their other Gods, may appear from sundry Instances. As first, from their acknowledging him to be the Sovereign Legislator, and professing Subjection and Obedience to his Laws, accounting this to be their Greatest Liberty. Thus *EpiDestw*,

- L. 4. c. 7. εἰς ἐμὴν εὐδαιμονίαν ἐξέσταν ἔχων, ἀλλὰ θύραμαι ὑπὸ τῷ θεῷ, ἵνα καὶ αὐτῷ ταῖς ἐντολαῖς, ἡκέτι εὐδαιμονίαν δύναιται. *No man hath power over me, I am made free by God (by becoming his Subject) I know his Commandments, and no man can bring me under bondage to himself.*
- L. 3. c. 5. Ἄνδρα, ταῦτα ἐπιτηδεύων τίλῃ διαφέρειν, ἢ εἰπὼν δύναμαι τῷ θεῷ, μήτι παρὲν Ζεὺς τὰς ἐντολάς, &c. *These things, would I be found employing myself about, that I may be able to say to God; Have I transgressed any of thy Commandments? have I used my Faculties and Anticipations (or Common Notions) otherwise than thou requiredst?*

Again from their acknowledging Him to be the Supreme Governor of the whole World, and the Orderer of all things in it by his Fate and Providence, and their professing to submit their Wills to his Will in every thing; *EpiDestw* somewhere thus bespeaks the Supreme God, μήτι ἐμεμψάμην Ζεὺς τὴν διοίκησιν; αἰέτωσα ἐπὶ ἐξήλυσας, καὶ οἱ ἄλλοι, ἀλλ' ἐγὼ ἰκάνω· πῶς ἡγεμῶν Ζεὺς ἡγοῦμαι; ἀλλὰ χαίρειν ἐν ἡμέρᾳ, ὅτι σὺ ἐν ἐξήλυσας, εὐδαιμονίαν ἐπιτιμήσας ἀρχῆς· μήτι με τότε ἐνέκα ευχόμενος εὐδαιμονίαν καὶ εὐφροσύνην σοι φασίηναι τῷ προσώπῳ, ἐτιμῶμαι ἐπὶ ἐπιτηδεύσας, ἐπὶ σημαίνεις; νῦν με θύλας ἀπελθόντα ὃ πικρὸν γένοιτο ἀπέμει· ἔχον σοι ἐλπίσιν, ὅτι ἡξιώσας με συμπικρύνεσαι σοι, καὶ ἰδὼν ἔρχομαι τὰ σά, καὶ τῇ διοίκησιν Ζεὺς συμπικρύνεσαι. ταῦτα με εὐδαιμονίαν, ταῦτα γοῦντα, ταῦτα ἀναγκάζουσι κατὰ λόγον εἶναι δύναται. *Did I ever complain of thy Government? I was sick when thou wouldst have me to be, and so are others, but I was so willingly. I was poor also at thy appointment, but Rejoycing; I never bore any Magistracy or had any Dignity, because thou wouldst not have me, and I never desired it. Didst thou ever see me the more Dejected or Melancholy for this? Have I appeared before thee at any time with a Discontented Countenance? Was I not always prepared and ready for whatsoever thou requiredst? Wilt thou now have me to depart out of this Festive Solemnity? I am ready to go, and I render thee all thanks, for that thou hast honoured me so far, as to let me keep the Feast with thee, and behold thy works, and observe thy Economy of the world. Let Death seize upon me no otherwise employed, than thus thinking and writing of such things. He likewise exhorts others after this manner, τίλῃ μὴ ἀναγκάζω καὶ τὸν οὐδὲν εἶπεν, ὅτι καὶ μοι λοιπὸν εἰς ὃ εἶναι θέλω, ἐμολογώμεθα σοι, ἵνα εἴπω· εὐδαιμονίαν τῇ σοι δοκῶν, ὅτι θύλας ἄν, ὡς θύλας εἰδήτω ἀνθρώπος, ἔχον με θύλας, ἰδὼν ἔρχομαι, μὴδὲ, φάσιναι,*

φάγας, πείναι, πλάττει· ἐγὼ σοὶ ὑπὲρ πάντων τούτων πρὸς τὸς ἀνθρώπους ἀπολογέσσομαι, δέξω τῷ ἐκείνῳ φύσιν ὅσα ἔστι· *Dare to lift up thine eyes to God and say, Use me hereafter to whatsoever thou pleasest. I agree and am of the same mind with thee, indifferent to all things. I refuse nothing that shall seem good to thee. Lead me whither thou pleasest. Let me all what part thou wilt, either of a Publick or Private person, of a Rich man or a Begger. I will apologize for thee as to all these things before men. And I will also shew the Nature of every one of them.*

The same is likewise manifest from their Pretensions to look to God, and referr all to him; expecting aid and assistance from him, and placing their Confidence in him. Thus also *Epiſtetus*, *Κεῖν μὲν ἔγω ταύτῳ ἑπιτελλὼ ἀπειπύσσω ὑμᾶς ἐλπίδας, εὐδοκίμασθαι, εἰς τὸ θεῖον ἀφορῶντας, ὡς παντὶ μικρῷ καὶ μεγάλῳ· My design is this; to render you free and undisturbed, always looking at God, as well in every small, as greater Matter.* Again the same Stoick concludes, *ὅτι ἔστιν ἄλλως ἐκτελεῖν λόγῳ, φόβῳ, ἐπιθυμίᾳ, &c. εἰ μὴ πρὸς μόνῳ τῷ θεῷ ἀπειπύσσω, ὡς ἂν μόνῳ προσεπιπύσσω, τοῖς ἐκείνῳ πρὸς Ἐνθυσίαν, Ἐνθυσίαν, &c. than by looking to God alone, and being devoted to him, and the observance of his Commandments.* And he affirmeth of *Hercules*, that this great piece of Piety was so long since observed by him, *τὸ αὖ αὐτῷ πάντῃ ἐκάλει, καὶ πρὸς ὅκῳτι ἀφορᾷ ἔπρεσθαι αὐτῷ ἐπρεσθαι· that as he called Jupiter, or the Supreme God, his Father, so did he whatsoever he did, looking at him.* Thus *M. Antoninus* speaketh of a Double Relation that we all have; One πρὸς τὸς συμβεβηκέναι, *to those that live with us*, and another πρὸς τῷ θεῷ αἰτίαν ἀπ' ἧς συμβεβηκέναι πάντῃ, *to that Divine Cause, from which all things happen to all.* As likewise he affirmeth *ὅτι ἀνθρώπων τι ἀνὰ τὸ ἔστι τὰ ὅσα σπουδαφῶς δι- πρὸς, That no Humane thing is well done without a Reference to God.* And he excellently exhorteth men, *ἐνί τῇ, καὶ προσαναπαύσας, τὰ ἀπὸ πρὸς κοινωνικῆς μετέωλον ἔστι πρὸς κοινωνικῶν σὺν μίμῃ τῇ οὐδ'· To be delighted and satisfied with this one thing; in doing one action after another, tending to a Common Good, or the good of Humane Society; together with the Remembrance of God.* Lastly he declareth his own Confidence in the Supreme Deity in these words, *Πιστεύω τῷ διοικῶντι, I trust and rely upon the Governour of the whole World.*

This may be concluded also from their *Thanking the One Supreme God for all*, as the Authour of all good, and delightfully Celebrating his Prailes. *Epiſtetus* declares it to be the Duty of a Good man, *χεῖν ἔχει ὑπὲρ πάντων τῷ θεῷ, To thank God for all things.* And elsewhere he speaketh thus, *εἰ τὸν ἡγομένῳ, ἡμῶν τι εἶναι ἡμᾶς πῶς, καὶ κοινῇ καὶ ἰδίᾳ, ἢ ὑμῶν τὸ θεῶν, καὶ ἀφῆμαι, καὶ ἐπεξελεσθαι τοῖς χάρεσιν καὶ εἶναι καὶ σκέψασθαι, καὶ ἀφῆμαι, καὶ εἶναι, ἄνθρωπον τὸν εἰς τὸν θεόν; μέγας ὁ θεὸς ὅτι ἡμῶν παρέχει ὅσα ταῦτα, δι' ὃν τῷ γὰρ ἐργασθῆται· μέγας ὁ θεὸς ὅτι χεῖρας ἰδοῦν, &c. ὅτι αὐξάνει λιπιδίους, ὅτι καὶ ἀδελφῶν ἀναπύει· ταῦτα ἐφ' ἐκείνῳ ἀφῆμαι εἶναι, καὶ τὸ μέγαν καὶ θεοτάτον ἡμῶν ἐφῆμαι, ὅτι τῷ ὀνείκῳ ἰδοῦν τὴν ἀφῆμαι ἀφῆμαι τῶν τῶν· τί ἐν, &c. εἰ γὰρ ἀνδρῶν ἡμῶν, ἐπὶ τὸν τὸ ἀνδρῶν, εἰ κῶν, τὰ τὸ κῶν, τὸν ὃ λογικὸς ἐμῶν, ὑμῶν καὶ οὐδ' ὅτι θεῶν. Had we understanding, what should we do else, but both Publickly*

publickly and privately praise God, bless him, and return thanks to him? Ought not they who dig, plow, and eat, continually sing such a Hymn to God as this; Great is that God, who gave us these Organs to cultivate the earth withal; Great is that God who gave us hands, &c. who enabled us to grow undiscernibly, to breath in our sleep. But the Greatest and Divineſt Hymn of all is this, to praise God for the Faculty of Understanding all these things. What then if for the most part men be blinded, ought there not to be some One, who should perform this office, and sing a Hymn to God for all? If I were a Nightingale I would perform the office of a Nightingale, or a Swan, that of a Swan; but now being a Reasonable Creature, I ought to celebrate and sing aloud the praises of God, that is, of the Supreme Deity.

L. 1. 418.

Lastly the same is evident; from their *Invoking the Supreme God* as such, addressing their Devotions to him alone without the Conjunction of any other Gods; and particularly imploring his *Assistance* against the Assaults of *Temptations*, called by them *Phancies*. To this purpose is that of *Epiſtetus*, μέγας ὁ ἀγών ἐστίν, δῖον τὸ ἔργον, ὑπὲρ βασιλείας, ὑπὲρ ἐλευθερίας, τὸ διὸς μέμιστος, οὐκ οἶμαι ὅππιαλὲ βασιλὴν καὶ ὁμοῦστίω, ὥς τὸς αὐτοῦς αἰ χερμαῖν οἱ πλείοντες. This is a great Contest or Contention, a Divine Enterprize, it is for Liberty and for a Kingdom. Now remember the Supreme God; call upon him as thy Helper and Assistant, as the Mariners do upon Castor and Pollux in a Tempest. He commends also this Form of Devotional Address, or Divine Ejaculation, which was part of *Cleanthes* his Litany, to be used frequently upon occasion, ἄγε δέ με εἰ Ζεῦ, ἡ σὺν πεπραμένῳ ὅππῃ ποθ' (ὅμῃ) αἶμι διαπτεχυμένῳ, ὥς εἰ ποταί γε ἀκούσῃ. ἢν δ' γε μὴ δέλω, ἔδῃν ἢ ποταί εἰ ποταί. Lead me, O Jupiter, and Thou Fate, whithersoever I am by you destin'd: and I will readily and cheerfully follow; who though I were never so reluctant yet must needs follow. Where Jupiter and Fate are really but one and the same Supreme Deity, under two several Names. And therefore the Sence of this Devotional Ejaculation, was no less truly and faithfully, than Elegantly thus rendered by *Seneca*;

Ep. 106.

*Duc me Parens, Celsique Dominator Poli,
Quocunque placuit, nulla parendi est mora,
Assum impiger; fac nosse, comitabor Gemeni,
Malusque patiari, quod pati licuit bono.*

But because many are so extremely unwilling to believe, that the Pagans ever made any Religious Address to the Supreme God as such; we shall here set down an Excellent and Devout Hymn of the same *Cleanthes* to him: the rather because it hath been but little taken notice of. And the more to gratifie the Reader, we shall subjoin an Elegant Translation thereof into Latin Verse; which he must owe to the Muse of my Learned Friend Dr. *Dupont*.

Sacrh. Poes.
Philoſ. p. 49.

Κυδὸς ἀσπατάων, πολυδύναμη, πανμεγέτις αἰὲ,
Ζεῦ, φύσιν ἀρχὴν, νόμον μέγα πάντα κυβερνᾶν,
Χαῖρι. Σὺ γὰρ πᾶσι θεῖμος θεοτέτα προσκυδὸν.

EX

Ἐκ τοῦ τοῦ ἡρώδου ἱσμεν, ἡγε μίσημα λαχόντες
 μένοι, ὅσα ἔδωκε πρὸς ἡμᾶς ὁ θεὸς ἡγίας.
 Τῶς τε καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἡ σὺν κερταῖς αὐτοῦ αἰσῶν.
 Σοὶ ἡ πᾶς ἔδωκε καὶ ἡμᾶς ἡλυσμένους· ὅτι γὰρ
 πάλαι, ἡκεν ἄγχι, ἡ ἐκὼν ἐπὶ σὸ οὐ κερταῖται.
 Τῶς ἡγε ὑπεργὰν ἀντιπᾶσις ὑπὸ χερσὶν
 Ἀμφὶ καὶ περὶ αὐτῶν, ἀσάδωσα κερταῖται.
 Τῶς ἡγε ὑπὸ πλῆθος φρίσας πάλαι ἡγίας,
 ὅτι σὺ κατὰ δόξαν κοινὸν λέγον, ὅς διὰ πάντων
 ποιεῖς μεγάλα.
 Ὅς τῶς γε μαχρὰς ὑπὸ τοῦ βασιλέως διὰ πάντας·
 οὐδὲν πρὸς ἡγεῖσθαι ἔργον ἔστιν ἡγεῖν τοῦ τοῦ δόξαν βασιλέως,
 οὐκ κατ' αἰδέσθαι δόξαν πάλαι, ὅτι ἔστι πάλαι,
 πάλαι ὅπῃ ἐξῆλθε κακοὶ σφαιρῶν ἀνταῖς.
 Καὶ κοινῶς τὰ ἀποσῶμα ἡ ἡ φίλα σοὶ φίλα ἔστιν.
 Ὅτι ἡγε ἄς ἐν πάλαι σφαιρῶν ἐξῆλθε κακοὶ,
 ὅτι ἡγε γὰρ γίνεσθαι πάλαι λέγον αὐτὸν ἔστιν.
 Ὅτι φέρωντες ἔστιν ὅτι ὁ θεὸς κακοὶ εἰσὶν·
 ἀποσῶμα, ὅτι ἀγαθὸν μὲν αἰετῶν πάλαι,
 οὐκ ἡγεῖσθαι δὲ κοινὸν νόμον, ὅτι κλίσσων.
 Ὅτι καὶ πάλαι σφαιρῶν ὅτι ὁ θεὸς ἡγεῖν.
 Αὐτὸν δ' αὖ ὁ θεὸς αὐτὸν καλὸν ἡγεῖν· ὅτι ἡγεῖν
 οἱ μὲν ὑπὲρ δόξης σφαιρῶν δυσχερῶν ἡγεῖν,
 οἱ δ' ἡγεῖν κερταῖται περὶ αὐτῶν ὅτι ἡγεῖν,
 Ἀλλὰ δ' ἡγε ἡγεῖν, ἡ σφαιρῶν ἡγεῖν ἡγεῖν,
 Ἀλλὰ τῶς πάλαι, καλαῖς, ἀσφαιρῶν,
 Ἀνδράπας ἡγε ἀπὸ σφαιρῶν ἀπὸ λυγρῶν,
 ἡγε σὺ πάλαι σφαιρῶν ἡγεῖν ἀπὸ, δὲ ἡγεῖν
 ἡγεῖν, ἡ πάλαι σὺ δὲ μετὰ πάλαι κακοῖς.
 Ὅτι ἡγεῖν ἀπὸ σφαιρῶν ἀπὸ σφαιρῶν σφαιρῶν,
 ἡγεῖν τὰ σφαιρῶν ἡγεῖν, ἡγεῖν πάλαι
 σφαιρῶν ἡγεῖν· ὅτι ὅτι σφαιρῶν ἡγεῖν ἀπὸ σφαιρῶν,
 οὐκ ὅτι, ἡ κοινὸν αἰετῶν ἀπὸ σφαιρῶν.

*Magne Pater Divùm, cui Nomina Multa, sed Una
 Omnipotens semper Virtus, Tu Jupiter Autor
 Naturæ, certè qui singula lege gubernas!
 Rex salve. Te nempe licet Mortalibus ægris
 Cunctis compellare; omnes tua namque propago
 Nos sumus, æterna quasi Imago vocis & Echo
 Tantum, quotquot lumi spirantes repimus; Ergo
 Te cantabo, tuum & robur sine fine celebrans.
 Quippe tuo hic totus, terram qui circum, orbis
 Paret (quoquo agis) imperio, ac obtemperat ultro
 Invidis Telum manibus tibi tale ministrum,
 Anceps, ignitum, band moriturnum denique fulmen.
 Idem etenim illius tota & natura tremiscit;
 Illo & Communem Rationem dirigis, & que
 Mundi agitat Molem, magno se corpore miscens:
 Tantus Tu rerum Dominus, Reſorque Supremus.
 Nec sine Te factum in terris, Deus, aut opus ullum,*

Æthere

*Æthere nec dio sit, nec per carula ponti,
 Errare alia suo, nisi quæ gens impia patrat.
 Confusa in sese, Tu dirigis ordine certo;
 Auspicio Te ingratæ & inest sua gratia rebus;
 Felice harmonia, Tu scilicet, omnia in Unum
 Sic Bona mixta Malis compingis, ut una resurgat
 Cunctorum Ratio communis & usque perennans:
 Quam refugit, spernitque hominum mens læva malorum.
 Hæu Miseri! bona qui querunt sibi semper & optant,
 Divinam tamen hanc Communem & denique Legem,
 Nec spectare oculis, nec sando attendere curant:
 Cui si parerem poterant traducere vitam
 Cum ratione & mente bonam: nunc sponte feruntur
 In mala præcipites, trahit & sua quemque voluptas.
 Hunc agit ambitio, landisque immensa cupido,
 Illum & avarities, & amor vesanus habendi,
 Blanda libido alium, Venerisque licentia dulcis:
 Sic aliè tendunt aliis in diversa ruentes.
 At Tu, Jupiter almæ, tonans in nubibus atris,
 Da sapere, & mentem miseris mortalibus aufer
 Insanam, hanc Tu pelle Pater; da apprehendere posse.
 Consilium, frætus quo Tu omnia rite gubernas:
 Nos ut honorati pariter, tibi demus honorem,
 Perpetuis tua facta hymnis præclara canentes,
 Ut scis est homini; nec enim mortalibus ullum,
 Nec Superæ, majus poterit contingere donum,
 Quam canere eterno Communem carmine Legem.*

XXVI. It would be endless now to cite all the Testimonies of other Philosophers and Pagan Writers of Latter Times, concerning One Supreme and Universal Numen. Wherefore we shall content our selves only to instance in some of the most remarkable, beginning with *M. Tull. Cicero*. Whom though some would suspect to have been a Sceptick as to Theism, because in his *De Natura Deorum*, he brings in *Cotta* the Academick, as well opposing *Q. Lucil. Balbus* the Stoick, as *C. Velleius* the Epicurean; yet from sundry other places of his writings, it sufficiently appears, that he was a Dogmatick and Hearty Theist, as for example, this in his second Book *De Divin. Esse præstantem aliquam, Æternamque naturam, & eam suspiciendam admirandamque hominum generi, Pulchritudo Mundi, ordoque rerum Cælestium cogit confiteri*; That there is some Most Excellent and Eternal Nature, which is to be admired and honoured by mankind, the Pulchritude of the World, and the order of the Heavenly Bodies compell us to confess. And this in his Oration *De Haruspicum responsis*; *Quis est tam vecors, qui cum suspexerit in Cælum, Deos esse non sentiat, & ea quæ tanta Mente sunt, ut vix quisquam Arte ulla, Ordinem rerum ac Vicissitudinem persequi possit, casu fieri putet?* Who is so mad or stupid, as when he looks up to Heaven, is not presently convinced that there are Gods? or can persuade himself, that those things which are made with so much Mind and Wisdom, as that no humane skill is able to reach and comprehend the artifice and contrivance of them, did all happen by chance? To which purpose

pose more places will be afterwards cited. However in his Philosophick Writings, it is certain that he affected to follow the way of the New Academy, set on foot by *Carneades*, that is, to write Sceptically, partly upon Prudential accounts, and partly for other Reasons intimated by himself in these words, *Qui requirunt quid quaque de re ipsi sentiant, curiosius id faciunt quam necesse est. Non enim tam Autoritatis in disputando quam Rationis momenta querenda sunt. Quinetiam obest plerumque his qui discere volunt, Autoritas eorum qui se docere profitentur. Desinunt enim suum iudicium adhibere, idque habent ratum, quod ab eo quem probant, iudicatum vident: They who would needs know, what we our selves think concerning every thing, are more curious than they ought, because Philosophy is not so much a matter of Authority as of Reason; and the Authority of those who profess to teach, is oftentimes an hindrance to the Learners, they neglecting by that means to use their own Judgment, securely taking that for granted, which is judged by another whom they value. Nevertheless Cicero in the Close of this discourse *De Natura Deorum* (as *St. Austin* also observes) plainly declares himself to be more propense and inclinable to the Doctrine of *Balbus* than either that of *Velleius* or *Cotta*, that is, though he did not assent to the Stoical Doctrine or Theology in every Point (himself being rather a Platonist than a Stoick) yet he did much prefer it before not only the Epicureism of *Velleius*, but also the Scepticism of *Cotta*. Wherefore *Augustinus Steuchus* and other Learned men, quarrel with sundry passages of Cicero's upon another account, not as Atheistical, but as seeming to favour a Multitude of Independent Gods; he sometimes attributing not only the Government of the World, and the making of Mankind, but also the first Constitution and Fabrick of the whole World, to Gods Plurally. As when he writeth thus, *Ut perpetuus Mundi esset ornatu, magna adhibita cura est à Providentia Deorum; For the perpetual adorning of the World, great care hath been taken, by the Providence of the Gods: And A Diis Immortalibus Hominibus provisum esse, &c. That the Immortal Gods have provided for the Convenience of Mankind, appears from the very Fabrick and Figure of them: And that place before cited, *Dico igitur Providentia Deorum, Mundum & omnes Mundi partes initio constitutas esse, I say that the World and all its parts were at first constituted by the Providence of the Gods. And Lastly, where he treats the Controversie of that Book *De N. D.* thus; *Utrum Dii nihil agant, nihil moliantur? An contra ab His, & à Principio Omnia facta, & constituta sint, & ad infinitum tempus regantur atque moveantur? Whether the Gods do nothing at all, but are void of care and trouble? or whether all things were at first Made and Constituted, and ever since are Moved and Governed by them? Notwithstanding which it is Evident that this Learned Orator and Philosopher, plainly acknowledged the Monarchy of the Whole, or One Supreme and Universal Numen over all. And that first from his so often using the word God in the Singular, Emphatically and by way of Eminency; as *Ipsi Deo nihil minus gratum, quam non omnibus parere ad se Placandum & Colendum viam; Nothing can be less grateful to God himself, than that there should not be a liberty open to all (by reason of the Costliness of Sacrifices) to worship and appease him; And Nisi iuvante Deo, ta-*****

De N. D. l. i.

De N. D. l. i.

P. 195. Lamb.

L. 2 p. 335.

D. N. D. L. 2

pro S. Ros.

les non fuerunt Curius, Fabricius, &c. Curius and Fabricius had never been such men as they were, had it not been for the Divine assistance.

Again, *Commoda quibus utimur, Lucemque quâ fruimur, Spiritumque quem ducimus, à Deo nobis dari atque impertiri videmus, We must needs acknowledge that the benefits of this life, the light which we enjoy, and the spirit which we breath, are imparted to us from God.* And to mention no more, in his Version of Plato's *Timæus*, *Deos alios in Terra, alios in Luna, alios in reliquis mundi partes spargens Deus quasi ferebat, God distributing Gods to all the parts of the World, did as it were sow some Gods in the Earth, some in the Moon, &c.* Moreover by his making such descriptions of God as plainly imply his Oneness

P. 556. Lamb.

and Singularity, as in his *Orat. pro Milone*, *Est, est profectò illa Vis; neque in his Corporibus atque in hac Imbecillitate nostrâ, inest quiddam quod vigeat & sentiat, & non inest in hoc tanto Nature tamque præclaro motu. Nisi fortè idcirco esse non putant, quia non apparet nec cernitur: proinde quasi nostram ipsam mentem qua sapimus, qua providemus, qua hæc ipsa agimus & dicimus, videre, aut plane qualis & ubi sit, sentire possumus: There is, there is certainly, such a divine Force in the world; neither is it reasonable to think, that in these gross and frail Bodies of ours, there should be something which hath Life, Sense and Understanding, and yet no such thing in the whole Universe; unless men will therefore conclude, that there is none, because they see it not; as if we could see our own mind (whereby we order and dispose all things and whereby we reason and speak thus) and perceive what kind of thing it is and where it is lodged. Where, as there is a strong asseveration of the Existence of a God, so is his Singularity plainly implied, in that he supposes him to be One Mind or Soul acting and governing the whole World, as our*

L. 1 p. 126.

Mind doth our Body. Again in his *Tusculan Questions*, *Nec verò Deus ipse alio modo intelligi potest, nisi Mens Soluta quædam, & Libera, segregata ab omni Concretionè mortali, omnia sentiens & movens; Neither can God himself be understood by us otherwise, than as a certain Loose and Free Mind, segregated from all mortal Concretion, which both perceives and moves all things.* So again in the same Book, *Hæc igitur & alia innumerabilia cum cernimus, possumusne dubitare, quin his præsit aliquis vel Effector, si hæc nata sunt ut Platoni videtur; vel si semper fuerint ut Aristoteli placet, Moderator tanti operis & muneris? When we behold these and other wonderful works of Nature, can we at all doubt, but that there presideth over them, either One Maker of all, if they had a beginning as Plato conceiveth; or else if they always were as Aristotle supposeth, One Moderator and Governour? And in the Third*

Tusi. Q. L. 1.
p. 126.

P. 343.

De Legibus, *Sine Imperio nec Domus ulla, nec Civitas, nec Gens, nec Hominum universum Genus stare, nec rerum Natura omnis, nec ipse Mundus potest. Nam & hic Deo paret, & huic obediunt Mæria Terræque, & hominum vita jussis supremæ legis obtemperat: Without Government, neither any House, nor City, nor Nation, nor Mankind in general, nor the whole Nature of things, nor the World it self could subsist. For This also obeyeth God, and the Seas and Earth are subject to him, and the Life of man is disposed of, by the Commands of the Supreme*

Tusi. Q. L. 1.

De Dicit.

Law. Elsewhere he speaks of *Dominans ille nobis Deus, qui nos vetat hinc in jussu suo decurrere, That God who rules over all Mankind and forbids them to depart hence without his leave.* Of *Deus, cujus numini*

parent

parent omnia, That God, whose Divine Power all things obey. We read also in Cicero, of *Summus* or *Supremus Deus*, the Supreme God, to whom the First making of Man is properly imputed by him; of *Summi Reſoris & Domini Numen*, The Divine Power of the Supreme Lord and Governour; of *Deus præpotens*, and *Rerum omnium præpotens* Jupiter, The most Powerful God, and Jupiter who hath power over all things; of *Princeps ille Deus*, qui omnem hunc mundum regit, sicut *Animus humanus id corpus cui præpositus est*, That Chief or Principal God, who governs the whole world in the same manner as a Humane Soul governeth that Body which it is set over. Wherefore as for those Passages before objected, where the Government of the World, as to the concerns of Mankind at least, is ascribed by Cicero to Gods Plurally, this was done by him and other Pagans, upon no other account but only this, because the Supreme God was not supposed by them to do all things himself immediately in the Government of the World, but to assign certain Provinces to other Inferiour Gods, as Ministers under him, which therefore sharing in the Oeconomy of the World, were look'd upon as Co-governours thereof with him. Thus when Balbus in Cicero to excuse some seeming defects of Providence, in the Prosperities of wicked and the Adversities of good men, pretended, *Non animadvertere omnia Deos, nè Reges quidem*, That the Gods did not attend to all things, as neither do Kings, Cotta amongst other things replied thus; *Fac Divinam Mentem esse disjunctam, Cælum versantem, terram tacentem, maria moderantem, cur tam multos Deos nihil agere & cessare patitur? Cur non rebus humanis aliquos otiosos Deos præfecit, qui à te Balbe Innumerabiles explicati sunt?* Should it be granted, that the Divine Mind (or Supreme Deity) were distracted with turning round the Heavens, observing the Earth, and Governing the Seas, yet why does he let so many other Gods to do nothing at all? Or why does he not appoint some of those Idle Gods over Humane affairs, which according to Balbus and the Stoicks are innumerable? Again when the Immortal Gods are said by Cicero to have Provided for the convenience of Mankind in their First Constitution, this doubtless is to be understood according to the Platonick Hypothesis, that the Gods and Demons being first made, by the Supreme God, were set a work and employed by him afterward in the making of man and other mortal Animals. And lastly, as to that which hath the greatest difficulty of all in it, when the whole World is said by Cicero to have been made by the Providence of the Gods, this must needs be understood Iſo of those Eternal Gods of Plato's, according to whose Likeness or Image the World and Man are said to have been made, that is, of the Trinity of Divine Hypostases, called by Amelius, Plato's Three Minds and Three Kings, and by others of the Platonists, the First and Second and Third God, and the τὸ πρῶτον αἰών, and τὸ δεύτερον αἰών, &c. The First and Second Cause, &c. And it may be here observed, what we learn from S. Cyril, that some Pagans endeavoured to justify this Language and Doctrine of theirs, even from the Mosaick Writings themselves, *Θεὸς ἰσχυρὸς ὑπομονῶν* & ὁ Θεὸς ὤκνησε διδοῦν, τὸ πρῶτον αἰὼν ἀνθρώπου καὶ ἑνὲν ἡμέτερον & καὶ ὁμαίων, they suspecting, that the God of the Universe being about to make man, did there bespeak the other Gods, (τοῖς μὲν ἑαυτὶ δ' ἄλλοις

Sum. Scip.
De Leg. De
Dio.
Sum. Scip.

De ND L.

Contra Jul.
L. 1

ἡ δὲ μὲν ἐν, which were Secondary and Inferiour to him) after this manner, Let Us make man according to Our own Image and likeness. Which S. Cyril and other Christian Writers understand of the Trinity. Now those Eternal Gods of Plato, according to whose Image, the World and Man is said by him to have been made, and which (though one of them were properly called the *Demiurgus*) yet had all an Influence and Causality upon the making of it, were (as hath been already observed) not so many Independent and Self-originated Deities, but all derived from One First Principle. And therefore Cicero following Plato in this is not to be suspected upon that account, to have been an Asserter of Many Independent Gods, or Partial Creators of the World; especially since in many other places of his Writings, he plainly owns a Divine Monarchy.

We pass from M. Tullius Cicero, to M. Terentius Varro his Equal, a man famous for Polymathy or Multifarious Knowledge, and reputed unquestionably (though not the most Eloquent, yet) the most Learned of all the Romans, at least as to Antiquity. He wrote One and Forty Books concerning the Antiquities of Humane and Divine things; wherein he transcended the Roman Pontifices themselves, and discovered their Ignorance as to many points of their Religion. In which Books he distinguished Three Kinds of Theology, the First Mythical or Fables, the Second Physical or Natural, and the Last Civil or Popular: The First being most accommodate to the Theatre or Stage; the Second to the World or the Wiser men in it; the Third to Cities or the Generality of the Civilized Vulgar. Which was agreeable also to the Doctrine of Scævola that Learned Pontifex, concerning Three Sorts of Gods, Poetical, Philosophical and Political. As for the Mythical and Poetical Theology it was censured after this manner by Varro, *In eo sunt multa contra Dignitatem & Naturam immortalium fida. In hoc enim est ut Deus alius ex capite, alius ex femore sit, alius ex guttis sanguinis natus. In hoc ut Dii furati sint, ut adulteraverint, ut servierint homini. Denique in hoc omnia Diis attribuantur, quæ non modo in hominem, sed etiam in contemptissimum hominem cadere possunt: That, according to the Literal Sense, it contained many things contrary to the Dignity and Nature of Immortal Beings. The Genealogy of one God being derived from the Head, of another from the Thigh, of another from drops of Blood: Some being represented as Thieves, others as Adulterers, &c. and all things attributed to the Gods therein that are not only incident to men, but even to the most contemptible and flagitious of them. And as for the Second, the Natural Theology which is the True, this Varro conceived to be above the capacity of Vulgar Citizens, and that therefore it was expedient, there should be another Theology calculated, more accommodate for them, and of a middle kind betwixt the Natural and the Fables, which is that which is called Civil. For he affirmed, *Multa esse vera quæ vulgo scire non sit utile, & quedam quæ tametsi falsa sint, aliter existimare populum expedit; that there were many things true in Religion, which it was not convenient for the Vulgar to know; and again some things which though false, yet it was expedient they should be believed by them. As Scævola the Roman Pontifex in like manner, would not have the Vulgar to know,*
that*

Aug. de Civ.
D. L. 6. c. 5.

Aug. Civ. D.
L. 4. c. 31.

that the True God had neither Sex, nor Age, nor Bodily Members. *Expedire igitur existimat* (saith St. *Austin* of him) *falli in Religione Civ. D. L. 4. Civitates, quod dicere etiam in Libris Rerum Divinarum, ipse Varro* *c. 27.* *non dubitat, Scævola therefore judgeth it expedient that Critics should be deceived in their Religion; which also Varro himself doubteth not to affirm in his Books of Divine Things.* Wherefore this *Varro* though disapproving the Fabulous Theology, yet out of a pious design as he conceived, did he endeavour to assert as much as he could, the *Civil Theology*, then received amongst the Romans, and to vindicate the same from Contempt: yet neverhelts so, as that, *Si eam Civitatem novam constitueret, ex Naturæ potius Formulis, Deos & Deorum nomina se fuisse dedicaturum, non dubitet confiteri;* *Civ. D. L. 4.* *If he were to constitute a New Rome himself, he doubts not to confess, but that he would dedicate Gods and the Names of Gods after another manner, more agreeably to the Form of Nature or Natural Theology.* Now what *Varro's* own sense was concerning God, he freely declared in those Books of Divine Things; namely, That he was the *Great Soul and Mind* of the whole World: Thus St. *Austin*, *Hi soli Varroni videntur animadvertisse quid esset Deus, qui crediderunt eum esse Animam, Motu ac Ratione mundum gubernantem:* *Civ. D. L. 4. c. 9.* *These alone seem to Varro to have understood what God is, who believed him to be a Soul, governing the whole World by Motion and Reason.* So that *Varro* plainly asserted *One Supreme and Universal Numen*, he erring only in this (as St. *Austin* conceives) that he called him *A Soul*, and not the *Creator of Soul*, or a *Pure and Abstract Mind*. But as *Varro* acknowledged *One Universal Numen*, the *Whole Animated World*, or rather the *Soul* thereof, which also he affirmed to be called by several Names, as in the *Earth Tellus*, in the *Sea Neptune*, and the like; so did he also admit (together with the rest of the Pagans) other Particular Gods, which were to him nothing but *Parts of the World Animated* with *Souls Superiour to men*; *A summo Circuitu celi, usque ad Circulum Lune, æthereas Animas esse Astra ac Stellæ, eosque cœlestes Deos, non modo intelligi esse sed etiam videri:* *Civ. D. L. 7. c. 6.* *Inter Lune verò gyrum & nimborum cacumina Aeræ esse Animas, sed eas animo non oculis videri; & vocari Heroes & Lares & Genios:* *That from the highest Circuit of the heavens to the Sphere of the Moon, there are Ethereal Souls or Animals, the Stars, which are not only understood but also seen to be Celestial Gods: And between the Sphere of the Moon and the Middle Region of the Air, there are Aereal Souls or Animals, which though not seen by our Eyes, yet are discovered by our Mind and called Heroes, Lares, and Genii.* So that according to *Varro* the only True Natural Gods, were as himself also determined, *Anima Mundi, ac Partes ejus*, First the great Soul and Mind of the whole world which comprehendeth all; and secondly the *Parts of the World Animated* superiour to men. Which Gods also he affirmed to be worshipped *Cæstius* more purely, and chastly without Images, as they were by the first Romans for one hundred and seventy years: he concluding, *qui primi simulachra Deorum populi posuerunt, eos civitatibus suis & metum dempsisse & errorem addidisse: prudenter existimans* (saith St. *Austin*) *Deos facile posse in Simulachrorum stoliditate contemni:* *De Civ. D. L. 4. c. 31.* *That those Nations who first set up Images of the Gods, did both take away Fear from their Cities and add*

Errors

Error to them: be wisely Judging, that the Foppery of Images, would easily render their Gods contemptible.

Nat Q. L. 1.
c. 45.

P. 442. L. 15.

Civ. D. L. 6.
c. 10.

L. 7 c. 3.

L. *Annæus Seneca* the Philosopher, was contemporary with our Saviour Christ and his Apostles, who, though frequently acknowledging a *Plurality of Gods*, did nevertheless plainly assert *One Supreme*, he not only speaking of him *Singularly*, and by way of *Eminency*, but also plainly describing him as such; as when he calls him, *Formatorem Universi; Rectorem & Arbitrum & Custodem Mundi; Ex quo suspensa sunt omnia; Animum ac Spiritum Universi; Mundani hujus operis Dominum & Artificem; Cui nomen omne convenit; Ex quo nata sunt omnia; Cujus Spiritu vivimus; Totum suis partibus inditum, & se sustententem sua vi; Cujus Consilio huic mundo providetur, ut inconcussus eat, & alius suos explicet; Cujus Decreto omnia sunt; Divinum Spiritum per omnia maxima & minima equali intentione diffusum; Deum potentem omnium; Deum illum maximum potentissimumque, qui ipse debet omnia; Qui ubique & omnibus præsto est; Cæli & Deorum omnium Deum, a quo ista Numina quæ singula adoramus & colimus, suspensa sunt; and the like: The Framer and Former of the Universe; the Governour, Disposer and keeper thereof; Him upon whom all things depend; The Mind and Spirit of the World; The Artificer and Lord of this whole *Atundane Fabrick*; To whom every name belongeth; From whom all things spring; By whose Spirit we live; Who is in all his parts and sustenteth himself by his own force; By whose Counsel the World is provided for, and carried on in its Course constantly and uninterruptedly; By whose Decree all things are done; The Divine Spirit that is diffused through all things both great and small with equal Intention; The God whose power extends to all things; The Greatest and most Powerful God who doth himself support and uphold all things; Who is present every where to all things; The God of Heaven and of all the Gods, upon whom are suspended all those other Divine Powers, which we singly worship and adore. Moreover we may here observe from *St. Austin*, that this *Seneca* in a Book of his, against Superstitions (that is now lost) did not only Highly extol the *Natural Theology*, but also plainly censure and condemn the *Civil Theology* then received amongst the Romans, and that with more Freedom and Vehemency, than *Varro* had done the *Fabulous or Theatrical and Poetical Theology*. Concerning a great part whereof he pronounced, that a wise man would observe such things, *tanquam Legibus jussa, non tanquam Diis grata, only as commanded by the Laws* (he therein exercising Civil Obedience) *but not at all, as Grateful to the Gods.**

M. Fabius Quintilianus, though no admirer of *Seneca*, yet fully agreed with him in the same *Natural Theology*, and sets down this, as the generally received Notion or Definition of God, *Deum esse Spiritum omnibus partibus immissum, That God is a Spirit mingled with and diffused through all the parts of the World*; he from thence inferring *Epicurus* to be an Atheist, notwithstanding that he verbally asserted Gods, because he denied a God according to this Generally received Notion, he bestowing upon his Gods a circumscribed humane form, and placing them between the Worlds. And the Junior *Pliny* though

though he were a Persecutor of the Christians, he concluding, *quale* Ep 97.
cunque effect quod faterentur, *pervicaciam certè & inflexibilem obstina-*
tionem debere puniri, that whatsoever their Religion were, yet notwith-
standing their Stubbornness and Inflexible Obstinacy ought to be punish-
ed, and who compelled many of them to worship the Images of the
 Emperour, and to sacrifice and pray to the Statues of the Pagan
 Gods, and lastly to blaspheme Christ; yet himself plainly acknow-
 ledged also One Supreme Universal Numen, as may sufficiently ap-
 pear from his Panegyrick Oration to Trajan, where he is called
Deus ille, qui manifestus ac præsens Cælum ac Sydera insidet; that
 God who is present with, and inhabits the whole Heaven and Stars;
 himself making a Solemn Prayer and Supplication to him, both in the
 beginning and close thereof, and sometimes speaking of him therein
 Singularly and in way of Eminency; as in these words, *Occultat u-*
trorumque Semina Deus, & plerumque Bonorum Malorumque Cause, sub
diversâ specie Latent: God hideth the Seeds of good and evil, so that
 the causes of each often appear disguised to men. L. Apuleius also, whose
 pretended Miracles the Pagans endeavoured to confirm their Reli-
 gion by, as well as they did by those of Apollonius, doth in sundry
 places of his writings, plainly assert One Supreme and Universal Nu-
 men, we shall only here set down one, *Cum Summus Deorum, cuncta hæc*
non solum cogitationum ratione consideret, sed Prima, Media, & Ulti-
ma obeat; compertaque intime Providentiæ ordinationis universitate
 & Constantia regat; Since the Highest of the Gods, does not only con-
 sider all these things in his mind and Cogitation, but also pass through
 and comprehend within himself the Beginning Middle and End of all
 things, and constantly Govern all by his occult Providence. Lastly Sym-
 machus, who was a zealous Stickler for the Restitution of Paganism,
 declared the Pagans to worship One and the same God with the
 Christians, but in several ways, he conceiving, that there was no
 necessity God should be worshipped by all after the same manner.
Æquum est, quicquid omnes colunt, UNUM putari: Eadem spectamus P. 306.
Astra; Commune Cælum est; Idem nos Mundus involvit: Quid inter-
est, qua quisque prudentia Verum requirat? Uno itinere non potest per-
veniri ad tam grande Secretum: We ought in reason to think, that it
is One and the same Thing, which all men worship: As we all behold the
same Stars, have the same Common Heaven, and are involved within
the same World. Why may not men pursue One and the same thing in
different ways? One Path is not enough to lead men to so Grand a Secret.
 The Sence whercof is thus elegantly expressed by Pudentius.

*And Man's
 Parents, and
 Parents Homi-
 num Deorum-
 que.

De Philof.
 P. 178. Galv.

Uno omnes sub sole siti, vegetamur eodem
Acre, Communis cunctis viventibus Antra.
Sed quid sit qualisque Deus, diversa secuti
Quærimus; atque Viis longè distantibus Unum
Imus ad Occultum; sunt est mos cunque genti,
Per quod iter properans, eat ad tam Grande Profundum.

P. 283;

And again afterward,

P. 308.

Secretum sed grande nequit Rationis operte

Quæri

*Quæri aliter, quàm si sparsis via multiplicetur
Tramitibus, & centenos terat orbita calles,
Quæstura Deum variata indage latentem.*

* And the beginning of *Prudentius* his Confutation is this,

*Longè aliud verum est. Nam multa ambago viarum
Anfractus dubios habes, & perplexius errat.
Sola errore caret simplex via, nescia flecti
In diverticulum, bivium nec pluribus anceps, &c.*

We shall now instance also in some of the *Latter Greek Writers*. Though the Author of the Book *De Mundo*, were not *Aristotle*, yet that he was a Pagan, plainly appears from some passages thereof, as where he approves of *Sacrificing to the Gods*, and of *Worshipping Heroes and Dead men*; as also because *Apuleius* would not otherwise have translated so much of that book, and incorporated it into his *De Mundo*. He therefore does not only commend this of *Heraclitus*, *ὅτι πᾶντα ἐκ τοῦ ἑνὸς πάντα*, That there is one Harmonious System made out of all things, and that All things are derived from One; But doth himself also write excellently, concerning the Supreme God, whom he calleth *τῷ ᾧ ὅλας συνέστηκεν αἰτῶν*, the Cause which containeth all things, and τὸ πρὸς καὶ ὑπὲρ πάντων, The First and Most excellent part of the World; he beginning after this manner; ἀρχαῖος μὲν ὅτι τῆς λόγου καὶ κατεργασίας ἐστὶ πᾶν ἀνθρώπων, ὡς ἐκ θεοῦ τὰ πάντα, καὶ διὰ θεοῦ ἡμῶν συνέστηκε ὁ κόσμος, αὐτὸ καὶ ταῦτα αὐτοῦ ἐκείνου, ἐπημεινόμενα ὅτι ἐκ τούτου συνέτετακται, It is an ancient Opinion or Tradition, that hath been conveyed down to all men from their Progenitors, that all things are from God, and consist by him; and that no Nature is sufficient to preserve it self, if left alone, and devoid of the Divine assistance and influence. Where we may observe, that the *Apuleian Latin Version*, altering the sense, renders the words thus, *Vetus opinio est, atq; in cogitationes omnium hominum penitus incidit, Deum esse: Originis non habere auctorem: Deumque esse salutem & perseverantiam Earum, quas effecerit, rerum*: So that whereas, in the Original Greek, This is said to be the general Opinion of all mankind, That all things are from God and subsist by him, and that nothing at all can conserve it self in being without him, *Apuleius* correcting the words, makes the general sense of mankind to run no higher than this; That there is a God; who hath no author of his original; and who is the safety and preservation of all those things that were made by himself. From whence it may be probably concluded, that *Apuleius*, who is said to have been of *Plutarch's* Progeny, was infected also with those Paradoxical Opinions of *Plutarch's*, and consequently did suppose, All things not to have been made by God, nor to have depended on him (as the Writer *De Mundo* affirmeth) but that there was something besides God, as namely the Matter and an Evil Principle, Uncreated and Self-existent. Afterwards the same Writer *De Mundo*, elegantly illustrates by Similitudes, how God by One Simple Motion and Energy of his own, without any labour or toil, doth produce and govern all the Variety of Motions in the Universe; and how he doth συνέχει τὸν κόσμον

τῆς ἑκείνης ἀρμονίας τι καὶ σωτηρίας, contain the Harmony and Safety of the whole. And lastly he concludes, ὅσῳ αὖ νῦν κωκυρῆται, αὖ ἡμεῖς ὁ ἰσχυρῶς, αὖ ἡσυχῶς πορεύμεθα, αὖ πάλαι νόμος, αὖ νεωτέρως ἡγεμῶν, τὸ τοῦ θεοῦ αὖ κέλευμα, That what a Pilot is to a ship, a Charioteer to a Chariot, the Corypheus to a Quire, Law to a City, and a General to an Army; the same is God to the World. There being only this difference, that whereas the Government of some of them is toilsom and follicitous; the Divine Government and Steerage of the World, is most easie and facil: for as this Writer adds, God being himself Immovable, Moveth all things; in the same manner as Law, in it self Immovable, by Moving the minds of the Citizens, orders and disposes all things.

Plutarchus Chæronensis (as hath been already declared) was Unluckily engaged in Two False Opinions, The First of Matters being Ingenit or Uncreated, upon this Pretence, Because Nothing could be made out of Nothing; the Second of a Positive Substantial Evil Principle, or an Irrational Soul and Demon Self-existent, upon this Ground because τὴν κακίαν γαίνονται καὶ τὴν τῷ θεῷ περὶον, ὡς ὅτι τὸ φαῦλον ἐπ' ἀγασσάμενα καὶ τὴν τῷ πικρῷ βέβληται, πῶσαι ὁπίσθιοι ἀτυτίας ὑπερβάλλει. There is no greater Absurdity imaginable, than that Evil should proceed from the Providence of God, as a Bad Epigrammi from the will of the Poet. In which respect he was before called by us a Ditheliff. Plutarch was also a Worshipper of the Many Pagan Gods, himself being a Priest of the Pythian Apollo. Notwithstanding which, he unquestionably asserted One Sole Principle of All Good, the Cause of all things, (Evil and Matter only excepted) the Framer of the Whole World, and Maker of all the Gods in it; who is therefore often called by him, God, in way of Eminency, as when he affirmeth αὖ γεωμετρεῖν τὸ θεῖον that God doth always all the Geometrician, that is, do all things in Measure and Proportion; and again πάντα κατ' ἀρμονίαν ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ κατασκευάζεσθαι, That all things are made by God according to Harmony; and that ὁ θεὸς ἀρμονικὸς καλεῖται καὶ μεσικός, God is called a Harmonist and a Musician: And he hath these Epithets given him, ὁ μέγας θεός, The Great God, and ὁ ἀνωτάτος θεός, The Highest or Uppermost God, and ὁ πρῶτος θεός, The First God, and ὁ ἀγένητος θεός, The Unmade Self-existent God; all the other Pagan Gods, according to him, having been made in Time, together with the World. He is likewise stiled by Plutarch, πύλας τοῦ καλοῦ, The Sea of Pulchritude: and his Standing and Permanent Duration, without any Flux of Time, is excellently described by the same Writer, in his Book concerning the Delphick Inscription. Lastly Plutarch affirmeth, that men generally pray to this Supreme God, for whatsoever is not in their own power, ὅσα μὴ παρ' ἑμῶν ἔστιν, ἀρχαῖα καὶ θεῶν διδοία.

Dio Chrysostomus, a Sophist, Plutarch's Equal, though an acknowledger of Many Gods, yet nevertheless asserteth, βασιλεύειν τὴν ἑλάν, P. 199. that the whole World is under a Kingly Power or Monarchy, he calling the Supreme God, sometime, τὸ κοινὸν ἀνθρώπων καὶ θεῶν βασιλεῖα καὶ ἀρχή, καὶ περίεταν καὶ πόλιν, the common King of Gods and Men, their Governour, and Father, καὶ πάντων καὶ πάντων θεῶν, the God that rules over all, καὶ πρῶτος καὶ μέγιστος θεός, The First and Greatest God; καὶ κορυφαῖον προ-

P. 203.

P. 446.

P. 401.

ἡ πάντα ᾧ ὅλων, καὶ καθ' ὅλην αὐτὴν ἡ πάντα ἔχειν καὶ κέλευσιν, &c. *The chief President over all things, who orders and guides the whole Heaven and World, as a wise Pilot doth a Ship, ἡ τῷ ἑμπαιῖσι ἡγεμῖα ἔχουσα, καὶ ὁ ὅλος διαπύτω ὁ Κτίς, the Ruler of the whole Heaven, and Lord of the Whole Essence; and the like. And he affirming that there is a Natural Prolepsis in the Minds of men concerning him, οὗτις δι' ὧν ὁ πᾶσι καὶ ὅλοις φύσις, καὶ μάστις τῶ παλαιοῦ ἡγεμῖα, πρῶτον μὲν καὶ ἐν πρώτοις δεῖα καὶ ὅλην αὐτὴν καὶ ἑμπαιῖσι ἀνθρώπων ἡγεμῖα ὁμοίως μὲν ἑλλήνων ὁμοίως ὡς βαρβάρων, ἀναγκάζει καὶ ἑμψύχων ὡς παλαιοῦ τοῦ λογισμοῦ γιγνομένη καὶ φύσις, ἀλλ' ὅπως διδασκαλία καὶ μεταγωγὴ. Concerning the nature of the Gods in general, but especially of that Supreme Ruler over all; there is an opinion in all humane kind, as well Barbarians as Greeks; that is naturally implanted in them as rational Beings, and not derived from any mortal Teacher. The meaning whereof is this, that men are naturally possessed with a Perswasion, that there is One God, the Supreme Governour of the whole World, and that there are also below him, but above men, Many other Intellectual Beings, which these Pagans called Gods.*

P. 401.

That Galen was no Atheist, and what his Religion was; may plainly appear from this one passage out of his third Book *De Usu Partium*, to omit many others, ἀλλὰ ᾧ ὅπως ἐπὶ πλείον ταύτων μαρτυροῦμαι βοσκομένους, οἱ σπορονεῖς ὁρᾶς ἂν μοι μέμψοιο, καὶ μάλιστα φαῖν ἐν λόγῳ, ὃν ἐγὼ τῷ δημογραφείῳ ἡμῶς ἔμποι ἄλλοθεν συντίθημι, καὶ τοιμῶ τῶτ' εἶναι τῷ ὅλῳ διστάειν· οὐχὶ εἰ ταύρων ἑκατόμβας ὡς παλαιοῦ παμπόλλους καταδύομαι, καὶ τὰ ἄλλα μετὰ μύρα θυμιάσαι καὶ ἀκρίας, ἀλλ' εἰ γνοίην μὲν ὡς πρῶτον, ἔπειτα ὡς καὶ πῶς ἄλλοις ἐκρησάμην, οἷον μὲν ἔστι τι σωφίας, οἷον ὡς τι δυνάμει, οἷον ὡς τι καὶ χρηστότητι· τὸ μὲν ᾧ ἐξέλειν κοσμοῦν ἡ πάντα ἡ ἀσχηρόμενον κέλευσιν καὶ μεθ' ἡ φρονεῖν ᾧ ἀρετῶν, ὁ τελειώτης χρηστότης ἐγὼ δ' ἐγγίμαι τίθειναι, ταύτη μὲν ὡς ἀγαθὸς ἡμῖν ὑμνεῖσθαι· τὸ δ' ὡς ἂν μάστις κοσμοῦναι, πᾶν ἐξέρπει, ἀκερὲς σωφίας· τὸ ὡς δ' ἐρεῖσαι πᾶσι ὅσα προέλιπε, δυνάμει ἀπείρητος· *Should I any longer insist upon such Brutish Persons as those, the wise and sober might justly condemn me, as defiling this Holy Oration, which I compose as a True Hymn to the praise of him that made us; I conceiving true Piety and Religion towards God to consist in this, not that I should sacrifice many Hecatombs, or burn much Incense to him, but that I should myself first acknowledge, and then declare to others, how great his Wisdom is, how great his Power, and how great his Goodness. For that he would adorn the whole world after this manner, envying to nothing that good which it was capable of, I conclude to be a demonstration of most absolute Goodness, and thus let him be praised by us as Good. And that he was able to find out, how all things might be adorned after the best manner, is a Sign of the Greatest Wisdom in him. And Lastly to be able to effect and bring to pass all those things which he had thus decreed, argues an insuperable Power.*

Maximus Tyrinus in the close of his first Dissertation, gives us this short Representation of his own Theology, βάλομαι δὲ σὺν δαίμονι τὸ λαλῶν σαφές· εἰδέναι. Ἐπὶ μεγάλῳ ἀρχῷ καὶ βασιλεὶ ἐξουσίῳ πρὸς μίαν ψυχὴν βασιλῆα τὸ ἀεὶ καὶ περιετὸν συμπόνην γενέσθαι ἐκόντων· ὅ

εἶναι

nor the Hyperborean. In other things, we find men speaking very discordantly to one another, all men as it were differing from all. The same thing is not Good to all nor Evil, Honest nor Dishonest. For Law and Justice it self, are different every where, and not only one Nation doth not agree with another therein, but also not one City with another City, nor one House with another House, nor one man with another man, nor lastly any one man with himself. Nevertheless, in this so great war, contention, and discord, you may find every where throughout the whole world, One agreeing Law and Opinion, That THERE IS ONE GOD THE KING AND FATHER OF ALL, and Many Gods, the Sons of God, Co-reigners together with God. These things both the Greek and the Barbarian alike affirm, both the Inhabitants of the Continent and of the Sea-coast, both the Wise and the Unwise. Nothing can be more full than this Testimony of *Maximus Tyrius*, that the Generality of the Pagan world, as well *Vulgar* and *Illiterate*, as *Wise* and *Learned*, did agree in this, that there was One Supreme God, the Creator and Governour of all. And to the same purpose was that other Testimony before cited out of *Dio Chrysostomus*, Orat. 12. p. 204
 ὅτι δι θεῶν ἢ π καθεὺς φύσεως, καὶ
 μόνης τῆς πλείστης ἡμετέρας, δόξα ἔστιν αἰνέσις καὶ τῇ εὐχαριστίᾳ ἀνθρώπων γέ-
 νους, ὁμοίως δὲ Ἑλλήνων, ὁμοίως δὲ βαρβάρων, &c. That concerning the nature of the Gods in General, but especially concerning that Prince of all things, there was One agreeing Perswasion in the minds of all Mankind, as well Barbarians as Greeks. Where *Dio* plainly intimates also, that there was a more universal consent of Nations, in the belief of One God, than of Many Gods.

It hath been already observed, that the several Pagan Nations, had vulgarly their peculiar Proper Names for the One Supreme God. For as the Greeks called him *Zeus* or *Zen*, the Latins *Jupiter* or *Jovis*, so did the Egyptians, Africans and Arabians, *Hammon*. Which *Hammon* therefore was called by the Greeks the *Zeus* of the Africans, and by the Latins their *Jupiter*. Whence is that in *Cicero's De Natura Deorum*, *Jovis Capitolini Nobis alia species, alia Afris Ammonis Jovis, the form of the Capitoline Jupiter with us Romans, is different from that, of Jupiter Ammon with the Africans*. The Name of the Scythian *Jupiter* also, as *Herodotus* tells us, was *Pappens* or *Father*. The Persians likewise had their *زحلς μάγος*, as *Xenophon* styles him, their Country-*Zeus* or *Jupiter* (namely *Mithras* or *Oromasdes*) who in the same *Xenophon*, is distinguished from the Sun, and called in *Cyrus* his Proclamation in the Scripture, *The Lord God of Heaven, who had given him all the Kingdoms of the Earth*. Thus the Babylonian *Bellis* declared by *Berosus* (a Priest of his) to have been that God, who was the Maker of Heaven and Earth. And Learned men conceive, that *Baal* (which is the same with *Bel*, and signifies Lord) was first amongst the Phenicians also a Name for the Supreme God, the Creator of Heaven and Earth, sometimes called *Beel samem*, *The Lord of Heaven*. As likewise that *Molech* which signifies King, was amongst the Ammonites, the King of their Gods; and that *Marnas* (the chief God of the *Gazites*, who were Philistines) and signifies the Lord of men, was that from whence the Cretians derived their *Jupiter*, called the Father of Gods and Men.

Origen

Origen indeed contended, that it was not lawful for Christians, to call the Supreme God by any of those Pagan Names, and probably for these Reasons, because those names were then frequently bestowed upon Idols; and because they were contaminated and defiled by Absurd and Impure Fables. Nevertheless that learned Father does acknowledge the Pagans really to have meant τὸν ἑνὸς θεόν, *The God over all*, by those several Names. Which yet *Lactantius Firmianus* would by no means allow of as to the Roman *Jupiter*, worshipped in the Capitol, he endeavouring to confute it after this manner; *Vana est Persuasio eorum qui nomen Jovis Summo Deo tribuunt. Solent enim quidam errores suos hac excusatione defendere; qui convicti de Uno Deo, cum id negare non possunt, ipsum celere affirmant, verum hoc sibi placere ut Jupiter nominetur, quo quid absurdius? Jupiter enim sine Contubernio Conjugis Filiaque, coli non solet. Unde quid sit apparet, nec fas est id nomen eo transferri, ubi nec Minerva est ulla nec Juno: It is a vain persuasion of those, who would give the name of Jupiter to the Supreme God. For some are wont thus to excuse their errors, when they have been convinced of one God, so as that they could not contradict it, by saying that themselves worshipped Him, he being called by them Jupiter: Than which, what can be more absurd? since Jupiter is not worshipped without the Partnership of his Wife and Daughter. From whence it plainly appears what this Jupiter is, and that the name ought not to be transferred thither, where there is neither any Minerva nor Juno. The ground of which argumentation of *Lactantius* was this, because the great Capitoline Temple of *Jupiter*, had three *sacella* or lesser Chappels in it, all contained under one roof, *Jupiter's* in the middle, *Minerva's* on the right hand, and *Juno's* on the left; according to that of the Poet.*

L. l. c. 11.

Trina in Tarpeio fulgent consortia Templo.

Which *Juno*, according to the Poetical Theology, is said to be the *Wife of Jupiter*, and *Minerva* his *Daughter*, begotten not upon *Juno* but from his own Brain. Where it is plain that there is a certain mixture of the *Mythical* or *Poetical Theology*, together with the *Natural*, as almost every where else there was, to make up that *Civil Theology* of the Pagans. But here (according to the more Recondit and Arcane Doctrine of the Pagans) these three Capitoline Gods, *Jupiter*, *Minerva*, and *Juno*, as well as some others, may be understood, to have been nothing else but *Several Names and Notions*, of *One Supreme Deity*, according to its several Attributes and Manifestations, *Jupiter* signifying the Divine Power and Sovereignty, as it were seated and enthroned in the Heavens; *Minerva* the Divine Wisdom and Understanding; and *Juno* the same Deity acting in these Lower parts of the world. Unless we would rather with *Macrobius*, Physiologize them all Three, and make *Minerva* to be the Higher Heaven, *Jupiter* the Middle Ether, and *Juno* the Lower Air and Earth, all Animated; that is, One God, as acting differently in these Three Regions of the world. Which yet seems not so congruous, because it would place *Minerva* above *Jupiter*.

Never-

Nevertheless it may justly be suspected, as *G. I. Vossius* hath already observed, that there was yet some higher and more sacred Mystery, in this Capitoline Trinity, aimed at; namely, a *Trinity of Divine Hypostases*. For these three *Roman* or *Capitoline Gods*, were said to have been first brought into *Italy* out of *Phrygia* by the *Trojans*, but before that into *Phrygia* by *Dardanus*, out of the *Samothracian Island*; and that within eight hundred years after the *Noachian Flood*; if we may believe *Eusebius*. And as these were called by the *Latins*, *Dii Penates*, which *Macrobius* thus interprets, *Dii Per quos Penitus spiramus, per quos habemus Corpus, per quos rationem animi possidemus*, that is, *The Gods by whom we live, and move, and have our being*; but *Varro* in *Arnobius*, *Dii qui sunt Intrinsecus, atque in Intimis Penetralibus Cæli*, the *Gods, who are in the most Inward recesses of Heaven*; so were they called by the *Samothracians* *Κάβιροι* or *Cabiri*, that is, as *Varro* rightly interprets the word, *Στοι δυνάτοι*, or *Divi Potes*, *The Powerful and Mighty Gods*. Which *Cabiri* being plainly the *Hebrew* כבדים, gives just occasion to suspect, that this Ancient Tradition of *Three Divine Hypostases* (unquestionably entertained by *Orpheus*, *Pythagoras* and *Plato* amongst the *Greeks*, and probably by the *Egyptians* and *Persians*) sprung originally from the *Hebrews*. The first of these *Divine Hypostases*, called *Jove*, being the *Fountain* of the *Godhead*; and the *Second* of them called by the *Latins* *Minerva*, (which, as *Varro* interprets it, was that wherein *Idea* & *Exempla rerum*, the *Ideas* and first *Exemplars* or *Patterns* of things were contained) fitly expressing the *Divine Logos*; and the *Third* *Juno*, called *Amor ac Delicium Jovis*, well enough answering (as *Vossius* thinks) to the *Divine Spirit*.

De Theol. Gen.
L. 9. c. 12.

But *Laëtantius* hath yet another objection against the *Roman Jupiter's* being the *Supreme God*, *Quid? quod hujus nominis proprietas, non Divinam vim sed Humanam exprimit? Jovem enim Junonemque à Juvando esse dictos Cicero interpretatur. Et Jupiter quasi Juvans Pater dicitur. Quod nomen in Deum minimè convenit, quia Juvare hominis est, &c. Nemo sic Deum precatur, ut se Adjuvet, sed ut Servet, &c. Ergo non Imperitus modo, sed etiam Impius est, qui nomine Jovis Virtutem Summæ Potestatis imminuit.* What if we add that the propriety of this word *Jupiter*, does not express a *Divine*, but only a *Humane* force? *Cicero* deriving both *Jove* and *Juno* alike à *Juvando*, that is, from *Helping*; For *Juvans Pater* or a *Helping Father*, is not a *Good Description* of *God*; so far as much as it properly belongeth to men to *Help*. Neither doth any one pray to *God*, to *Help* him only, but to *Save* him. Nor is a *Father*, said to *help* his *Son*, whom he was the *Begetter* of, &c. Wherefore he is not only *Useless* but *Impious* also, who by the Name of *Jove* or *Jupiter*, diminishes the power of the *Supreme God*. But as this of *Laëtantius* seems otherwise weak enough; so is the *Foundation* of it absolutely ruinous, the true *Etymon* of *Jupiter* (though *Cicero* knew not so much) being without peradventure, not *Juvans Pater*, but *Jovis Pater*, *Jove* the *Father* of *Gods* and *Men*; which *Jovis* is the very *Hebrew Tetragrammaton* (however these *Romans* came by it) only altered by a *Latin Termination*. Wherefore as there could be

no impiety at all in calling the Supreme God *Jove* or *Jovis*, it being that very name which God himself chose to be called by: so neither is their any reason why the Latins should not as well mean the Supreme God thereby, as the Greeks did unquestionably by *Zeus*, which will be proved afterwards from irrefragable Authority.

Especially if we consider, that the Roman Vulgar, commonly bestowed these Two Epithets upon that Capitoline *Jupiter* (that is, not the senseless Statue, but that God who was there worshipped in a Material Statue) of *Optimus* and *Maximus*, the *Best* and the *Greatest*, they thereby signifying him to be a Being *Infinitely Good and Powerful*. Thus *Cicero* in his *De Nat. Deorum*, *Jupiter à Poetis dicitur Divum atque Hominum Pater, à majoribus autem nostris Optimus Maximus. That same Jupiter who is by the Poets styled, The Father of Gods and Men, is by our ancestors called, The Best The Greatest. And in his Orat. pro S. Roscio, Jupiter Optimus Maximus, cujus nulli & arbitrio, Cælum, Terra, Mariæque reguntur, Jupiter the Best the Greatest, by whose beck and command, the Heaven, the Earth and the Seas are governed. As also the Junior Pliny, in his Panegyrick Oration, *Pater Hominum Deorumque, Optimi prius, deinde Maximi nomine colitur, The Father of Men and Gods, is worshipped under the Name, first of the Best, and then of the Greatest. Moreover Servius Honoratus* informs us, that the *Pontifices* in their publick Sacrifices, were wont to address themselves to *Jupiter* in this Form of words, *Omnipotens Jupiter, seu quo alio nomine appellari volueris, Omnipotent Jupiter, or by what other name soever thou pleasest to be called. From whence it is plain, that the Romans under the name of Jupiter worshipped the Omnipotent God. And according to Seneca the ancient Hetrurians, who are by him distinguished from Philosophers, as a kind of Illiterate Superstitious persons (in these words, Hæc adhuc Etruscis & Philosophis communia sunt, in illo dissentiunt) had this very same Notion answering to the word Jupiter, namely, of the Supreme Monarch of the Universe. For First he sets down their Tradition concerning Thunderbolts in this manner, Fulmina dicunt à Jove mitti, & tres illi manubias dant. Prima (ut aiunt) movet & placata est, & ipsius consilio Jovis mittitur. Secundam quidem mittit Jupiter, sed ex Consilii sententiâ; Duodecim enim Deos advocat, &c. Tertiam idem Jupiter mittit, sed adhibitis in Consilium Diis quos Superiores & Involutos vocant, quæ vastat, &c. The Hetrurians say, that the Thunder-bolts are sent from Jupiter, and that there are three kinds of them; the First Gentle and Monitory and sent by Jupiter alone; the Second sent by Jupiter, but not without the counsel and consent of the Twelve Gods, which Thunderbolt doth some good, but not without Harm also; the Third sent by Jupiter likewise, but not before he hath called a Council of all the Superiour Gods: and this utterly wastes and destroys both private and publick States. And then does he make a Commentary, upon this old Hetrurian Doctrine, that it was not to be taken literally, but only so as to impress an awe upon men and to signify that Jupiter himself intended nothing but Good, he inflicting evil not alone, but in partnership with others, and when the necessity of the case required. Adding in the last place, Ne hoc quidem crediderunt (Etrusci) Jovem qualem in Capitolio, & in cæteris ædibus**

edibus colimus, mittere manu sua fulmina; sed eundem quem nos, Jovem intelligunt; custodem rectoremque Universi, Animum ac Spiritum, Mundani hujus operis Dominum & Artificem, cui nomen omne convenit. Neither did these Hebræians believe, that such a Jupiter as we worship in the Capitol and in the other Temples, did sling Thunderbolts with his own hands, but they understood the very same Jupiter that we now do, the Keeper and Governour of the Universe, the Mind and Spirit of the whole, the Lord and Artificer of this Mundane Fabrick, to whom every name belongeth. And lastly, that the vulgar Romans afterwards about the beginning of Christianity, had the same Notion of Jupiter, as the Supreme God; evidently appears from what *Tertullian* hath recorded in his Book *ad Scapulam*, that when *Marcus Aurelius* in his German Expedition, by the prayers of the Christian Soldiers made to God, had obtained refreshing showers from Heaven in a great drought, *Tunc Populus adclamans JOVI DEO DEORUM; QUI SOLUS POTENS EST, in Jovis nomine Deo nostro testimonium reddidit;* That then the people with one consent crying out thanks be to JUPITER THE GOD OF GODS, WHO ALONE IS POWERFUL, did thereby in the name of Jove or Jupiter give testimony to our God. Where by the way we see also, that *Tertullian* was not so nice as *Lactantius*, but did freely acknowledge the Pagans by their Jupiter to have meant the True God.

As nothing is more frequent with Pagan Writers, than to speak of God singularly, they signifying thereby the One Supreme Deity, so that the same was very familiar with the Vulgar Pagans also, in their ordinary discourse and common speech, hath been recorded by divers of the Fathers. *Tertullian* in his Book *De Testimonio Animæ*, and his *Apologet.* instanceth in several of these Forms of Speech then vulgarly used by the Pagans, as *Deus videt, Deo commendo, Deus reddet, Deus inter nos judicabit, Quod Deus vult, Si Deus voluerit, Quod Deus dederit, Si Deus dederit*, and the like. Thus also *Minutius Felix, Cum ad Cælum manus tendunt, nihil aliud quàm Deum Dicunt. Et Magnus est, & Deus Vetus est, &c. vulgi iste Naturalis sermo, an Christiani consentis oratio?* When they stretch out their hands to Heaven, they mention only God; and these forms of speech, He is Great, and God is True, and If God grant (which are the natural language of the vulgar) are they not a plain confession of Christianity. And lastly *Lactantius, Cum Jurant, & cum Optant, & cum Gratias agunt, non Deos multos, sed Deum nominant; adeò ipsa veritas, cogente natura, etiam ab invitis pectoribus erumpit:* When they swear, and when they wish, and when they give thanks, they name not Many Gods but God only; the Truth, by a secret force of nature, thus breaking forth from them whether they will or no. And again, *Ad Deum conjugiunt, à Deo petitur auxilium, Deus ut subveniat oratur. Et si quis ad extremam mendicandi necessitatem redactus, vixitum precibus exposcit, Deum Solum obsecrat, & per ejus divinum atque unicum Numen hominum sibi misericordiam querit:* They fly to God, Aid is desired of God, they pray that God would help them; and when any one is reduced to extremest necessity, he begs for Gods sake, and by his Divine power alone implores the mercy of men. Which same thing is fully confirmed also, by *Pro-*

P. 226.

clus upon Plato's *Timæus*, where he observes, that the *One Supreme God*, was more Universally believed throughout the World in all ages, than the *Many Inferiour Gods*; τὰς αὖτε ἡ ἐν ἑαυτοῖς, ἐπὶ δὲ αἱ ψυχαὶ τῶν ἑαυτοῖς προσεχέσθων θάλλον ὑπὸ λαμπρότητι, τῶν δὲ ὑποστρέφον ἀρχῶν μάλλον μνησκεῖσθαι. ἀρετὴ γὰρ μάλλον ἐς αὐτὰς δι' ὑποστροφῶν διατάσσεται, καὶ δεκτικὴ αὐταῖς παρῆναι δι' αἰσθητῶν· ὃ δὲ καὶ τῶν ὅλων γίνεται τῶν ἡμετέρων· πολλὰ γὰρ τῶν αἰσθητῶν καὶ καμμένων οὐκ ἐρεῖς, ἐμᾶς αὐτῶν ἐρεῖς δεκάμενον τῶν ἀπλανῶν, καὶ αὐτὰς τὰς ἀρετὰς, διότι καθάλαμπτται ἡμᾶν τῶν ὅλων τὰ ἑαυτῶν φάσι. μάλλον ἔν καὶ τὸ ὅμμα τῶν ψυχῶν, λήθω ἔχει καὶ ἀσθενεῖαν τῶν προσεχέσθων, ἢ τῶν ἀνατρεῖν καὶ διαστρέφει ἀρχῶν· ὅτω τὴν πρωτίστου ἀρχῆς πᾶσαι δεκτικαὶ καὶ αἰσθητὲς συλλαμβάνουσαι, καὶ διὸν πάντες ἀνθρώποι ὑπὸ λαμπρότητι τοῦ θεοῦ· διὸν καὶ μετ' αὐτῶν, καὶ πρότερον ἀπ' αὐτῶν αἰσθητῶν τῶν πάντων, ὅτι πᾶσαι πιδύον· ἐμνησκόμενοι γὰρ αὐταῖς καθάλαμπτται τὸ ἐν τῷ πλήθει. And perhaps you may affirm, that Souls do sooner lose their knowledge of those things which are Lower and Nearer to them, but retain a stronger remembrance of those Higher Principles. Because these do all more vigorously upon them, by reason of the Transcendency of their Power, and by their Energy seem to be present with them. And the same thing happens as to to our bodily Sight; for though there be many things here upon earth which none of us see, yet every one observes that Highest Sphere, and takes notice of the Fixed stars in it; because these strongly radiate with their light upon our eyes. In like manner does the Eye of our Soul, sooner lose the sight and remembrance of the Lower than of the Higher and Diviner Principles. And thus all Religions and Sects, acknowledge that One Highest Principle of all, and men every where call upon God for their Helper; but that there are Gods, after and below that Highest Principle, and that there is a certain providence descending down from these upon the Universe, all Sects do not believe; the reason whereof is, because The One or Unity, appears more clearly and plainly to them than The Many or a Multitude.

L. 2. c. 7.

Moreover we learn from *Arianus* his *Epiſtetus*, that that very Form of Prayer which hath been now so long in use in the Christian Church, *Kyrie Eleeson*, Lord have mercy upon us, was anciently part of the *Pagans Litany* to the *Supreme God*, either amongst the *Greeks*, or the *Latins*, or Both, τὸ δὲ ἐν ὑποστασὶ μὲν (saith *Epiſtetus*) θεόμεθα αὐτῷ, κύριε ἐλέσον, invoking God we pray to him after this manner, Lord have mercy upon us. Now this *Epiſtetus* lived in the times of *Adrian* the Emperour, and that this Passage of his, is to be understood of Pagans and not of Christians, is undeniably manifest from the context, he there speaking of those who used *Anguria* or Divination by Birds. Moreover in the writings of the *Greekish Pagans*, the *Supreme God* is often called κύριος, or Lord. For, not to urge that passage of the τῶν ἀσκληπιῶν or *Asclepian Dialogue*, cited by *Laſtantius*, where we read of ὁ κύριος, ὁ πᾶντων ποιητής, the Lord and Maker of all. *Alexander* in *Just. Martyr*, stileth the *Supreme God*, τὸν ὅλον κύριον ὑποκρίνοντα, the most Universal Lord of all. And *Osiris* in *Plutarch* is called, ἀπὸ πάντων κύριος, the Lord of all things. And this is also done Absolutely, and without any *Adjection*, and that not only by the *Seventy*, and *Chriftians*, but also by *Pagan Writers*; thus in *Plutarch's* de *Iside & Osiride*, we read of τὸ πρῶτον, καὶ κύριος, καὶ

doth he there distinguish, from those First Inhabitants of Greece and other Barbarians, the afterward Civilized Greeks, who took notice of *Invisible Gods* also. However, if this of Plato should be true, that some of the ancient Pagans, worshipped none but *Visible and Sensible Gods* (they taking no notice of any *Incorporeal Beings*) yet does it not therefore follow, that those Pagans had no Notion at all amongst them, of *One Supreme and Universal Numen*. The contrary thereunto being manifest, that some of those *Corporealists* looked upon the whole *Heaven and Ether Animated*, as the *Highest God*, according to that of *Euripides* cited by *Cicero*,

De N. D. p.
223.

*Vides Sublime fufum, immoderatum aethera,
Qui tenero terram circumvolvū amplectitur,
Hunc Summum habeto Divinum, hunc perhibeto Jovem.*

As also that others of them conceived that *Subtil Fiery Substance*, which permeates and pervades the whole World, (supposed to be Intellectual) to be the *Supreme Deity* which governs all; this Opinion having been entertained by Philosophers also, as namely the *Heraclitics* and *Stoicks*. And lastly, since *Macrobius* in the Person of *Vettius Pretextatus*, refers so many of the Pagan Gods, to the Sun, this renders it not improbable, but that some of these Pagans might adore the *Animated Sun*, as the Sovereign Numen, and thus perhaps invoke him in that Form of Prayer there mentioned *ἮΙΜΕ ΠΑΥΣΤΕΚΕΤΩ, καὶ ὧς πρὸς ἡμᾶς, O Omnipotent Sun, the Mind and Spirit of the whole World, &c.* And even *Cleanthes* himself, that Learned Stoick, and Devout Religionist, is suspected by some to have been of this Perswasion.

Nevertheless we think it opportune here to observe, that it was not *Macrobius* his Design in those his *Saturnalia*, to defend this, either as his own opinion, or as the opinion of the Generality of Pagans, That the *Animated Sun*, was Absolutely *The Highest Deity*; (as some have conceived) nor yet to reduce that Multiplicity of Pagan Gods, by this device of his, into a seeming Monarchy and nearer compliance with Christianity; he there plainly confining his Discourse, to the *Diï duntaxat qui sub Cælo sunt*, that is, the *Lower sort of Mundane Gods*, and undertaking to shew, not that all of these neither, but only that many of them, were reducible to the Sun, as *Polyonyms*, and called by several Names, according to his Several *Virtues and Effects*. For, what *Macrobius* his own opinion was, concerning the *Supreme Deity*, appeareth plainly from his other Writings, particularly this Passage of his Commentary upon *Scipio's Dream*, where the *Highest Sphere and Starry Heaven* was called *Summus Deus*, the *Supreme God*; *Quod hunc Extimum Globum, Summum Deum vocavit, non ita accipiendum est, ut iste Prima Causa, & Deus ille Omnipotentissimus existimetur; cum Globus ipse, quod Cælum est, Anima sit Fabrica, Anima ex Mente processerit, Mens ex Deo, qui verè Summus est, procreata sit. Sed Summum quidem dixit ad Cæterorum Ordinem qui subiecti sunt: Deum verò quod non modo Immortale Animal ac Divinum sit, plenum inclytæ ex illa purissima Mente rationis, sed quod & virtutes*

virtutes omnes, quæ illam Primæ Omnipotentiam Summitatis sequantur, aut ipse faciat, aut contineat; Ipsum denique Jovem veteres vocaverunt, & apud Theologos Jupiter est mundi Anima: That the Outmost Sphere is here called The Supreme God, is not so to be understood, as if this were thought to be The First Cause, and The Most Omnipotent God of all. For this Starry Sphere being but a part of the Heaven, was made or produced by Soul. Which Soul also proceeded from a Perfect Mind or Intellect; and again Mind was begotten from that God, who is Truly Supreme. But the Highest Sphere is here called the Supreme God, only in respect to those Lesser Spheres or Gods, that are contained under it; and it is styled a God, because it is not only an Immortal and Divine Animal, full of Reason derived from that Purest Mind, but also because it maketh or containeth within it self, all those Vertues which follow that Omnipotence of the First Summity. Lastly, this was called by the ancients Jupiter, and Jupiter to Theologers is the Soul of the World. Wherefore though Macrobius, as generally the other Pagans, did undoubtedly worship the Sun as a Great God, and probably would not stick to call him Jupiter nor *πρωταρχος* neither (in a certain sense) Omnipotent or the Governour of all, nor perhaps *Deum Summum*, as well as the Starry Heaven was so styled in Scipio's Dream, he being the Chief Moderator in this Lower World; yet nevertheless it is plain that he was far from thinking the Sun to be *Primam Causam*, or Omnipotentissimum Deum; The First Cause, or the most Omnipotent God of all. He acknowledging above the Sun and Heaven, First, an Eternal Psyche, which was the Maker or Creator of them both; and then above this Psyche, a Perfect Mind or Intellect, and Lastly above that Mind a God who was Verè Summus, Truly and Properly Supreme, The First Cause, and the most Omnipotent of all Gods. Wherein Macrobius plainly Platonized, asserting a Trinity of Archical or Divine Hypostases. Which same Doctrine is elsewhere also further declared by him after this manner; *Deus qui Prima Causa est & vocatur, Unus omnium, quæque sunt quæque videntur esse, Principium & Origo est. Hic superabundanti Majestatis sacunditate de se Mentem creavit. Hæc Mens quæ Deus vocatur, quæ Patrem inspicit, plenam similitudinem servat auctoris, Animam vero de se creat posteriora respiciens. Rursus Anima partem quam intuetur induitur, ac paulatim regrediente respectu in fabricam corporum, in corporea ipsa degenerat: God who is and is called, the First Cause, is alone the Fountain and Original of all things that are or seem to be; He by his superabundant Fecundity, produced from himself Mind, which Mind, as it looks upward towards its Father, bears the perfect resemblance of its Author, but as it looked downward, produced Soul. And this Soul again as to its superiour part resembles that Mind from whence it was begotten; but working downwards, produced the Corporeal Fabrick, and abeth upon Body. Besides which the same Macrobius tells us, that Summi & Principis omnium Dei, nullum Simulacrum finxit Antiquitas, quia supra Animam & Naturam est, quo nihil fas est de fabulis pervenire; de Diis autem ceteris, & de Anima, non frustra se ad fabulosa convertunt: The Pagan Antiquity made no Image at all of the Highest God, or Prince of all things, because he is above Soul and Nature, where it is not lawful for any Fabulosity to be intromitted. But as to the other Gods, the Soul of the World, and those*

Summ. Scip.
L. 1. c. 14.

below

below it, they thought it not inconvenient here, to make use of Images, and Fiction or Fabulosity. From all which it plainly appears, that neither *Macrobius* himself, nor the Generality of the ancient Pagans according to his apprehension did look upon the *Animated Sun*, as the *Absolutely Supreme and Highest Being*.

And perhaps it may not be amiss to suggest here, what hath been already observed; that the Persians themselves also, who of all Pagan Nations, have been most charged with this, the Worshipping of the Sun as the *Supreme Deity*, under the name of *Mithras*, did notwithstanding if we may believe *Fabulus* (who wrote the History of *Mithras* at large) acknowledge another *Invisible Deity Superior* to it, (and which was the *Maker thereof and of the whole World*) as the True and Proper *Mithras*. Which opinion, is also plainly confirmed, not only by *Herodotus*, distinguishing their *Jupiter* from the Sun, but also by *Xenophon* in sundry places, as particularly where he speaks of *Cyrus* his being admonished in a Dream of his approaching death, and thereupon addressing his Devotion by Sacrifices and Prayers; first to the Ζεύς πατρίων, the *Persian Jupiter*, and then to the Sun, and the other Gods. Εἰς δὲ τὰ πατρίων καὶ ἡλίου καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις θεοῖς ἔστι τῶν ἄνθρωπων, ὡς πίστευον, ὡς καὶ ἐν Ἀχαιῶν, Ζεὺς πατρίων καὶ ἡλίου καὶ πάντες θεοί, δίδυται πρὸς ἑαυτοῦς, &c. He sacrificed to their Country (or the Persian) Jupiter, and to the Sun, and to the other Gods, upon the Tops of the Mountains, as the custom of the Persians is; praying after this manner; Thou our Country Jupiter (that is, thou *Mithras* or *Oromasdes*) and thou Sun, and all ye other Gods; accept, I pray you, these my *Encharistick Sacrifices*, &c. And we find also the like Prayer used by *Darius* in *Plutarch* Ζεὺς πατρίων Περσῶν, Thou our Country Jupiter, or *Supreme God of the Persians*. Moreover *Herodotus* and *Curtius* record, that in the Persian Pomp and Procession, there was wont to be drawn a Chariot sacred to *Jupiter*, distinct from that of the Sun. But *Cyrus* his Proclamation in the Book of *Esdras*, putteth all out of doubt; since That Lord God of Heaven, who is there said, to have given *Cyrus* all the Kingdoms of the Earth, and commanded him to build Him a House at *Jerusalem*, cannot be understood of the Sun.

The Ethiopians in *Strabo's* time, may well be look'd upon as Barbarians, and yet did they not only acknowledge One *Supreme Deity*, but also such as was distinct from the world, and therefore *Invisible*, he writing thus concerning them, οὗτοι νομίζουσιν ὅτι μὴ ἀθάνατος, τὸν δὲ θεὸν ὃν ἅπαντες ἄνθρωποι πόλιντες, ὃν δὲ θεὸν, ἀθάνατον τῶν, ὡς δ' ἔστιν πολλὸν τὸς ἀεργάτας καὶ βασιλεὺς θεὸς νομίζουσιν. They believe, that there is One Immortal God, and this the Cause of all things; and another Mortal one, anonymous; but for the most part they account their Benefactors and Kings, Gods also. And though *Cæsar* affirm of the ancient Germans, *Deorum numero eos solos ducunt, quos cernunt, & quorum opibus aperte jurantur, Solem, & Vulcanum, & Lunam*, yet is he contradicted by *Tacitus*, who coming after him had better information; and others have recorded, that they acknowledged One *Supreme God*, under the name of *Thun* first, and then of *Thautes*, and *Thentates*. Lastly, the Generality of the Pagans at this very day, as the *Indians*, *Chinets*,

L. 1 N. 131.

Cyri hist. L. 8.
p. 184.

De Fort. A.
1. 1. L. 2.

L. 17 p. 812.

See Sched. de
Diu Germ.

Chineses, Siamenses and Guineans; the Inhabitants of Peru, Mexico, Virginia, and New England, (some of which are sufficiently Barbarous) acknowledge One Supreme or Greatest God; they having their several Proper Names for him, as Parmiscer, Fetisso, Wiracocha, Pachacamac, Vitziliputzzi, &c. though worshipping withal, other Gods and Idols. And we shall conclude this with the Testimony of Josephus Acoftis: De Proc. Ind. Sol. L. 5. 479.
Hoc commune apud omnes penè Barbaros est, ut Deum quidem Omnium rerum Supremum & summè Bonum, fateantur; Spirituum vero quorundam perversorum non obscura opinio sit, qui à nostris Barbaris Zupay vocari solent. Igitur & quis ille Summus, idemque Sempiternus rerum omnium Opifex, quem illi ignorantes colunt, per omnia doceri debent, mox quantum ab illo illiusque fidelibus Ministris Angelis, absint gens pessima Cacodemonum. This is common almost to all the Barbarians, to confess One Supreme God over all, who is perfectly Good; as also they have a Perswasion amongst them of certain Evil Spirits, which are called by our Barbarians Zupay. Wherefore they ought to be first well instructed, what that Supreme and Eternal Maker of all things is, whom they ignorantly worship; and then how great a difference there is, betwixt those wicked Dæmons, and his faithful Ministers, the Angels.

XXVIII. It hath been already declared, that according to *Theophrastus* and *Symmachus*, two zealous Pagans, One and the same *Supreme God*, was worshipped in all the several Pagan Religions throughout the world, though after different manners. Which Diversity of Religions, as in their opinion, it was no way inconvenient in it self, so neither was it Ungrateful nor Unacceptable to Almighty God, it being more for his Honour, State and Grandeur, to be worshipped with this Variety, than after one only Manner. Now that this was also the opinion of other ancient Pagans before them, may appear from this remarkable Testimony of *Plutarch's* in his Book *De Iside*, where defending the Egyptian Worship (which was indeed the main design of that whole Book;) but withal declaring, that no Inanimate thing ought to be look'd upon or worshipped as a God, he writeth thus: P. 377.
ἡ γὰρ εἰς ἃς ἂν ἄνθρωποι ἀνθρώποις ὁ θεὸς, τὰς ὃ διατεμνόμενος ἡμῖν καὶ παρὰ τοῖς ἀνθρώποις καὶ διακρίν, θεὸς εἰσόμεται μὲν, ὅχι ἐκείνος τὰς ἐτέρας, ὅδ' ἑαυτῶν καὶ ἐκείνων, ὅδ' ἐκείνων καὶ ποιεῖται· ἀλλὰ ὡς ὅτι ἡμῶν καὶ πολλῶν καὶ ἑταίρων, καὶ γυναικῶν, καὶ πατρῶν, καὶ πάντων, ἀπομαρτυροῦναι ὃ ἀλλοτρίον ἂν ἦμας, ὅπως ἔνο' ὅς αὐτοῦ τῶ ταῦτα κοσμοῦνται καὶ μίας προνοίας ὅππῃ τοιοῦτος, καὶ διὰ τὴν αὐτὴν ὕπερ ἡμῶν ὅτι πάντας περικυβέλλων, ἔτι καὶ ἐκείνους ὅτι ἡμῶν καὶ ἑταίρων καὶ πατρῶν καὶ συμμέτοχους ἔχοντες καὶ παρὰ τοῖς ἡμῶν, οἱ μὲν ἄλλοι θεοὶ, οἱ ὃ τοιοῦτος, ὅτι τὰ ὅτα νόμιμον ἀνθρώποις ὅτι ἀνακτῶντες· No Inanimate thing ought to be esteemed for a God, but they who bestow these things upon us, and afford us a continual supply thereof for our use, have been therefore accounted by us Gods. Which Gods are not different to different Nations; as if the Barbarians and the Greeks, the Southern and the Northern Inhabitants of the Globe, had not any the same, but all other different Gods. But as the Sun and the Moon, and the Heaven and the Earth, and the Sea, are common to all, though called by several names in several Countries, so ONE REASON ordering these things and ONE PROVIDENCE dispensing all, and the Inferiour subservient Ministers thereof, having had several Names and Honours bestowed upon them by

the Laws of several Countreys, have been every where worshipped throughout the whole world. And there have been also different Symbols consecrated to them, the better to conduſt and lead on mens understandings to Divine things; though this hath not been without ſome hazard or danger of caſting men upon one or other of theſe Two Inconveniencies, either Superſtition or Atheiſm. Where Plutarch plainly affirms, that the ſeveral Religions of the Pagan Nations, whether Greeks or Barbarians, and among theſe the Egyptians alſo, as well as others, conſiſted in nothing elſe, but the worſhipping of One and the Same Supreme Mind, Reaſon and Providence, that orders all things in the world, and of its *υποκεινται δυνάμεις ἢ τὰ πάλαι πτωχολογοί*, its Subſervient Powers or Miniſters, appointed by it over all the ſeveral parts of the World; though under different Names, Rites and Ceremonies, and with different Symbols.

Moreover that Titus Livius was of the very ſame opinion, that the Pagan Gods of ſeveral Countreys, though called by ſeveral Names, and worſhipped with ſo great Diverſity of Rites and Ceremonies, yet were not for all that, Different, but the ſame common to all, may be concluded from this paſſage of his, where he writeth of Hannibal: *Neſcio an Mirabilior fuerit in adverſis, quàm ſecundis rebus. Quippe qui miſtos ex colluvione omnium gentium, quibus alius Ritus, alia ſacta, alii PROPE Dii eſſent, ita uno vinculo copulaverit, ut nulla ſeditio extiterit. I know not whether Hannibal were more admirable in his adverſity or Proſperity; who having a mixt colluvies of all Nations under him, which had different Rites, different Ceremonies, and Almoſt different Gods, from one another, did notwithstanding ſo unite them all together in one common bond, that there hapned no ſedition at all amongst them. Where Livy plainly intimates, that though there was a great diverſity of Religious Rites and Ceremonies among the Pagans, as if they had worſhipped ſeveral Gods, yet the Gods of them all, were really the ſame, Namely, One Supreme God, and his Miniſters under him. And the ſame Livy elſewhere declares, this to have been the General opinion of the Romans and Italians likewiſe at that time; where he tells us how they quarrel'd with Q. Fulvius Flaccus, for that when being Cenſor, and building a new Temple in Spain, he uncovered another Temple dedicated to Juno Lacinia amongst the Brutii, and taking off the Marble-Tyles thereof, ſent them into Spain to adorn his new erected Temple withal; and how they accuſed him thereupon publickly in the Senate-houſe in this manner, *Quod ruinis Templorum Tempia edificaret, tanquam non iidem ubique Dii immortales eſſent, ſed ſpoliis aliorum alii colendi exornandique; That with the ruines of Temples he built up Temples; as if there were not every where the Same Immortal Gods; but that ſome of them might be worſhipped and adorned with the ſpoils of others.**

The Egyptians were doubtleſs the moſt ſingular of all the Pagans, and the moſt odly discrepant from the reſt in their manner of worſhip, yet nevertheleſs, that theſe alſo agreed with the reſt in thoſe Fundamentals, of worſhipping one Supreme and Univerſal Numen, together

gether with his *Inferiour Ministers*, as *Plutarch* sets himself industriously to maintain it, in that forementioned Book *De Iside*, so was it further cleared and made out (as *Damascius* informs us) by Two Famous Egyptian Philosophers *Asclepiades* and *Heraiscus* in certain writings of theirs, that have been since lost: Αἰζυπῆτις ὃ δὲ μὲν εὐδῆμος, ὅθεν ἀρεβείας ἰστέον· οἱ δὲ Αἰζυπῆται καθ' ἡμᾶς φιλόσοφοι γαγενέες, ἐξήρτησαν αὐτῷ τὴν ἀλήθειαν κεκρυμμένην, διερίπτεν δὲ Αἰζυπῆτις, δι' ἅπαν λόγους, ὡς ἐστὶν κατ' αὐτὸς ἡ μὲν μία τῶν ὄλων ἀρχὴ, συνόριος ἀγνωστὴ, &c. ἰστέον δὲ καὶ ὁ ἄλλος ὡς δὲ τῶν Αἰζυπῆται, ὅτι διαιρετικοὶ εἰσι πολλὰ καὶ, τῶν κατ' ἡμᾶς ἰσχυροτέρων· ἰπὲρ καὶ τὸ νοῦτον διηρίκασι εἰς πολλὰς θεῶν ἰδιότητας, ὡς ἔχει μαθεῖν τὸς ὁσέων συγγραμμάτων ἐντυχθέντων τοῖς βυολογμοῖς· λέγων δὲ τῇ Ἡρακλῆους ἀναγκαστῇ, τῇ Αἰζυπῆτι καθεύδα λόγος, πρὸς τὸ πρὸς ἅπαντας γερφάσκει τὴν φιλοσοφίαν, καὶ τῇ ἀρεβμῇ γερφράσκει συμφωνίαν ὑπὸ Ἀσκληπιάδου τῶν Αἰζυπῆται πρὸς τοὺς ἄλλους σοφολόγους· Though Eudemus hath given us no certain account of the Egyptians, yet the Egyptian Philosophers of latter times, have declared the hidden truth of their Theology, having found in some Egyptian Monuments, that according to them there is one Principle of all things, celebrated under the name of the Unknown Darkness, and this thrice repeated, &c. Moreover this is to be observed concerning these Egyptians, that they are wont to divide and multiply things that are One and the Same. And accordingly have they divided and multiplied the First intelligible or the One Supreme Deity, into the Properties of Many Gods; as any one may find that pleases to consult their writings; I mean that of Heraiscus, entitled the Universal Doctrine of the Egyptians, and inscribed to Proclus the Philosopher; and that Symphony or Harmony of the Egyptians with other Theologers, begun to be written by Asclepiades and left imperfect. Of which Work of Asclepiades the Egyptian, *Suidas* also maketh mention, upon the Word Heraiscus; ὃ δὲ Ἀσκληπιάδης ὅτι πλεονὲς αὐτὸς Αἰζυπῆτις βελτίους ἀνὰ λεγέας, ἀρεβείας· ἢ ἀμφὶ θεολογίαν τὴν πάρεσσαν, ἀρχὴν τε αὐτῆς καὶ μυστα διακαμμένην, ὡς ἔχειν εἶδέναι σαφῶς ἀπὸ τῶν ἡμῶν, ἐν συγγραμμάτων εἰς τοὺς Αἰζυπῆται θεῶν, καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν περὶ μαθεῖν, ἢ ἀρεμῇ γερφρῶν ἀρεβμῶν τῶν θεολογῶν ἀπαιτῶν συμφωνίαν· But Asclepiades having been more conversant with ancient Egyptian writings, was more thoroughly instructed, and exactly skilled in his Country Theology; he having searched into the Principles thereof, and all the consequences resulting from them; as manifestly appeareth from those Hymns which he composed in praise of the Egyptian Gods, and from that Treatise begun to be written by him (but left unfinished) which containeth the Symphony of all Theologies. Now we say that Asclepiades his Symphony of all the Pagan Theologies, and therefore of the Egyptian with the rest; was their agreement in those Two Fundamentals expressed by *Plutarch*; namely the worshiping of One Supreme and Universal Numen, Reason and Providence, governing all things; and then of his Subservient Ministers (the Instruments of Providence) appointed by him, over all the parts of the world: Which being honoured under several Names, and with different Rites and Ceremonies, according to the Laws of the respective Countreys caused all that Diversity of Religions, that was amongst them. Both which Fundamental Points, of the Pagan Theology, were in like manner acknowledged by *Symmachus*, The First of them being thus expressed, *Aequum est quicquid omnes colunt, Unum*

Damasc. de Princ. M. S.

But neither they, who held the Supreme Deity to be an Immoveable *Mind* or *Intellect*, superiour to the *Mundane Soul* (as *Aristotle* and *Xenocrates*) did suppose that *Mundane Soul* and the whole *World*, to have depended upon *Many* such Immoveable *Intellects* Self-existent, as their *First Cause*, but only upon *One*: nor they, who admitting a *Trinity of Divine Hypostases*, made the Supreme Deity properly, to be a *Monad* above *Mind* or *Intellect*, did conceive that *Intellect* to have depended upon *Many* such *Monads*, as *First Principles* Co-ordinate, but upon *One* only. From whence it plainly appears, that the Pagan Theologers, did always reduce things under a *Monarchy*, and acknowledge not *Many Independent Deities*, but *One Universal Numen* (whether called *Soul*, or *Mind*, or *Monad*) as the Head of all. Though it hath been already declared, that those Pagans, who were *Trinitarians*, especially the *Platonists*, do often take those their *Three Hypostases* subordinate (a *Monad*, *Mind* and *Soul*) all together, for the τὸ θεῶν, or *One Supreme Numen*; as supposing an extraordinary kind of *Unity*, in that *Trinity of Hypostases*, and so as it were, a certain *Latitude* and *Gradation*, in the *Deity*.

Where by the way Two things may be observed, concerning the Pagan Theologers; First, that according to them generally the whole Corporeal System, was not a *Dead Thing*, like a *Machin* or *Automaton* Artificially made by men, but that *Life* and *Soul* was mingled with and diffused thorough it All: insomuch that *Aristotle* himself, taxes those, who made the *World* to consist of nothing but *Monads* or *Atoms* altogether *Dead* and *Inanimate*, as being therefore a kind of *Atheists*. Secondly, That how much soever some of them supposed the *Supreme Deity* and *First Cause*, to be Elevated above the *Heaven* and *Corporeal World*, yet did they not therefore conceive either the *World* to be quite *Cut off* from that, or that from the *World*, so as to have no commerce with it nor influence upon it; but as all proceeded from this *First Cause*, so did they suppose that to be closely and intimately united with all those *Emanations* from it self, (though without *Mixture* and *Confusion*) and all to subsist in it, and be pervaded by it. *Plutarch* in his *Platonick Questions*, propounds this amongst the rest, τὶ δὲ πῶς τὸ ἀνωτάτω θεῶν, πατέρα πάντων καὶ ποιητὴν προσεῖπεν; *Why Plato called the Highest God, the Father and Maker of All?* To which he answers in the First place thus, ὅτι μὴ θεῶν γέννηται καὶ ὅτι ἀπεράπειον πατὴρ ὅτι, ποιητὴς ὃ ὅτι ἀλόγων καὶ ὅτι ἀψύχων.

That perhaps he was called the Father of all the Generated Gods, and of men, but the Maker of the Irrational and Inanimate things of the World. But afterward he adds, That this Highest God, might therefore be styled the Father of the whole Corporeal World also, as well as the Maker, because it is no Dead and Inanimate thing, but endued with Life; ἐμψύχον γὰρ ζῶντος ἢ ζώντος ὅτι καὶ ποιητὴς μὲν, οὐδὲ οἰκοδόμος ἢ ἐργάτης, ἢ λόγους δημιουργὸς ἢ ἀνόητος, ἀπὸ μακροῦ τὸ ζῶν μόνον ἐγενό· ἀπὸ δὲ τοῦ ζῶντος ἀρχὴ καὶ δύναμις ἐκείνηται τῶν τεκταμένων, καὶ συνέχεται τῶν φύσιν, ἀπὸ παλαιὰ καὶ μέλαινα ὥσπερ τῶν τεύχεσσι, ἑπὶ τούτων ἢ παλαιά μιν οὐκ ἔστιν, ὡς δὲ σπινθὴρ μὲν οἷς ποικίλονται ὡκεν, ἀλλ' ἐν αὐτῇ μέγιστα πολλὰ ζωότητες καὶ θεότητες, ὥς δὲ θεὸς ἐγκατέπεσεν ἀφ' ἑωυτοῦ τῇ ὕλῃ καὶ κατέμεινεν, εἰκό-

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miration of both these Worlds, the Visible and the Invisible, have not only Deified the whole of them, but also their several Parts, as the Sun, and the Moon, and the whole Heaven, they not scrupling to call these, Gods. Which Notion and Language of theirs, Moses respected in those words of his, Thou Lord the King of Gods; he thereby declaring the transcendency of the Supreme God above all those his Subjects called Gods. To the same purpose Philo writeth also in his Commentary upon the Decalogue, πᾶσαν ἐν τῷ ταιούτῳ περὶ εἰς ἀποσάμους, τὰς ἀδελφὰς φύσιν μὴ προσκυῖμεν, εἰ καὶ καθαραιότερες καὶ ἀθανατοτέρες ὁμοίας ἔλαχον, ἀδελφὰ δ' ἀλλήλων τὰ ὁμόμοια, καθ' ὃ γέγονεν, ἐπεὶ καὶ πατὴρ ἀπέναντον ὁ πυνκτὴς τῶν ὅλων· καὶ πρῶτον τῆτο καὶ ἱεράτατος ἀδελφότημα συνιδέσμεν ὡς αὐτοῖς, ἵνα τ' ἀνατάτω ἱομίζεν τι καὶ τιμᾷ Διὶν. Wherefore removing all such imposture, Let us worship no Beings, that are by Nature Brothers and Germane to us, though endued with far more pure and immortal Effences than we are. For all Created things as such, have a kind of Germane and Erotberly Equality with one another, the maker of all things being their common Father. But let us deeply infix this first and most holy commandment in our breasts, to acknowledge and worship One only Highest God. And again afterwards, ὅσοι μὲν ἡλίου, καὶ σελήνης, καὶ τῶν στικτῶν ἀρετῶν τι καὶ κῶμος, καὶ τῶν αὐτοῖς ἐποχρεῖσθαι μαρῶν ὡς θεῶν πρέσβηται καὶ διεργάται, διαμαρτάνουσιν, τὰς ὑπὸ καὶ τῶν ἀρετῶν συμμύνοις. They who worship the Sun, and the Moon, and the whole Heaven and World, and the Principal parts of them as Gods, err, in that they worship the Subjects of the Prince; whereas the Prince alone ought to be worshipped. Thus according to Philo, the Pagan Polytheism consisted, in giving Religious Worship, besides the Supreme God, to other Created understanding Beings, and Parts of the World, more pure and immortal than men.

Flavius Josephus in his Judaick Antiquities, extolling Abraham's Wisdom and Piety, writeth thus concerning him, πρῶτος ἐν τοῖς θεοῖς ἀπεφῆσθαι δημιουργὸν τῶν ὅλων ἵνα, which some would understand in this manner, that Abraham was the first who publicly declared, that there was one God the Demiurgus or maker of the whole world; as if all mankind besides at that time, had supposed, the world to have been made not by One but by Many Gods. But the true meaning of those words is this, That Abraham was the first, who in that degenerate age, publicly declared that the Maker of the whole world, was the One only God, and alone to be Religiously Worshipped: accordingly as it follows afterwards in the same writer, ᾧ καλῶς ἔχει μὲν τῷ τιμᾷ καὶ τὴν διχαρεῖσθαι ἀπέναντον, to whom alone men ought to give honour and thanks. And the reason hereof is there also set down, τῶν ἡ λοιπῶν, εἰ καὶ τι πρὸς διαίματιαν συντελῇ, καὶ περὶ τὴν τὴν παρῆχεν ἕκαστον καὶ ὁ κατ' οὐκ ἴσθαι ἱστῶν. Because all those other beings, that were then worshipped as Gods, whatsoever any of them contributed to the happiness of mankind, they did it not by their own power, but by his appointment and command; he instancing in the Sun and Moon, and Earth and Sea, which are all made and ordered by a higher power and providence, by the force whereof they contribute to our utility. As if he should have said, That no Created Being, ought to be Religiously worshipped, but the Creator only. And this agreeth

agreeth with what we read in Scripture concerning *Abraham*, that he called upon the Name of the Lord, אלהים עילם. The God of the whole *Gen* 12. 23. World; that is, he worshipped no particular Created Beings, as the other Pagans at that time did, but only that Supreme Universal Numen, which made and containeth the whole World. And thus *Maimonides* interprets that place, החדל להרעוע ולעבד שמו רמזי לעבוד אלהים אלהים אברהם began to teach, that none ought to be Religiously Worshipped, save only the God of the whole World. Moreover the same *Josephus* afterwards in his Twelfth Book, brings in *Aristæus* (who seems to have been a secret Profelyted Greek) pleading with *Ptolemaus Philadelphus*, in behalf of the Jews and their Liberty, after this manner; τὴν βασιλεὺς ὡς διὰ τοῦτο, τῷ θεῷ τῶν Ἰουδαίων τὴν τιμὴν αὐτοῖς. ὅτι ὁ ἀπὸ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἀποστείλας τὸν θεόν, ὃς ὅτι καὶ ἡμεῖς σεβόμεθα, ζῆνα καλῶντες αὐτόν, ἐτοίμας ἀπὸ τοῦ σέβαστος ἡμῶν τὸ ζῆν, τὴν ἐπαύριον αὐτῷ ἰσχυρίσας. *De Idol.* i. 5. 7. *It would well agree with your Goodness and Magnanimity, to free the Jews from that miserable Captivity which they are under: since the same God who governeth your Kingdom, gave Laws to them, as I have by diligent search found out. For both They and we, do alike worship the God who made all things, we calling him Zene, because he gives life to all. Wherefore for the honour of that God, whom they worship after a singular manner, please you to indulge them the liberty of returning to their native country.* Where *Aristæus* also according to the sense of Pagans thus concludes; Know, O King, that I intercede not for these Jews as having any cognation with them, πάντων ἡ ἀνθρώπων δημιουργία ὄντων τῷ θεῷ, ὃς καὶ ἡμῶν αὐτῶν ἡδὲ μέγιστος τοῖς ἀπασιν, ὅτι τὸ τὰ καὶ σε θεομακά, but all men being the Workmanship of God, and knowing that he is delighted with beneficence, I therefore thus exhort you.

As for the latter Jewish Writers and Rabbins, it is certain that the generality of them supposed the Pagans to have acknowledged One Supreme and Universal Numen, and to have worshipped all their other Gods, only as his Ministers, or as Mediators between him and them: *Maimonides* in *Halacoth* ענין describes the Rise of the Pagan Polytheism in the dayes of *Enosh*, after this manner: בימי אנשׁ שעד בני האדם טעית נורא ובעברה עצת חכמי אותו דור ואנשׁ עצמו סן השׁתעו היה זה היתה מעותם: אסרו הואיל והאל ברא כוכבים אלו ונגלגים להנחית את העולם ונתנם במרום ויחלק להם נביו והם שׁמשים השׁמשים לפי: ראוים: והם לשׁבתם ולפאדם ולחלוק להם כבוד וזהו רצן האל ברוך הוא לטיר ולכבד מׁ שׁגדלו וכבדו כמו שהמדך רוצה לכבד רעוסים לפי: וזהו כבודו של מלך. *In the days of Enosh, the Sons of men grievously erred, and the wise-men of that age became brutish (even Enosh himself being in the number of them) and their error was this, that since God had created the Stars and Spheres, to govern the world, and placing them on high, had bestowed this honour upon them, that they should be his Ministers and subservient Instruments; men ought therefore to praise them, honour them, and worship them: this being the pleasure of the Blessed God, that men should magnifie and honour those whom himself hath magnified and honoured, as a King will have his Ministers to be revered, this honour redounding to himself.* Again the same *Maimonides* in the beginning of the Second Chapter of that Book writteth thus; עיקר הצווי העצומה וזה שלא לעבוד אדם כאלו הנבואים

לא סלאך ולא גלגל ולא כוכב ולא אחד מן היסודות ולא אחד מכל היבראים
 מן ואף כלם שהעובד יורע שהם הוא האלהים והוא עובד האברא הזה על
 The Foundation of that Commandment against strange Worship (now commonly called I-
 dolatry) is this, that no man should worship any of the Creatures what-
 soever, neither Angel, nor Sphere, nor Star, nor any of the four Ele-
 ments, nor any thing made out of them. For though he that worships these
 things, knows that the Lord is God, and Superiour to them all, and
 worships those Creatures no otherwise, than Enosh and the rest of that age
 did, yet is he nevertheless guilty of Strange Worship, or Idolatry. And
 that, after the times of Enosh also, in succeeding ages, the Poly-
 theism of the Pagan Nations, was no other than this, the worship-
 ping (besides One Supreme God) of other created Beings, as the
 Ministers of his Providence, and as Middles or Mediators betwixt
 Him and Men, is declared likewise by Maimonides (in his More Ne-
 wuchim) to have been the Universal Belief of all the Hebrews or Jews;
 ואחז יורע כי כל מי שצוה עבודה זרה לא יעבדה רעת שאין אלוה בלעדיה יה ולא רמח
 טעולם כלל מן העובדים ולא יוסה מן הנאים שהעבדה אשר יעשה מן הסתנות או
 מן האבנים והעצים שהעבדה ההיא היה אשר בראה השמים והארץ אבל אמנם
 יקבורה על צד שהוא רסין לרבר שהוא אסעני בנים ובין חללה זה משה שלא
 You know that whosoever committeth Idolatry, he doth it not as supposing, that there is no other God besides that which
 he worships, for it never came into the minds of any Idolaters, nor
 never will, that that Statue which is made by them of metal, or stone, or
 wood, is that very God who created Heaven and Earth; but they wor-
 ship those Statues and Images only as the representation of something,
 which is a Mediator between God and them. Moses Albelda the Author
 of the Book entituled, עולת חמר Gnolath Tamid, resolves all the Pa-
 gan Polytheism and Idolatry, into these Two Principles, one of which
 respected God, and the other men themselves: והא טועני לזה טעני יור
 ואמרים כי הוא גבוה מעל גבוה והוא להרבק בו דך עי האסעניום כמנהג הסלך ב
 שהרצים לשאל שאלה מהסטט ישאלוה עי אסעני ולכן עשים אותה חקא כדי להודיד
 השפס חלואי עליה: הב טוענק סעז קעסס חח כי היות ואדם נשמו אנו יכול להחבור
 טעססס אם לא שים נגדו דבר מר משה יעורו ויעורו להבין קעסס כי שחרב
 The Idolaters first argued thus, in respect of God; that
 since he was of such transcendent perfection above men, it was not possible
 for men to be united to or have communion with him, otherwise than by
 means of certain Middle Beings or Mediators; as it is the manner of
 Earthly Kings, to have petitions conveyed to them by the hands of Media-
 tors or Intercessors. Secondly they thus argued also in respect of themselves;
 That being corporeal so that they could not apprehend God Abstractly, they
 must needs have something Sensible, to excite and stir up their devotion &
 fix their Imagination upon. Joseph Albo in the Book called Ikkarim, con-
 cludes that Ahab and the other Idolatrous Kings of Israel and Judah
 worshipped other Gods upon those two accounts mentioned by Mai-
 monides & no otherwise, namely that the Supreme God was honoured by
 worshipping of his Ministers, and that there ought to be certain Middles
 and Mediators betwixt him and Men, ויהיה מכלי ישראל ויהיה
 היו טועני אחד הכחות הגלגליות שפי שדין שאמרנו וגם שלמה טעה בזה עם
 והיום מאמנים בסצאיות השם ואחורו אם נשהו חושבים לגד אר השם
 בזה ואם נשהו חושבין לעשות סיסוד ואסעניום בנים ובין חשם יור
 Ahab

P. 1. c. 36.

Fol. 147.

P. 3. c. 18.

Ahab and other Kings of Israel and Judah, and even Solomon himself, erred in worshipping the Stars upon those two accounts already mentioned out of Maimonides, notwithstanding that they believed the Existence of God and his Unity; they partly conceiving that they should honour God in worshipping of his Ministers, and partly worshipping them as Mediators betwixt God and themselves. And the same Writer determines the meaning of that First Commandment (which is to him the Second) *Thou shalt have no other Gods before my face*, to be this; להבנים אותם מפניי בני ובנין או שחשוב להם אויבי עבודתם *Thou shalt not set up other Inferiour Gods as Mediators betwixt me and thy self, or worship them so, as thinking to honour me thereby.* R. David Kimchi (upon 2 Kings 17.) writeth thus, concerning that Israelitish Priest, who by the King of Assyria's command, was sent to Samaria to teach the new inhabitants thereof to worship the God of that Land (of whom it is afterwards said, that they both feared the Lord and served their Idols;) אם יאמר להם שלא יהיו עובדים עבודה זרה (כדל לא היו מסמינים שחמ דבר שגזל בו כל המוסר מקום והוא אצלם כמו מושכל האשון אך אמר להם שיהיו עובדים את אלהיהם כמו שהיו עובדים ובדבר שחמ כונת האל בלבם כי אלא האלהים לא ותעו ולא ישיבו כי אם בדעת האל אלא שעובדים אותם ליהוים מפניי בנים ובני הבית.) *If he should have altogether prohibited them their Idolatry, they would not have hearkened to him, that being a thing which all those Eastern people were educated in from their very Infancy, insomuch that it was a kind of First Principle to them. Wherefore he permitted them to worship all their several Gods, as before they had done, only he required them to direct the intention of their minds to the God of Israel (as the Supreme) for those Gods could do them neither Good nor Hurt, otherwise than according to his Will and pleasure: but they worshipped them to this purpose, that they might be MEDIATORS betwixt them and the Creator.* In the Book Nitzachon, all the Polytheism and Idolatry of the Pagans, is reduced to these Three Heads; First שדרתי השם לכבודו *When they worshipped the Ministers of God, as thinking to honour him thereby;* and Secondly, עמדו אורח שדיו מליצים בעדם *When they worshipped them, as Orators and Intecessors for them with God;* and Lastly עמדו עמודי עץ ואבן *when they worshipped Statues of wood and stone, for Memorials of him.* And though it be true that Isaac Abrabanel (upon 2 Kings 17.) does enumerate more Species of Pagan Idolatry, even to the number of Ten, yet are they all of them but so many several Modes of Creature-worship; and there is no such thing amongst them to be found, as the worshipping of many Unmade Independent Deities, as Partial Creators of the World.

Moreover those Rabbinick Writers commonly interpret certain places of the Scripture to this sence, That the Pagan Idolaters, did notwithstanding, acknowledge, One Supreme Deity, as that *Jeremy 10.7. Who is there that will not fear thee, thou King of Nations? For amongst all their wise men and in all their Kingdoms, there is none like unto thee; though they are become all together brutish, and their worshipping of stocks is a doctrine of vanity;* For Maimonides thus glosseth upon those Words, נלמד ודבר יודעים שאחיה הוא לנדך אבל טעויהם שפרסמו שיהיה רצון הוא *As if he should say, all the Gen-*
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titles know, that thou art the only Supreme God, but their error and folly consisteth in this, that they think this vanity of worshipping Inferiour Gods, to be a thing agreeable to thy will. And thus also Kimchi in his Commentaries, ועובדים האלילים ראויו להם, שיראוך כי אתה מלך עליהם בכל חכמי העולם ובכל מלכותם ואמרום מאין נטור ואינם עובדים המוכבים אלא ליהוהם אסצעים בנך ובנים ואסר חכמי העולם כי הם יודעים כי הפסל אינו כלום ואם יעבדו המוכבים לא יעבדו אלא מפני שהם יודעים *Who will not fear thee? It is fit that even the Nations themselves who worship Idols, should fear thee, for thou art their King; and indeed amongst all the wisemen of the Nations and in all their Kingdoms it is generally acknowledged, that there is none like unto thee, Neither do they worship the Stars otherwise, than as Mediators betwixt thee and them. Their wise men know that an Idol is nothing; and though they worship Stars, yet do they worship them as thy Ministers, and that they may be Intercessors for them.* Another place is that, Malachi 1. 11. which though we read in the Future Tense, as a Prophecy of the Gentiles, yet the Jews understand it of that present time, when those words were written, *From the rising of the Sun to the going down thereof my name is great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense is offered to my name, and a pure oblation, for my name is great amongst the Gentiles; saith the Lord of Hosts. But you prophane it, &c.* Upon which words R. Solomon glosseth thus, *אדוני שורא על כלם ובכל מקום מחנינים לשמי אף האסור* The Pagan Polytheists and Idolaters Know, that there is One God Superiour to all those other Gods and Idols worshipped by them; and in every place are there Free-will-offerings, brought to my name, even amongst the Gentiles. And Kimchi agreeth with him herein, *אף על פי שהעמים עובדים לצבא השמים, אף על פי שהם כעובדים אלה שטנים אלה שטנים אף על פי שהם כעובדים אלה שטנים אף על פי שהם כעובדים אלה שטנים* Although the Pagans worshipped the Host of Heaven, yet do they confesse me to be the first Cause, they worshipping them only as in their opinion certain Mediators betwixt me and them. Whether either of these two places of Scripture, does sufficiently prove, what these Jews would have, or no; yet however is it evident from their interpretations of them, that themselves supposed, the Pagans to have acknowledged One Supreme Deity, and that their Other Gods, were all but his Creatures and Ministers. Nevertheless there is another place of Scripture which seems to found more to this purpose, and accordingly hath been thus interpreted by Rabbi Solomon and others, *Psal. 65. 6. where God is called מנצח כל קצו ארץ וים רחוקים* The Confidence of all the Ends of the Earth, and of them that are afar off in the Sea, that is, even of all the Pagan World.

Thus we see plainly, that the Hebrew Doctors and Rabbins, have been generally of this persuasion, that the Pagan Nations anciently, at least the Intelligent amongst them, acknowledged One Supreme God of the Whole World; and that all their Other Gods were but Creatures and Inferiour Ministers; which were worshipped by them vpon these Two Accounts, either as thinking, that the Honour done to them redounded to the Supreme; or else that they might be מלצין, סרסורים, אסצעים, their Mediators, and Intercessors, Orators, and Negotiators with him. Which Inferiour Gods

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of the Pagans, were supposed by these Hebrews, to be chiefly of Two Kinds, *Angels*, and *Stars* or *Spheres*. The Latter of which the Jews as well as Pagans, concluded to be Animated and Intellectual: For thus *Maimonides* expressly, כל הנוכחים והנולדים כולן בעלי נפש ודעה, *Je-fude Hatis-rab c. 3-5-9.* והכל הם והם חיים ועוסקים ומכריז אה מ' שאמר ויחיד הקולם כל אחד ואחד לפי גדלו ולפי מעלותו שבדיון ומפארים ליוצאים כמו החלמים *The Stars and Spheres are every one of them Animated, and endued with Life, Knowledge and Understanding. And they acknowledge him, who commanded and the World was made, every one of them, according to their degree and excellency praising and honouring him, as the Angels do. And this they would confirm from that place of Scripture, Neb. 9. 6. Thou, even thou art Lord alone, Thou hast made Heaven, the Heaven of Heavens with all their Host, the Earth with all things that are therein, the Seas and all that is therein, and Thou preservest them all; and the Host of Heaven Worshippeth Thee: The Host of Heaven being commonly put for the Stars.*

XXXI. But Lastly, this same thing is plainly confirmed from the *Scriptures* of the *New Testament* also; That the *Gentiles* and *Pagans*, however *Polytheists* and *Idolaters*, were not unacquainted with the knowledge of the *True God*, that is, of the *One only Self-existent* and *Omnipotent Being*, which *Comprehendeth all things under him*: From whence it must needs follow, that their other *Many Gods*, were all of them supposed to have been derived from this *One*, and to be *Dependent* on him.

For First, *St. Paul* in his *Epistle* to the *Romans* tells us, that these *Gentiles* or *Pagans* did τὴν ἀλήθειαν ἐν ἀδικίᾳ κατέχον, *Hold the Truth in Unrighteousness*, or *Unjustly Detain and Imprison the same*. Which is chiefly to be understood, of the *Truth* concerning *God*, as appears from that which follows, and therefore implies the *Pagans* not to have been unfurnished of such a *knowledge of God*, as might and ought to have kept them from all kinds of *Idolatry*; however by their *Default*, it proved ineffectual to that end, as is afterwards declared; ἐκ ἰδεύματος ἢ ἐκτείναν ἐν ἡπνοίᾳ, *They liked not to retain God* v. 18: *in the Agnition*, or *Practical Knowledge* of him. Where there is a distinction to be observed, betwixt γινῶσκis and ἐπιγινῶσκis, the *Knowledge* and the *Agnition* of *God*; the former whereof in this Chapter, is plainly granted to the *Pagans*, though the Latter hehere denied them; because they lapsed into *Polytheism* and *Idolatry*; which is the meaning of these words, μετελλάξαν τὴν ἀλήθειαν τῷ θεῷ ἐν τῷ 4ᾷ δᾷ, *They changed the truth of God into a lie*. Again the same Apostle there affirmeth, That the τὸ γινῶσκ τῷ θεῷ φανεῖται ἐν ἔργῳ αὐτοῖς, *That which may be Known of God, was manifest within them, God himself having shewed it unto them*. There is something of *God Unknowable* and *Incomprehensible* by all *Mortals*, butth at of *God* which is *Knowable*, his *Eternal Power* and *Godhead*, with the *Attributes* belonging thereunto, is made manifest to all mankind, from his works. *The invisible things of him, from the Creation of the World, being clearly seen and understood by the things that are made*. Moreover this Apostle expressly declareth, the *Pagans* to have known *God*, in that *Censure* which

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F. 31.

he giveth of them, διὸν γίνετο ἡ δόξα, ἢ ὡς οὐδὲν ἰδόμενον, *that when they knew God they glorified him not as God*; because they fell into *Polytheism and Idolatry*. Though the Apostle here instanceth only in the Latter of those Two, their changing the Glory of the Incorruptible God, into an Image made like to Corruptible man and to birds and beasts and creeping things. The reason whereof is, because this *Idolatry of the Pagans*, properly so called, that is, their worshipping of *flocks and fowls*; formed into the likeness of Man or Beast, was generally taken amongst the Jews, for the grossest of all their *Religious Miscarriages*. Thus Philo plainly declareth ὅτι μὴ ἑλπίς καὶ σέβας, καὶ τὴν συμπαντὴν ἕρξαντι καὶ κόσμῳ, καὶ τῇ ἐν αὐτοῖς ἐποικουμένην μέραν ὡς θεῶν πρόκοιτι καὶ διεκρίματα, διαμορτώνει μὴ.

De Decal. p.
753.

(πῶς γὰρ ὁ, τὰς ὑπερκοίτας ἀρχαίους συμνύνοις) ἦσαν ἡ τῇ ἁλλοῦ ἀδυναμία, τῇ φύλῃ καὶ λίθῳ, ἀργυρῶντι καὶ χρυσῶν, ἐν ταῖς ἀπληθείαις ἑλπίας μορφωσάντων, &c. *Whosoever worship the Sun, and Moon, and the whole Heaven, and World, and the chief Parts thereof, as Gods, do unquestionably Err (they honouring the subjects of the Prince) but they are guilty of less iniquity and injustice, than those who form wood and stone, gold and silver, and the like matters, into Statues to worship them, &c.* of which assertion he afterwards gives this account, τὸ γὰρ καὶ μὴ οὐκ ἔστιν ἡ ψυχὴ ἐξελκυσμένη, τὴν αὐτὴν τὴν ζωὴν αἰὲν οὐκ ἀποσπᾶσθαι ὑπόκειται, *because these have cut off the most excellent Fulcrum of the Soul, the persuasion of the Everliving God, by means whereof, like unballasted ships, they are tossed up and down perpetually, nor can be ever able to rest in any safe harbour.* And from hence it came to pass, that the *Polytheism* of the Pagans, their worshipping of *Inferiour Gods* (as Stars and Demons) was vulgarly called also by the Jews and Christians, *Idolatry*, it being so denominated by them ἀσέβεια species. Lastly, the Apostle plainly declares, that the error of the Pagan Superstition universally consisted (not in worshipping *Many Independent Gods and Creators*, but) in *joyning Creature-worship*, as such, some way or other, with the *Worship of the Creator*; ἰσοτάσσαν καὶ ἰσάροσαν τῇ κτίσει θεῷ ἢ ἡλικίᾳ, which words are either to be thus rendered; *They [religiously] worshipped the Creature Besides the Creator*, that Preposition being often used in this sense, as for example, in this of *Aristotle*, where he affirmeth concerning *Plato*, that he did τὸ ἐν ἑ, τὰς ἀρετὰς θεῷ τὰ πρῶτα ποιεῖν, (not make *Numbers* to be the *Things* themselves, as the *Pythagoreans* had done, but) *Unity and Numbers* to be *Besides the things*; or τὰς ἀρετὰς θεῷ τὰ αἰσθητά, *Numbers* to exist by themselves, *Besides the Sensibles*. He by *Numbers* meaning, as *Aristotle* himself there expounds it, τὰ ἰδέα, the *Ideas* contained in the *First Intellect* (which was *Plato's Second Divine Hypostasis*) as also by τὸ ἐν, ὁ πῶς ἑδίδου παρ' ἑαυτοῦ τὸ πᾶν ἓν, that *Ipsium Unum, or Unity* which gives being to those *Ideas*, is understood *Plato's First Divine Hypostasis*. Or else the Words ought to be translated thus; *And worshipped the Creature Above or More than the Creator*, that Preposition ὑπὲρ, being sometimes used *Comparatively*, so as to signify *Excess*, as for example in *Luke* 13. 2. *Think you that these Galileans were ἀμαρτωλοὶ ὑπὲρ πάντας τὰς Γαλιλαίας, Sinners beyond all the Galileans?* And ver. 4. *Think you, that these eighteen upon whom the Tower of Siloam fell, were ὑπερβαλόντες πᾶντας debtors above all the men that dwell in Jerusalem.* According

F. 35.

Mus L. 1. c. 6.

10

to either of which interpretations, it is supposed, that the Pagans did worship the *True God*, the *Creator* of the whole World; though they worshipped the *Creature* also, *Besides him*, or (perhaps in some sense) *Above him* and *More than him* also. But as for that other Interpretation, of *ἡ ἀγνωστὰ*, which *Beza* chose rather to follow; that *they worshipped the Creature, the Creator being wholly Possessed by*, this is no true Literal Version, but only a Gloss or Commentary upon the words, made according to a certain preconceived and extravagant opinion, that the Pagans did not at all worship the Supreme God or *Creator*, but universally transfer all their worship upon the *Creature* only. But in what sense the Pagans might be said to worship the *Creatures*, *Above* or *Beyond* or *More than* the *Creator* (because it is not possible that the *Creature*, as a *Creature*, should be worshipped with more Internal and Mental Honour, than the *Creator* thereof, look'd upon as such) we leave others to enquire. Whether or no, because when Religious Worship, which properly and only belongeth to the *Creator*, and not at all to the *Creature*, is transferred from the *Creator* upon the *Creature*, according to a Scripture-Interpretation and Account, such may be said to worship the *Creature more than the Creator*? Or whether because some of these Pagans, might more frequently address their Devotions to their Inferiour Gods (as Stars, Demons and Hero's) as thinking the Supreme God; either *Above their Worship*, or *Incomprehensible*, or *Inaccessible* by them? Or lastly, Whether because the *Image* and *Statue-worshippers* among the Pagans (whom the Apostle there principally regards) did direct all their External Devotion to *Sensible Objects*, and *Creaturely Forms*? However it cannot be thought, that the Apostle here taxes the Pagans, merely for worshipping *Creatures Above the Creator*, as if they had not at all offended, had they worshipped them only in an Equality with him; but doubtless their sin was, that they gave any *Religious Worship* at all to the *Creature*; though in way of *Aggravation* of their crime, it be said, that they also worshipped the *Creature more than the Creator*. Thus we see plainly, that the Pagan *Superstition* and *Idolatry* (according to the True Scripture-notion of it) consisted not in Worshipping of *Many Creators*, but in Worshipping the *Creatures* together with the *Creator*.

Besides this we have in the Acts of the Apostles an Oration, which St. Paul made at Athens in the Arcopagitic Court, beginning after this manner; *To men of Athens, I perceive that ye are every way more than ordinarily Religious*; for the word *Ἀνδρισταίους* seems to be taken there in a good sense, it being not only more likely that St. Paul would in the beginning of his Oration thus *capture benevolentiam*, conciliate their benevolence, with some commendation of them, but also very unlikely that he would call their worshipping of the *True God* by the name of *Superstition*, for so it followeth; *For as I passed by and beheld your sacred things* (or monuments) *I found an Altar with this Inscription, ἄγνωσθ θεῶν, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.* It is true that both *Philostratus* and *Pausanias* write, that there were at Athens, *ἄγνωστοι θεῶν βῆματα, Altars of Unknown Gods*: but their meaning in this might well be, not that there were Altars Dedicated

Dedicated to Unknown Gods Plurally, but that there were several Altars, which had this Singular Inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. And that there was at least One such, besides this Scripture-record, is evident from that Dialogue in *Lucian's Works*, entituled *Philopatriæ*, where *Critias* useth this form of Oath, Νῦν δ' Ἀγνώστου ἐν Ἀθῆναις, No, by the Unknown God at Athens: and *Triclæon* in the clofe of that Dialogue speaketh thus, ἡμεῖς δ' ὁ ἄθῆναιος Ἀγνώστου ἐφελκυστῆς, καὶ προσκυνοῦμεν αὐτὸν, χεῖρας εἰς ὀρεγὸν ἐκτετακότες, τὰτα δὲ χεῖρας σπέρου, ὡς χαλὰς ἐκτετακότες, &c. But we having found out that Unknown God at Athens, and worshipped him, with hands stretched up to Heaven, will give thanks to him, as having been thought worthy to be made subject to this power. Which passages, as they do unquestionably refer to that Athenian Inscription either upon One or more Altars, so does the latter of them plainly imply, that this Unknown God of the Athenians, was the Supreme Governour of the World. And so it follows in St. Paul's Oration, ὃν οὐ γινώσκουσιν ἀσέβηται, τῶν ἐν οὐρανῷ γένεσθαι ὑμῶν, Whom therefore you ignorantly worship (under this name of the Unknown God) Him declare I unto you, the God that made the World, and all things in it, the Lord of Heaven and Earth. From which place we may upon firm Scripture-Authority conclude these Two Things; First, that by the Unknown God of the Athenians, was meant the Only True God, He who made the World and all things in it; who in all probability was therefore styled by them, Ἀγνώστου θεός, the Unknown God, because he is not only Invisible but also Incomprehensible by mortals; of whom *Josephus* against *Appion* writeth thus, That he is δυνάμει μόνον ἡμῶν γινώσκμεθα, ὁπότε δ' ἡ ἑαυτοῦ οὐσίας ἀγνοῦμεν, knowable to us only by the Effects of his Power, but as to his own Essence, Unknowable or Incomprehensible. But when in *Dion Cassius* the God of the Jews is said to be ἀφανὲς καὶ ἀσέβης, not only Invisible but also Ineffable, and when he is called in *Lucan* *Incertus Deus*, an Uncertain God, the reason hereof seems to have been, not only because there was no Image of him, but also because he was not vulgarly then known by any Proper Name, the Tetragrammaton being religiously forbore amongst the Jews in common use, that it might not be profaned. And what some learned men have here mentioned upon this occasion, of the Pagans sometimes sacrificing περὶ κοινῆς θεῶν, to the Proper and Convenient God, without signifying any name, seems to be nothing to this purpose; that proceeding only from a Superstitious Fear of these Pagans (supposing several Gods to preside over several things) lest they should be mistaken, in not applying to the Right and Proper God, in such certain cases, and so their Devotion prove unsuccessful and ineffectual. But that this Unknown God is here said to be ignorantly worshipped by the Athenians, is to be understood chiefly in regard of their Polytheism and Idolatry. The second thing that may be concluded from hence is this, That these Athenian Pagans, did ἀσέβηται, Religiously Worship the True God, the Lord of Heaven and Earth; and so we have a Scripture-confutation also, of that opinion, That the Pagans did not at all worship the Supreme God.

Lastly, St. Paul citing this passage out of *Aratus* a Heathen Poet, concerning *Zeus* or *Jupiter*,

τῷ γὰρ ἐν γένει ἰσμεν ———

For we are his Off-spring, and interpreting the same of the True God, in whom we live and move and have our being, we have also here a plain Scripture-acknowledgment that by the Zeus of the Greekish Pagans, was sometimes at least meant the True God. And indeed that Aratus his Zeus was neither a man born in Crete nor in Areadia, but the Maker and Supreme Governour of the whole World, is evident both from the antecedent and the subsequent Verses. For Aratus his Phenomena begin thus,

Ἐκ διὸς ἀρχόμεθα ———

(which in Tully's Version is *Ab Jove Morsuum Primordia*) and then follows a Description of this Zeus or Jupiter:

————— τὸ δὲ πῶς ἐνὶ οὐρανῷ ἰσμεν
 Ἀρσένιον· μετὰ δὲ διὸς πᾶσι μὲν ἀγαθὰ,
 πᾶσι δ' ἀνθρώπων ἀγαθὰ μετὰ δὲ θάλασσα,
 καὶ λιμένας· πάντα δὲ διὸς ἀρχόμεθα πάντες.
 τῷ γὰρ ἐν γένει ἰσμεν.

To this sence; Him of whom we men are never silent; and of whom all things are full, he permeating and pervading all and being every where, and whose benefices we all constantly make use of and enjoy: For we also are his Off-spring. Where Theon the Scholiast writeth thus, πάντα περὶ πᾶσι ὁ θεὸς τῷ γὰρ ἄσπερον διεξίταται μέλλων θάνατον, τὸ πάντες τὰς δὲ δημιουργοῦν, διὰ, ὡς πρώτους προσφωνοῦν: διὰ τὴν δὲ δημιουργοῦν ἀρετήν. Aratus being about to declare the Position of the Stars, doth in the first place, very decorously and becomingly invoke Zeus, the Father and Maker of them. For by Zeus is here to be understood the Demiurgus of the World, or as he afterwards expresseth it, ὁ τὰ πάντα δημιουργήσας θεός, the God who made all things. Notwithstanding which, we must confess, that this Scholiast there adds, that some of these Passages of the Poet, and even that cited by the Apostle, τῷ γὰρ γένος ἰσμεν, may be understood also in another sence, of the θεὸς φυσικός, the Physical Jupiter, that is, the Air: but without the least shadow of Probability, and for no other reason, as we conceive, but only to shew his Philological Skill. However this is set down by him, in the First place as the genuine and proper sence of those words, πρὸς τὸ πατρὸς ἀνδρῶν τι δεῖναι· εἰ γὰρ αὐτὸς τὰ πάντα δημιουργοῦσι πρὸς τὸ τίς ἀνθρώπων βασιλεὺς, αὐτῷ ἂν κληθέντι, αὐτὸς πατὴρ, καὶ δημιουργὸς ὅσων ἀνθρώπων· This agreeth with that Title of Jupiter, when he is called the Father of Gods and men: For if he made Us, and all these other things for our use, we may well be called His, and also style him our Father and Maker. And that this was the only Notion, which the Poet here had of Zeus or Jupiter, appears undeniably also from the following words, as

————— ὁ δ' ἄνθρωπος ἀνθρώπων
 εἰς τὰ σημεῖα ———

C c c

Who

Who as a kind and benign Father, sheweth lucky Signs to men; which to understand of the Air were very absurd. And

Αὐτὸς γὰρ τὰς ἐν οὐρανῷ εἰσέλεξεν,
 ἄσπερα διακρίνας· ἐσθλὰ δ' αὖτ' εἰς αἰαντὴν
 ἄσπερος·

For he also hath fastened the Signs in Heaven, distinguishing Constellations, and having appointed Stars to rise and set at several times of the year.

And from this,

τῷ μὲν ἀπὸ πρῶτον τι καὶ ὑστέρῳ ἰδύσκουσιν,

Therefore is He always Propitiated and Placated both First and Last. Upon which the Scholiast thus; ἵσως δ' ἀπὸ τῆς σπονδῆς, τὰς τῶν μὲν πρῶτῳ σπονδῇ εἶναι θῶν τῇ Ὀλυμπίῳ, δ' ἄλλῃς δ' ἱεράν, καὶ τῇ τῶν δευτέρῳ σπονδῇ. This perhaps refers to the Libations, in that the First of them was for the Heavenly Gods, the Second for Heroes, and the Last for Jupiter the Saviour. From whence it plainly appears also, that the Pagans in their Sacrifices (or Religious Rites) did not forget Jupiter the Saviour, that is, the Supreme God.

Lastly, from his concluding thus;

καί τις πάντες μέγα θαύμα, μέγ' ἀνθρώπωντι ὄνειαρ·

Where the Supreme God is saluted, as the Great Wonder of the World, and Interest of Mankind.

Wherefore it is evident from *Aratus* his Context, that by his *Zeus* or *Jupiter* was really meant the Supreme God, the Maker of the whole World; which being plainly confirmed also by St. Paul and the Scripture, ought to be a matter out of Controversie amongst us. Neither is it reasonable to think that *Aratus* was Singular in this, but that he spake according to the Received Theology of the Greeks, and that not only amongst Philosophers & Learned Men, but even the Vulgar also. Nor do we think that that Prayer of the ancient Athenians, commended by *M. Antoninus*, for its simplicity, is to be understood otherwise, Ὡς οὖν ὃν εἰς φίλε Ζεῦ, καὶ τῶν ἀγέρους τῆς Ἀθηνῶν καὶ τῆς πεδῆς, Rain Rain O Good (or Gracious) Jupiter, upon the fields and pastures of the Athenians: upon which the Emperor thus, ἢ εἴπως ἀπλῶς καὶ ἰδιόθως, We should either not pray at all (to God) or else thus plainly and freely. And since the Latins had the very same Notion of *Jupiter*, that the Greeks had of *Zeus*, it cannot be denied but that they commonly by their *Jupiter* also, understood the One Supreme God, the Lord of Heaven and Earth. We know nothing that can be objected against this, from the Scripture, unless it should be that Passage of St. Paul, In the Wisdom of God the World by Wisdom knew not God. But the meaning thereof is no other than this

this, that the Generality of the World before Christianity, by their Natural Light, and Contemplation of the works of God, did not attain to such a *Practical Knowledge* of God, as might both free them from *Idolatry*, and Effectually bring them to a *Holy Life*.

XXXII. But in order to a fuller explication of this *Pagan Theology*, and giving yet a more Satisfactory Account concerning it, there are *Three Heads* requisite to be insisted on; *First*, That the Intelligent Pagans worshipped the *One Supreme God under Many Several Names*; *Secondly*, That besides this *One God*, they worshipped also *Many Gods*, that were indeed *Inferiour Deities* Subordinate to Him; *Thirdly*, That they worshipped both the *Supreme and Inferiour Gods*, in *Images, Statues and Symbols*, sometimes Abusively called also *Gods*. We begin with the First, *That the Supreme God amongst the Pagans, was Polynymous, and worshipped under several Personal Names*, according to several *Notions and Considerations* of him, from his *Several Attributes and Powers, Manifestations, and Effects* in the World.

It hath been already observed out of *Origen*, that not only the *Egyptians*, but also the *Syrians, Persians, Indians*, and other *Barbarian Pagans*, had beside their *Vulgar Theology*, another more *Arcane and Recondit* one, amongst their *Priests and Learned Men*: and that the same was true concerning the *Greeks and Latins* also, is unquestionably evident from that account, that hath been given by us of their *Philosophick Theology*. Where by the *Vulgar Theology* of the Pagans, we understand, not only their *Mythical or Fabulous*, but also their *Political or Civil Theology*, it being truly affirmed by *St. Austin* concerning both these, *Et Civilis & Fabulosa, ambæ Fabulose sunt, ambæque Civiles*, *That both the Fabulous Theology of the Pagans was in part their Civil, and their Civil was Fabulous*. And by their more *Arcane or Recondit Theology*, is doubtless meant, that which they conceived to be the *Natural and True Theology*. Which Distinction of the *Natural and True Theology*, from the *Civil and Political*, as it was acknowledged by all the *Ancient Greek Philosophers*, but most expressly by *Antisthenes, Plato, Aristotle* and the *Stoicks*; so was it owned and much insisted upon, both by *Scævola* that famous *Roman Pontifex*, and by *Varro* that most *Learned Antiquary*; they both agreeing, that the *Civil Theology* then established by the *Roman Laws*, was only the *Theology of the Vulgar*, but not the *True*; and that there was another *Theology* besides it, called by them *Natural*, which was the *Theology of Wise men and of Truth*: nevertheless granting a necessity that in *Cities and Commonwealths*, besides this *Natural and True Theology* (which the generality of the *Vulgar* were incapable of) there should be another *Civil or Political Theology*, accommodate to their apprehensions; which *Civil Theology* differ'd from the *Natural*, only by a certain mixture of *Fabulosity* in it, and was therefore look'd upon by them, as a *Middle*, betwixt the *Natural*, and the *Fabulous or Poetical Theology*.

Wherefore it was acknowledged, that the *Vulgar Theology of the Pagans*, that is, not only their *Fabulous*, but even their *Civil* also,

was oftentimes very discrepant from the *Natural and True Theology*; though the wise men amongst them in all ages, endeavoured as much as they could, to dissemble and disguise this Difference, and by Allegorizing the *Poetick Fables* of the Gods, to bring that *Theology*, into some seeming conformity with the *Natural*, and *Philosophick*; but what they could not in this way reconcile, was by them excused upon the necessity of the *Vulgar*.

The *Fabulous Theology* both of the Greeks and Romans, did not only *Generate* all the other Gods, but even *Jupiter* himself also, their *Supreme Numen*, it assigning him both a *Father* and a *Mother*, a *Grandfather* and a *Grandmother*. And though the Romans did not plainly adopt this into their *Civil Theology*, yet are they taxed by *St. Austin* for suffering the Statue of *Jupiter's Nurse* to be kept in the *Capitol* for a Religious Monument. And however this differ'd nothing at all from that *Atheistick Doctrine* of *Eucnemus*, That all the Gods were really no other than *Mortal Men*, yet was it tolerated and connived at by the Politicians, in way of necessary compliance with the *Vulgar*, it being so extremely difficult for them to conceive any such Living Being or Animal, as was never *Made* and *without Beginning*. Inasmuch that *Callimachus*, who would by no means admit of *Jupiter's Sepulchre*, either in *Creté* or *Arcadia* (but look'd upon it as a foul reproach to him) for this reason,

ἄνδρ' ἔστιν ὁ Ζεὺς, ὃν οὐδὲν αἶψα,

Because he was Immortal and could never die; did notwithstanding himself, attribute a *Temporary Generation* and *Nativity* to him, as *O-rigen* and others observe. Nevertheless, the generality of the more *Civilized* and *Intelligent Pagans*, and even of the *Poets* themselves, did all this while constantly retain thus much of the *Natural and True Theology* amongst them, That *Jupiter was the Father both of Gods and Men*, that is, the *Maker of the whole World*, and consequently himself *Without Father, Eternal and Unmade*, according to that *Peleadean Oracle* before cited out of *Pausanias*,

Ζεὺς ὦν, Ζεὺς ὄν, Ζεὺς ἄσπετος.

Again the *Civil Theology* of the Pagans as well as the *Poetick*, had not only many *Phantastick Gods* in it, but also an appearance of a *Plurality of Independent Deities*; it making *Several Supreme* in their several Territories and Functions; as *One* to be the *Chief Ruler* over the *Heavens*, Another over the *Air and Winds*, Another over the *Sea*, and Another over the *Earth and Hell*: *One* to be the *Giver of Corn*, Another of *Wine*; *One* the *God of Learning*, Another the *God of Pleasure*, and Another the *God of War*; and so for all other things. But the *Natural Theology* of the Pagans (so called) though it did admit a *Plurality of Gods* too, in a certain sense, that is, of *Inferiour Deities Subordinate* to *One Supreme*, yet did it neither allow of more *Independent Deities* than *One*, nor own any Gods at all but such as were *Natural*, that is, such as had a *Real Existence in Nature and the World* without,

without, and not in mens Opinion Only. And these Varro concluded, to be no other than First, the *Soul of the World*, and then the *Animated Parts thereof Superior to men*; that is, *One Supreme Universal Numen Unmade*, and other *Particular Generated Gods*, such as *Stars, Demons, and Heroes*. Wherefore all the other Gods besides these, are frequently exploded by Pagan Writers (as Cicero and others) under the Name of *Dii Poetici*, that is, *not Philosophical, but Poetical Gods*, and *Dii Commentitii* and *Fictitii*, that is, *not Natural and Real, but Feigned and Fictitious Gods*. They in the mean time giving this Account of them, that they were indeed nothing else, but so Many Several Names and Notions of *One Supreme Numen*, according to his *Several Powers* and *various Manifestations*, and Effects in the World; it being thought fit by the wisdom of the ancient Pagan Theologers, that all those manifold Glories and Perfections of the Deity, should not be huddled up, and as it were crouded and crumpled together, in one General Acknowledgment of an *Invisible Being* the Maker of the world, but that they should be distinctly and severally displayed, and each of them adored singly and apart; and this too (for the greater *Pomp* and *Solemnity*) under so many *Personal Names*. Which perhaps the Unskilful and forthil Vulgar, might sometimes mistake, not only for so many *Real* and *Substantial*, but also *Independent* and *Self-existent Deities*.

We have before proved that one and the same Supreme God, in the *Egyptian Theology*, had several Proper and Personal Names given him, according to several *Notions* of him, and his several *Powers* and *Effects*; *Jamblichus* himself in that passage already cited, plainly as-
De Myst. A. 82.
 firming thus much, ὁ δημιουργικὸς νόος, &c. τὴν ἀφανῆ τῆς καρυμμένης λό-
 γου δύναμιν εἰς φῶς ἄγει, ἡμῶν κτ' τὴν τῆς Αἰγυπτίου γλώσσαν λέγειναι, συ-
 ντάμεν ὁ ἀπόδιδως ἑαυτῶν καὶ τοχικῶς οὕτως, ἀγαθὸν ὃ πρῶτον ἐστὶν ὅσους κα-
 κήλους, καὶ ἄλλας δὲ ἄλλας δυνάμεις τι καὶ ἀεργείας, ἐκπονημας ἔχει. *The De-*
miurgical Mind and President of Truth, as with wisdom it proceedeth to
Generation, and bringeth forth the hidden Power of the occult Reasons,
contained within it self, into light, is called in the Egyptian Language
Ammon; as it Artificially effects all things with Truth, Phtha; as it is
productive of Good things Otkris; besides which it hath also several other
Names, according to its other Powers and Energies: as namely Neith (or
according to Proclus his Copy Νυῖθας, Neithas) the Tutelar God of the
City Sais, from whence probably the Greek Ἀθωνᾶς was derived, (the
Athenians being said to have been at first a Colony of these Saites)
and this is The Divine Wisdom diffusing it self thorough all. So likewise
Serapis, which though some would have to be the Sun, is by others
plainly described as an Universal Numen. As Aristides in his Eighth O-
ration upon this God Serapis; οἱ μὲν δὲ τὸ μέγας πρὸς Αἰγυπτίῳ πόλει
πλήτει, καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἀνακαλῶν διακρίνεται ὅτι ἐκ πολλῶν πρὸς δύναμιν περὶ ἧς
ἀλλὰ διὰ πάντων ἵκει, καὶ τὸ πᾶν πεπληρωκεν. τῆς γὰρ ἀλλαν δυνάμεως αἱ
δυνάμεις τι καὶ τιμαὶ, καὶ ἄλλας ἐπ' ἅμα αἰθροῦσι καλῶσι, ὃ ὅσον κορυφαῖον
πάντων, ἀρχὴ καὶ πέρας ἔχει. They who inhabit the great City in Egypt,
call upon this God Serapis, as their only Jupiter, he being supposed to be
no way defective in Power, but to pervade all things, and to Fill the
whole Universe. And whereas the Powers and Honours of the other Gods
are

are divided, and some of them are invoked for one thing, and some for another; This is look'd upon by them as the Coryphaeus of all the Gods, who contains the beginning and end of all things, and who is able to supply all wants. Cneph is also described by Eusebius as that Divine Intellect, which was the Demiurgus of the world and which giveth life to all things, as he is by Plutarch said to be ἀφύμνιος or Unmade, so that this was also another Egyptian Name of God; as likewise was Emeph and Eïdon in Jamblichus; though these may be severally distinguished into a Trinity of Divine Hypostases. Lastly, when Isis, which was sometimes called Miltimammea, and made all over full of Breasts, to signify her Feeding all things, thus describes her self in Apuleius, Summa Numinum, Prima Caelitum, Deorum Dearumque facies Uniformis, cujus numen Unicum multiformi specie, ritu vario, nomine multijugo totus veneratur Orbis; as she plainly makes her self to be the Supreme Deity, so doth she intimate, that all the Gods & Goddeses were compendiously contained in Her Alone, and that she (i.e. the Supreme God) was worshipped under several personal Names & with different rites, over the whole Pagan World. Moreover this is particularly noted concerning the Egyptians by Damascius the Philosopher, that, τὸ τοῦτο διέτεκεν ἐς πολλὰς βίας ἰδέμεναι, They multiplied the First Intelligible (or the Supreme Deity) breaking and dividing the same into the Names and Properties of Many Gods. Now the Egyptian Theology, was in a manner, the Pattern of all the rest, but especially of those European Theologies, of the Greeks and Romans.

Who likewise, that they often Made Many Gods of One, is evident from their bestowing so many Proper and Personal Names, upon each of those Inferiour Gods of theirs, The Sun, and The Moon, and The Earth; The First whereof, Usually called Apollo, had therefore this Epithet of πολλὰ ὀνόματα commonly given to him, the God with many Names. Which many Proper Names of his, Macrobius insisteth upon in his Saturnalia, though probably making more of them than indeed they were. And the Moon was not only so called, but also Diana, and Lucina, and Hecate, and otherwise, inasmuch that this Goddess also, hath been stiled Polyonymous as well as her brother the Sun. And Lastly, the Earth besides those Honorary Titles, of Bona Dea, and Magna Dea, and Mater Deorum, The Good Goddeß, and the Great Goddeß, and the Mother of the Gods, was multiplied by them into those Many Goddeses, of Vesta, and Rhea, and Cybele, and Ceres, and Proserpina, and Ops, &c. And for this cause was she thus described by Æschylus,

καὶ γαῖα πολλὰς ὀνομασίας μερόσιν ἴσα.

Et Tellus Multorum Nominum Facies Una.

Now if these Inferiour Gods of the Pagans, had each of them so many Personal Names bestowed upon them, much more might the Supreme God be Polyonymous amongst them; and so indeed he was commonly stiled, as that learned Grammarian Hesychius intimates, upon that word

word πολύνυμος, τῷ μονάδῃ ἑπὶ τὸς ὀνόματι, ἢ ἐπὶ τῷ Ἀπόλλωνι, they called the *Monad thus*, and it was also the *Epithet of Apollo*; where by the *Monad* according to the *Pythagorick Language*, is meant the *Supreme Deity*, which was thus stiled by the Pagans πολύνυμος, the *Being, that hath many Names*. And accordingly *Cleanthes* thus be-
ginneeth that forecited Hymn of his to him,

Κύδης' ἀθανάτων, πολύνυμος;

Thou most Glorious of all the Immortal Gods, who art called by Many Names. And *Zeno* his Master, in *Laertius* expressly declareth, ὁ οὖν πολλὰς περιγραφὰς ἑνολογεῖται καὶ τοῖς δυνάμει· God is called by many several Names, according to his several Powers and Vertues, whose Instances shall be afterwards taken notice of. Thus also the Writer *De Mundo*; Εἷς ὁ θεὸς πολύνυμος ἔστι, καὶ ἀπομαζόμενος τοῖς πᾶσι ἀπὸ αὐτοῦ νοούμενος God though be but one, is *Polynymous*, and variously denominated from his several attributes, and the effects produced by him. *Quæcunque voles* (saith *Seneca*) *illi Propria Nomina aptabis, vim aliquam Ef-*
fectumque Cælestium rerum continentia. Tot Appellationes ejus possunt esse De Ben. L. i. i.
quot Munera: You may give God whatsoever Proper Names you please, so they signifie some force and effect of Heavenly things: He may have as many Names, as he hath Manifestations, Offices and Gifts. *Macrobius* also, from the Authority of *Virgil*, thus determines, *Unius Dei Effectus Varios pro Variis censendos esse* (or as *Vossius* corrects it, *Censeri*) *Numinibus*, That the *Various Effects of One God*, were taken for *Several Gods*; that is; Expressed by *Several Personal Names*; as he there affirmeth, the *Divers Vertues of the Sun*, to have given Names to *Divers Gods*; because they gave occasion for the Sun, to be called by *Several Proper and Personal Names*. We shall conclude with that of *Maximus Madaurensis*, before cited out of *St. Austin*, *Hujus Virtutes per Mundanum Opus diffusæ, Nos multis vocabulis invocamus, quoniam Nomen ejus Proprium ignoramus. Ita fit ut dum ejus quasi quedam Membra carptim variis supplicationibus prosequimur, Totum colere profecto videamur*. The *Vertues of this One Supreme God*, diffused throughout the whole World, we (*Pagans*) invoke under *Many Several Names*, because we are ignorant what his Proper Name is. Wherefore we thus worshipping his *Several Divided Members*, must needs be judged to worship him *Whole*, we leaving out nothing of him. With which *Lastet* words seemeth to agree, that of the Poet, wherein *Jupiter* thus be-
speaks the other Gods,

*Calicòle, Mca Membra, Dei; quos Nostra Potestas,
Officiis divisa facit.*

Where it is plainly intimated, that the *Many Pagan Gods* were but the *Several Divided Members* of the *One Supreme Deity*, whether, because according to the *Stoical Sence*, the *Real and Natural Gods*, were all but *Parts of the Mundane Soul*; or else because all those other *Phantastick Gods*, were nothing but *Several Personal Names*, given to the *Several Powers, Vertues, and Offices* of the *One Supreme*.

Now

Now the Several Names of God, which the Writer *De Mundo* instanceth in, to prove him *Polyonymous*, are First of all such as these; *κεραυνός* and *Ἀστραπαῖος* The Thunderer and Lightner, *ῥιπτός* The Giver of Rain, *ἐπιδαμνός* The Bestower of Fruits, *πολιεύς* The Keeper of Cities, *μαλίχιος* The Mild and Placable, under which Notion they sacrificed no Animals to him, but only the Fruits of the Earth: together with many other such Epithets, as *τίμιος*, *ζήμιος*, *στεφάνος*, *τετραπύχος*, *κατάρατος*, *παλαμναῖος*, &c. and Lastly he is called *σωτήρ* and *ἐλθεῖντος*, *Saviour* and *Assertour*. Answerably to which, *Jupiter* had Many such Names given him also by the Latins, as *Victor*, *Invidus*, *Opitulus*, *Stator*; the True meaning of which last, (according to *Seneca*) was not that which the Historians pretend, *quod post Votum susceptum, acies Romanorum fugientium stetit*, because once after Vows and Prayers offered to him, the Flying Army of the Romans was made to stand; *Sed quod stant beneficio ejus Omnia*, but because all things by means of him Stand Firm and are Established. For which same reason he was called also by them (as *St. Austin* informs us) *Centupeda*, as it were, standing Firm upon an Hundred Feet, and *Tigillus* the Beam, Prop, and Supporter of the World. He was stiled also by the Latins (amongst other Titles) *Almus* and *Ruminus*, i.e. He that Nourisheth all things, as it were, with his Breasts. Again that Writer *De Mundo* addeth another sort of Names, which God was called by; as *ἀνάγκη* *Necessity*, because he is an *Immovable Essence*, though *Cicero* gives another reason for that appellation, *Interdum Deum Necessitatem appellant, quia nihil aliter esse possit, atque ab eo constitutum sit*; they sometimes call God *Necessity*, because nothing can be otherwise than as it is by Him appointed. Likewise *εἰμαρμένη*, because all things are by him Connected together, and proceed from him unhinderably. *παραμύχης*, because all things in the world are determined, and nothing left Infinite (or Undetermined) *μοίρας*, because, he makes an apt Division and Distribution of all things. *ἀδελφεύς*, because his Power is such, as that none can possibly avoid or escape him. Lastly, that Ingenious Fable, (as he calls it) of the Three Fatal Sisters, *Clotho*, *Lachesis*, and *Atropos*, according to him, meant nothing but God neither, ταῦτα ἢ πάντα ἐξιν ἐκ ἀνός τι, πᾶσι ὁ θεός, καὶ οὗτος ὁ ἡμεῖς πλάττει φησὶ, All this is nothing else but God, as the noble and generous *Plato* also intimates, when he affirmeth, God to contain the Beginning, and Middle, and End of all things. And both *Cicero* and *Seneca* tell us, that amongst the Latins God was not only called *Fatum*, but also *Natura*, and *Fortuna*. *Quid aliud est Natura (saith Seneca) quam Deus, & Divina Ratio, toti Mundo & Partibus ejus inserta? What is Nature else, but God and the Divine Reason, inserted into the Whole World and all its Several Parts?* He adding, that God and Nature, were no more Two Different Things, than *Annæus* and *Seneca*. And *Nonnunquam Deum (saith Cicero) Fortunam appellant, quod efficiat multa improvisa, & nec opinata nobis, propter obscuritatem ignoracionemque Causarum*; They sometimes call God also by the name of *Fortune*, because he surpriseth us in many Events, and bringeth to pass things unexpected to us, by reason of the Obscurity of Causes and our Ignorance. *Seneca* thus concludes concerning these, and the like Names of God, *Omnia ejusdem Dei Nomina sunt,*

Roma Man-
ma.

Acad. Q. L. 1.

sunt, varientis sua Potestate; These are all Names of one and the same God, Various Manifesting his Power.

But concerning most of these forementioned Names of God, and such as are like to them, it was rightly observed by St. *Austin*, that they ^{C.D.L.7.c.11} had no such Appearance or shew of *Many Distinct Gods*; *Hec omnia cognomina imposuerunt Uni Deo, propter Causas Potestatesque Diversas, non tamen propter tot res, etiam tot Deos cum esse coegerunt, &c.* Though the Pagans imposed all these Several Names upon One God, in respect of his Several Powers, yet did they not therefore, seem to make so many Gods of them: as if *Victor* were one God, and *Inviſtus* another God, and *Centupeda* another God, and *Tigillus* another, and *Ruminus* another, &c. Wherefore there are other Names of God used amongst the Pagans, which have a greater shew and appearance of so many Distinct Deities, not only because they are Proper Names, but also because each of them had their peculiar Temples appropriated to them, and their different Rites of Worship. Now these are of Two sorts; First, such as signify the Deity according to its *Universal*, and *All-comprehending Nature*; and Secondly, such as denote the same only according to certain *Particular Powers, Manifestations, and Effects* of it in the world. Of the First kind there are not a few. For First of all, *PAN*, as the very word plainly implies him to be a *Universal Numen*, and as he was supposed to be the *Harmonies* of the whole World, or to play upon the World as a *Musical Instrument*, according to that of *Orpheus* (or *Onomacritus*)

Ἀρμονίῳ κόσμου κρείκων φιλοπαίγμονι μοῦσῃ,

So have we before shewed, that by him the Arcadians and Greeks meant, not the *Corporeal World Inanimate*, nor yet as endued with a *Sensless Nature* only, but as proceeding from an *Intellectual Principle* or *Divine Spirit*, which framed it Harmoniously; and as being still kept in tune, acted and governed by the same. Which therefore is said to be the *Universal Pastor and Shepherd of all Mankind*, and of the whole world, according to that other Orphick passage,

Ἦσαν ἀνθρώπων γένος, καὶ ἀτέρμονα γαῖαν,

Pascens Humanum Genus, ac sine limite Terram.

And this *Pan*, *Socrates* in *Plato's Phædrus*, plainly invokes as the *Supreme Numen*. *Pan* therefore, is the *One only God* (for there cannot possibly be more than *One Pan*, more than *One All* or *Universe*) who conjoined *All* within himself, displayed *All* from himself, framing the World Harmoniously, and who is in a manner *All Things*.

Again *JANUS*, whom the Romans First invoked in all their Sacrifices and Prayers, and who was never omitted, whatsoever God they sacrificed unto; was unquestionably many times taken for a *Universal Numen*, as in this of *Martial*,

— Nitidique Sator pulcherrime mundi.

D d d

And

Faß. 1. And again in this of Ovid.

*Quicquid ubique videt, Cælum, Mare, Nubila, Terras,
Omnia sunt nostra clausa patentque Manni:
Me pene est Unum vasti Custodia Mundi.*

From which passages it also appears, that *Janus* was not the meer Senseless and Inanimate Matter of the World, but a Principle Presiding over it. And without doubt all the *Beginnings* of things, were therefore referred to this *Janus*, because he was accounted the *most Ancient God, and the Beginning of all things*. *St. Austin* concluding him to be the same with *Jupiter*, therefore quarrels with the Pagans (that is, with their *Civil Theology*) for thus making

C.D.L. 7. c. 10 *Two Gods of One. Cum ergo Janus Mundus sit, & Jupiter Mundus sit, Unusque sit Mundus, quare Duo Dii sunt Janus & Jupiter? Quare seorsum habent Tempia, seorsum Aras, diversa Sacra, dissimilia Simulacra? Si propterea, quia alia vis est Primordiorum, alia Causarum, ex illa Jani ex ista Jovis nomen accepit: nunquid si unus homo in diversis rebus duas habeat potestates, aut duas artes, (quia singularum diversa Vis est) ideo Duo dicuntur Artifices? &c. Since therefore Janus is the World, and Jupiter is the World, and there is but one World, how can Janus and Jupiter be Two Gods? Why have they their Temples apart, their Altars apart, distinct Sacred things, and Statues of different forms? If because the force of Beginnings is One, and the force of Causes Another, he is therefore called Janus from the former, and Jupiter from the latter; I ask whether or no, if one Man have two Several arts about different things, he therefore be to be called Two Artificers? Or is there any more reason, why one and the same God, having Two Powers, one over the Beginnings of things, and another over the Causes, should therefore be accounted Two Gods? Where when Jupiter and Janus are both said to be the World, this is to be understood properly not of the Matter but the Soul or Mind of the World, as*

C.D.L. 4. c. 11 *St. Austin himself elsewhere declares, Sit Jupiter Corporis hujus Mundi Animus, qui universam istam Molem, ex quatuor Elementis constructam atque compactam, implet & movet; Let Jupiter be the Mind of this corporeal World, which both filleth and moveth that whole bulk, compounded and made up of the four Elements. Nevertheless as the Soul and Body both together are called the Man, so was the whole Animated World, by the Pagans called God. Now the forementioned Argumentation of St. Austin, though it be good against the Pagans Civil Theology, yet their other Arcane and Natural Theology was unconcerned in it, that plainly acknowledging all to be but One God, which for certain Reasons was worshipped under Several Names, and with Different Rites. Wherefore Janus and Jupiter, being really but Different Names for One and the same Supreme God, that conjecture of Salmasius seems very probable, that the Romans derived their Janus from *ζῶνς*, the *Ætolian Jupiter*.*

GENTUS was also another of the *Twenty Select Roman Gods* & that this was likewise a *Universal Nomen*, containing the whole Nature of things,

things, appears from this of *Fellus*, *Genium appellabant Deum, qui vim obtineret rerum omnium generandarum*, They called that God, who hath the Power of begetting or producing all things, *Genius*. And *St. Austin* also plainly declareth *Genius* to be the same with *Jupiter*, that is, to be but another Name for the One Supreme God. *Cum alio loco [Varro] dicit, Genium esse Uniuscujusque animum rationalem; talem autem Mundi Animum Deum esse, ad hoc idem utique revocat, ut tanquam Universalis Genius, ipse Mundi Animus esse credatur. Hic est igitur quem appellant Jovem.* And afterwards, *Restat ut cum Singulariter & Excellenter dicant Deum Genium, quem dicunt Mundi Animum; ac per hoc Jovem.* When *Varro* elsewhere calleth the Rational Mind of every one, a *Genius*, and affirmeth such a Mind of the whole World, to be God; he plainly implieth, that God is the Universal Genius of the world, and that *Genius* and *Jupiter* are the same. And though *Genius* be sometime used for the Mind of every man, yet the God *Genius*, spoken of by way of Excellency, can be no other than the Mind of the whole world, or *Jupiter*.

Again that *CHRONOS* or *SATURN* was no Particular Deity, but the Universal Numen of the whole World, is plainly affirmed by *Dionysius* of *Halicarnassus*; where commending the Fertility of *Italy*, he writeth thus, *ὅθεν ἂν θαυμάσει τις παλαιεσι γὰρ ὑπολαβὴν τῷ Κρόνῳ τὴν χώραν ταύτην, ἣ μὲν δοίμενα τῷτι, εὐμελές ἵναί τις δίδαιμονίαν δοίη, καὶ πληρωτὴν ἀνθρώπων· ἔτι κρόνον αὐτὸν δὲ καλεῖν, ὡς Ἑλλήνες ἀξίωσαν, ἔτι Κρόνον ὡς Ῥωμαῖοι, πάντων ὃ ἐξελικόμενα τῷ τῷ κλέμεν φασί, ὅτι πρην ἂν τις ὀνομάσει.* *Wherefore it is no wonder, if the Ancients thought this Country to be sacred to Saturn, they supposing this God to be the Giver and Perfector of all happiness to men; whether we ought to call him Chronos as the Greeks will have it, or Cronos as the Romans; he being either way such a God, as comprehends the Whole Nature of the world.* But the word *Saturn* was *Hetrurian* (which Language was Originally Oriental) and being derived from *τρο*, signifies *Hidden*, so that by *Saturn* was meant, that Hidden Principle of the Universe which containeth all things, and he was therefore called by the Romans *Deus Latinus*, The Hidden God; as the wife of *Saturn* in the Pontifical Books is *Latia Saturni*, and the Land it self (which in the *Hetrurian* Language was *Saturnia*) is in the Roman *Latium*; from whence the Inhabitants were called *Latins*, which is as much as to say, the Worshipers of the Hidden God. Moreover that *Saturn* could not be inferior to *Jupiter*, according to the *Fabulous Theology*, is plain from hence, because he is therein said to have been his Father. But then the Question will be, how *Saturn* and *Jupiter* could be both of them One and the same Universal Numen? To which there are several Answers. For first *Plato* who propounds this Difficulty in his *Cratylus*, solves it thus; That by *Jupiter* here is to be understood the Soul of the World, which according to his Theology was derived from a Perfect and Eternal Mind or Intellect (which *Chronos* is interpreted to be) as *Chronos* also depended upon *Uranus* or *Cælus*, the Supreme Heavenly God, or First Original Deity. So that *Plato* here finds his Trinity of Divine Hypotheses, Archæal and Universal, *Τάχαδ᾽, Νῦν, and Ψυχᾶ*, in *Uranus*, *Chronos*, and *Zeus*; or *Cælus*, *Saturn* and *Jupiter*. Others conceive, that according to the

plainer and more simple sense of *Hesiod's Theogonia*, that *Jupiter* who together with *Neptune* and *Pluto*, is said to have been the *Son of Saturn*, was not the *Supreme Deity*, nor the *Soul of the World* neither, but only the *Æther*, as *Neptune* was the *Sea* and *Pluto* the *Earth*. All which are said to have been begotten by *Chronos* or *Saturn* the *Son of Uranus*, that is as much as to say, by the *Hidden Vertue of the Supreme Heavenly God*. But the *Writer De Mundo*, though making *Jupiter* to be the *First and Supreme God*, yet (taking *Chronos* to signify *Immensity of Duration or Eternity*) will have *Jupiter* to be the *Son of Chronos* in this sense, because he doth δίνειν ἐξ αἰῶνος ἀτελευτος ἐς ἑτέρον αἰῶνα, continue from one Eternity to another; so that *Chronos* and *Zeus* are to him in a manner one and the same thing. But we are apt to think that no Ingentious and learned Pagan, who well understood the *Natural Theology*, would deny, but that the best Answer of all to this difficulty is this, That there is no Coherent Sense, to be made, of all things, in the *Fabulous Theology*. *St. Austin*, from *Varro*, gives us this account of *Saturn*, that it is he who produceth from himself continually the *Hidden Seeds and Forms* of things, and reduceth or receiveth them again into himself; which some think to have been the true meaning of that Fable concerning *Saturn* his devouring his Male-children; because the *Forms* of these Corporeal things, are perpetually destroyed, whilst the *Material Parts* (signified by the *Females*) still remain. However it is plain, that this was but another *Pagan Adumbration of the Deity*, that being also sometimes thus defined by them, as *St. Austin* likewise enforms us, *Sinus quidam Naturæ in seipso continens omnia*, A certain Bosom, or Deep Hollow, and Inward Recess of Nature, which containeth within it self all things. And *St. Austin* himself concludes, that according to this *Varronian* Notion of *Saturn* likewise, the Pagans *Jupiter* and *Saturn*, were really but one and the same *Numen*, *De Civ. D. L. 7. c. 13*. Wherefore we may with good reason affirm, that *Saturn* was another Name for the *Supreme God* amongst the Pagans, it signifying that *Secret and Hidden Power*, which comprehends, pervades and supports the whole World; and which produces the *Seeds* or *Seminal Principles* and *Forms* of all things from it self. As also *Uranus* or *Cælus*, was plainly yet another Name for the same *Supreme Deity*; (or the *First Divine Hypostasis*) comprehending the whole.

C. D. L. 4
c. 11.

Thus in that
old Inscription,
ΘΥΓΙ-
ΜΟΥ ΜΑΝ-
ΤΕΛΟΣ
ΑΕ-
ΤΕΡΝΟΣ
ΖΕΥΣ

In the next place, though it be true that *Minerva* be sometimes taken for a *Particular God*, or for God according to a *Particular Manifestation* of him in the *Æther* (as shall be shewed afterwards) yet was it often taken also, for the *Supreme God* according to his most *General Notion*, or as a *Universal Numen diffusing himself through all things*. Thus hath it been already proved, that *Neith* or *Neithos*, was the same amongst the Egyptians, that *Athena* amongst the Greeks, and *Minerva* amongst the Latins; which that it was a *Universal Numen*, appears from that Egyptian Inscription in the Temple of this God, *I am all that Was, Is, and Shall be*. And accordingly *Athenagoras* tells us, that *Athena* of the Greeks was, ἡ ἀφ' ὧν διὰ πάντων δι-
νέει, Wisdom passing and diffusing it self thorough all things: as in the Book of Wisdom it is called, ἡ πάντων πύξιν, the *Artifex* of all things, and is said δύνει καὶ ἔρχεται διὰ πάντων, to pass and move through all things,

things. Wherefore this *Athena* or *Minerva* of the Pagans was either the First Supreme Deity a Perfect and Infinite Mind the Original of all things; or else a Second Divine Hypostasis, the immediate Offspring and First-begotten of that First Original Deity. Thus *Aristides* in his Oration upon *Minerva*, πάντα μὲν ἐν τῇ καλλιᾷ θεῇ Ἀθηνᾷ τῇ καὶ ἐν Ἀθηνᾷ κατὰ τὴν ἑαυτῆς πύξιν, τῇ πάντων δημιουργῷ καὶ βασιλείᾳ πᾶσι θεῇ μόνῃ δι' αὐτῆς· ἡ δὲ ἔχει ἐν ὅτῳ ὁμοίᾳ πᾶσι αὐτῇ· ἀλλ' ἀναχωρήσας αὐτὴς εἰς αὐτὴν, αὐτὴς ἐν αὐτῇ ἡγεῖται καὶ τίθει τὴν θεῶν· ὥς ἐν μόνῃ βασιλείᾳ γινώσκει τῷ πᾶσι, ἐν ἑαυτῇ καὶ ὁμοιογενῶς ἑαυτῇ τῷ ἡδὺν ἡγεμονίᾳ, &c. Wherefore all the most excellent things are in *Minerva*, and from her: but to speak briefly of her, this is the only immediate offspring of the only Maker and King of all things; For he had none of equal honour with himself, upon whom he should beget her, and therefore retiring into himself, he beget her and brought her forth from himself: So that this is the only Genuine Offspring of the First Father of all. And again, Πίνδαρος δ' ὡς φησὶ, θεῶν καὶ χερσὶ τῇ πᾶσι αὐτῇ καθεύδοντι, τὰς αὐτῆς τοῖς θεοῖς ἀποδίδου· ἀγγέλοις μὲν γὰρ θεῇ μῆτιν ἡθεύει, τῇ ἀγγέλοις ἄλλοις ἕκαστοι δὲ πᾶσι θεῇ τῇ ταχέως ἐκταλμαίνουσα αὐτὴ ἐκταλμαίνουσα τοῖς θεοῖς, καὶ ἐκταλμαίνουσα ὅταν καὶ τὰς θεῶν· Pindar also affirmeth concerning *Minerva*, that sitting at the Right hand of her Father, she there receiveth commands from him to be delivered to the Gods. For she is greater than the Angels, and commandeth them some one thing and some another, accordingly as she had first received of her Father: she performing the Office of an Interpreter and Introducer to the Gods when it is needful. Where we may observe by the way, that this word Angel, came to be in use amongst the Pagans from Jews and Christians, about this very age that *Aristides* lived in after which we meet with it frequently in the writings of their Philosophers. Lastly *Aristides* thus concludeth his Oration upon *Minerva*, χερσὶ δὲ δεξιᾷ τῇ αὐτῇ ἐστὶν ἡγεμονία τῇ αὐτῇ ἐκ ταύτης, ὅτι ἡ ἀμαρτανία· ὥς τίς οὐ μικρολογεῖται τοῖς αὐτῇ μετὰ πρᾶξι αὐτῇ; διηγήσασθαι, ὅτι ἐστὶ τὰ τῇ αὐτῇ ἐστὶν κοινὰ τῇ αὐτῇ, εἶναι φησὶ καὶ ὁ Ἀθηνᾷς. He that from what we have said will determine, that *Minerva* is as it were the Power and Vertue of Jupiter himself will not err. Wherefore (not to enumerate all the minute things belonging to *Minerva*) we conclude thus concerning her, that all the works of Jupiter, are common with Jupiter and *Minerva*. Wherefore that conceit which the Learned and Indultrious *Fossius*, somewhere seems to favour; that the Pagans Universal Numen was no other than a Senseless Nature, or *Spermatick Reason* of the whole World, undirected by any Higher Intellectual Principle, (which is indeed no better than downright Atheism) is plainly confuted from hence, they making *Wisdom* and *Understanding*, under these Names of *Neith*, *Athena*, and *Minerva*, to be either, the Absolutely Supreme Deity, or the First-begotten Offspring of it.

To *Minerva* may be added *Apollo*, who though often taken for the *Sensible Sun Animated*, and so an Inferiour Deity, yet was not always understood in this sense, nor indeed then when he was reckoned amongst the Twelve *Consentes*, because the Sun was afterwards added to them, in the number of the Eight *Selected Gods*. And that he was sometimes taken for the Supreme Universal Numen, the Maker

P. 412.

Maker of the Sun and of the whole World, is plainly testified by *Plutarch* (who is a competent Witness in this Case, he being a Priest of this *Apollo*) writing thus concerning him in his Defect of Oracles, ἔστι ἡλίου θεὸς ἐπὶ κλέμει ἡλίου, καὶ πατρὸς, καὶ ἐπάνω τῷ ὅσῃ πατρὸς, καὶ εἰκὸς ἀπαρεῖν φανῆς τὸς ἰὺν ἀνθρώπους, οὗς αὐτὸς θεὸς ἡλίου καὶ τρεφῆς, καὶ τῷ ἑναι καὶ φροῦν. *Whether Apollo be the Sun, or whether he be the Lord and Father of the Sun, placed far above all sensible and Corporeal Nature, it is not likely, that he should now deny his Oracles to them to whom himself is the cause of Generation and Nourishment, of Life and understanding.*

P 108.

Moreover *Urania Aphrodite*, the Heavenly *Venus* or *Love*, was a Universal Numen also, or another name of God, according to his more General Notion, as Comprehending the whole World, it being the same with that *Æros*, or *Love*, which *Orpheus*, and others in *Aristotle*, made to be the First Original of all things. For it is certain that the Ancients distinguished concerning a double *Venus* and *Love*. Thus *Pausanias* in *Plato's Symposium*, ἡ μὲν γὰρ πρὸς οὐρανὸν καὶ ἀμύταρ οὐρανὸς θυγάτηρ, ἡν δὲ καὶ ἑρμῆς ἐπινομήσας μὲν ἡ ἡ παρθεῖα, διὸς καὶ δαίτης, ἡν δὲ πύθοντος καλεῖσθαι ἀναγκαστοὶ δὲ καὶ ἑρμῆα, τὴν μὲν ἰντὴρ σπινθερῶν, πύθοντος ἐρῶς καλεῖσθαι, τὴν δὲ ἑρμῆον. *There are Two Venuses and therefore two Loves, one the Older and without a Mother, the Daughter of Uranus or Heaven, which we call the Heavenly Venus; another younger, begotten from Jupiter and Dione, which we call the Vulgar Venus; and accordingly are there of necessity two Loves, answering to these two Venuses, the one Vulgar, and the other Heavenly. The Elder of these two Venuses, is in Plato said to be Seniou to Jupiter and Saturn, and by Orpheus the Oldest of all things, and πρῶτον καλεῖται, The First Begetter of all. Upon which account perhaps, it was called by the Oriental Nations, *Aylitta* or *Genitrix*, as being the Fruitful Mother of all. This was also the same with *Plato's* τὴν πρῶτον καλῶν, The First Fair; the Cause of all Pulebritude, Order and Harmony in the World. And *Pausanias* the Writer tells us, that there were Temples severally erected to each of these *Venuses* or *Loves*, the Heavenly and the Vulgar, and that *Urania* or the Heavenly *Venus* was so called, ἐπὶ ἰσῶι καὶ διαφῶ καὶ ἀπυλαμῆν πῶς σωματικῶν, because the Love belonging to it, was pure and free from all corporeal affections; which as it is in men, is but a participation of that First *Urania*, or Heavenly *Venus* and *Love*, God himself. And thus is *Venus* described by *Euripides* in *Stobæus*, as the Supreme Numen.*

Thus also by *Æscylus*,
ἡ γὰρ ἡμῶν ἀνθρώπων
ἐρῶς, θεῶν
ἐρῶς, ἡ γὰρ
ἀνθρώπων, &c.
—ὅτι δὲ ἰσῶ
παραμῆν,
ὡς καὶ ἐν 97. 3. 45

Τῷ Ἀφροδίτῳ ἔχ' ὅρε' ὅση θεός;
'Αλλ' ἔδ' ἂν ἔπος, ἔδ' μετρήσας ἂν,
'Ὅση πέφυκα καὶ ἰφ' ἔσσι διέρχεται.
Αὐτὴ τρέφει σὲ καὶ ἐμὲ καὶ πάντας βεβήτας, &c.

To this fence, *Do you not see how great a God this Venus is? but you are never able to declare her Greatness, nor to measure the vast extent thereof. For this is she which nourisheth both Thee and Me and all Mortals, and which makes Heaven and Earth friendly to conspire together, &c.* But by *Ovid* this is more fully expressed, in his *Fastorum*,

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*Ille quidem Totum dignissima temperat Orbem,
 Ille tenet Nullo regna minora Deo:
 Juraque dat Cælo, Terra, Natalibus Undis;
 Perque suos initus continet omne genus.
 Ille Deos omnes (longum enumerare) creavit;
 Ille Satis Causas Arboribusque dedit.*

Lib. 4.

Where all the Gods are said to have been Created or Made by *Venus*, that is, by the *One Supreme Deity*. But lastly this is best of all performed by *Severinus Boetius*, a Christian Philosopher and Poet, in this manner;

De Consol. l. 3.
Met. 3.

*Quod Mundus Stabili fide
 Concordes variat vices,
 Quod Pugnantis Semina
 Fœdus perpetuum tenent;
 Quod Phœbus roseum diem
 Curru prœvehit aureo; &c.
 Hanc rerum seriem ligat,
 Terræ ac pelagus regens,
 Et Cælo imperitans, AMOR. &c.
 Hic si serena remisit,
 Quicquid nunc amat invicem,
 Bellum continuo geret.
 Hic sancto populos quoque
 Junctos sœdere continet;
 Hic & Conjugii Sacrum
 Castis necit Amoribus, &c.
 O felix hominum genus,
 Si vestros animos AMOR,
 Quo Cælum regitur, regat.*

And to this *Urania* or *Heavenly Venus* was near of kin also, that *Third Venus* in *Pansanias* called *Ἀνσεφία*, and by the Latins *Venus Verticordia*, pure and chaste Love, expulsive of all unclean Lusts, to which the Romans consecrated a Statue, as *Valerius M.* tells us (L. 8. c. 15.) *quo facilius Virginum, Mulierumque mentes à libidine ad pudicitiam converterentur*, To this end, that the minds of the Female Sex might then the better be converted from Lust and Wantonness to Chastity. We conclude therefore that *Urania* or the *Heavenly Venus*, was sometimes amongst the Pagans a Name for the *Supreme Deity*, as that which is the most Amiable Being, and First Pulchritude, the most Benign and Fertile Begetter of all things, and the constant Harmonizer of the whole World.

Again though *Vulcan*, according to the most common and Vulgar Notion of him, be to be reckoned amongst the Particular Gods, yet had he also another more Universal Consideration. For *Zeno* in *Lactantius* tells us, that the Supreme God was called *Ἡφαίστος* or *Vulcan*, *ὅτι τὸ εἰς τὸ τεχνικὸν τοῦ διακόσιον τῆ ἡγεμονικῆς αὐτοῦ*, as his He-

gemonick

gemonick *asked in the Artificial Fire.* Now *Plutarch* and *Stobæus* testify that the *Stoicks* did not only call *Nature*, but also the *Supreme Deity* it self, (the *Architect* of the whole world) *τιχικὸν πῦρ*, *An Artificial Fire*, they conceiving him to be *Corporeal*. And *Jamblichus* making *Phtha* to be the same *Supreme God* amongst the *Egyptians*, with *Osiris*, and *Hammon*; or rather more properly, all of them alike the *Soul of the World*, tells us that *Hephestus* in the *Greekish Theology*, was the same with this *Egyptian Phtha*; *Ἐμμενὶς εἰς Ἡφαιστὸν μεταλαμβάνον τὴν αὐτὴν τυχικὴν μένιν προσβάλλοις*, *Amongst the Greeks Hephestus (or Vulcan) answers to the Egyptian Phtha.* Wherefore as the *Egyptians* by *Phtha*, so the *Greeks* by *Hephestus*, sometimes understood no other than the *Supreme God* or at least the *Soul of the World*, as *Artificially framing all things*.

*De Ben L. 4.
c. 3.*

Furthermore *Seneca* gives us yet other Names of the *Supreme Deity*, according to the Sence of the *Stoicks*, *Hunc & Liberum Patrem, & Herculem, ac Mercurium nostri putant, Liberum Patrem, quia Omnium Parens, &c. Herculem, quod vis ejus invicta sit; Mercurium, quia Ratio patescitur illum est, Numerusque, & Ordo, & Scientia: Furthermore our Philosophers take this Author of all things, to be Liber Pater, Hercules, and Mercury; The First because he is the Parent of all things, &c. the Second, because his Force and Power is unconquerable, &c. And the Third, because there is in and from him Reason, Number, Order and Knowledge.* And now we see already, that the *Supreme God*, was sufficiently *Polyonymous* amongst the *Pagans*; and that all these, *Jupiter, Pan, Janus, Genius, Saturn, Cælus, Minerva, Apollo, Apbrodite, Urania, Hephestus, Liber Pater, Hercules and Mercury*, were not so many Really Distinct and Substantial Gods. much less *Self-existent* and *Independent* Ones; but only several Names, of that *One Supreme Universal and All-comprehending Numen*, according to several Notions and Considerations of him.

But besides these, there were many other *Pagan Gods* called by *Servius*, *Dii Speciales, Special or Particular Gods*, which cannot be thought neither, to have been so many Really Distinct and Substantial Beings (that is *Natural Gods*) much less *Self-existent* and *Independent*, but only so many several Names or Notions of *One and the same Supreme Deity*, according to certain *Particular Powers* and *Manifestations* of it. It is true, that some late *Christian Writers* against the *Polytheism* and *Idolatry* of the *Pagans*, have charged them with at least a *Trinity of Independent Gods*, viz. *Jupiter, Neptune and Pluto*, as sharing the Government of the whole world amongst these Three, and consequently acknowledging no *One Universal Numen*. Notwithstanding which it is certain, that according to the more *Arcane Doctrine* and *Cabala* of the *Pagans*, concerning the *Natural True Theology*, these Three considered as Distinct and Independent Gods, were accounted but *Dii Poetici & Commentitii, Poetical and Fictitious Gods*, and they were really esteemed no other, than so many *Several Names and Notions of One and the same Supreme Numen*, as acting variously in those several parts of the world, the *Heaven*, the *Sea*, the *Earth* and *Hell*. For First as to *Pluto* and *Hades*, called
also

also by the Latins *Orcus*, and *Dis*, (which latter word seems to have been a contraction of *Dives* to answer the Greek *Pluto*) as *Balbus* in *Cicero* attributes to him, *Omnem Vim terrenam*, all Terrene Power, so others commonly assign him the *Regimen of Separate Souls after Death*. Now it is certain, that according to this latter Notion, it was by *Plato* understood no otherwise than, as a Name for that Part of the *Divine Providence* which exercises it self upon the Souls of men after Death. This *Ficinus* observed upon *Plato's Cratylus*, *Animadvertit præ cæteris, Plutoem hic significare præcipuè, Providentiam Divinam ad Separatas Animas pertinentem*: You are to take notice, that by *Pluto* is here meant, that part of *Divine Providence*, which belongeth to *Separate Souls*. For this is that which according to *Plato*, binds and detains pure Souls, in that separate state, with the best Vinculum of all, which is not Necessity, but Love and Desire, they being ravished and charmed as it were with those pure delights which they there enjoy. And thus is he also to be understood, in his Book of Laws, writing Lib. 8. in this manner concerning *Pluto*, *Kal è duχρεστων πολυμυκῶς ἀνδρώπων ἢ τυφῶν δειν, ἀλλὰ τιμωρίῳ, ὡς εἶλα ἀεί τοι ἥλ' ἀνθρώπων ἧστ' ἔστι· κορωνία γὰρ ψυχῇ καὶ σώματι, διαλύσας ἅτε ἔσθ' ἢ κρεῖττον, ὡς ἐγώ φαλω ἀνθρώποις ἢ λίγον·* Neither ought Military men to be troubled or offended at this God *Pluto*, but highly to honour him, as who always is the most beneficent to mankind. For I affirm with the greatest seriousness, that the Union of the Soul with this Terrestrial body, is never better than the Dissolution or Separation of them. *Pluto* therefore according to *Plato*, is nothing else but a Name for that Part of the *Divine Providence*, that is exercised upon the Souls of men, in their Separation from these Earthly Bodies. And upon this account was *Pluto* stiled by *Virgil*, *The Stygian Jupiter*. But by others *Pluto* together with *Ceres*, is taken in a larger sence, for the Manifestation of the Deity in this whole Terrestrial Globe, and thus is the Writer *De Mundo* to be understood, when he tells us, that God or *Jupiter* is ἑρμῆς καὶ χθονός, πᾶσις ἐννομεῖται ἐν κόσμῳ καὶ ἐν πύλαις, ἀπὸ πάντων αὐτὸς αἰτιῶν ἐν· both Celestial and Terrestrial, he being denominated from every Nature, soasmuch as he is the cause of all things. *Pluto* therefore is *Ζεὺς χθονός* or *καταχθόνιος*, *The Terrestrial* (also, as well as the *Stygian* and *Subterranean*) *Jupiter*; and that other *Jupiter* which is distinguished both from *Pluto* and *Neptune*, is properly *Ζεὺς ἑρμῆς*, *The Heavenly Jupiter*; God as manifesting himself in the Heavens. Hence is it that *Zeus* and *Hades*, *Jupiter* and *Pluto*, are made to be one and the same thing, in that Passage which *Julian* cites as an Oracle of *Apollon*, but others impute to *Orpheus*,

Εἷς Ζεὺς, ὅς 'Αΐδης;

Jupiter and Pluto are one and the same God. As also that *Enripides* in a place before produced, is so doubtful whether he should call the Supreme God (ἢ πάντων μανθόντα, that takes care of all things here below) *Zeus* or *Hades*.

———Ζεύς, ἔτ' Ἀΐδης
Ὀνομαζόμενος σέργειος ·

Whether thou badst rather, be called Jupiter or Pluto.

Lastly *Hermesianax* the Colophonian Poet, in those Verses of his (afterward to be set down) makes *Pluto* in the first place, (with many other Pagan Gods) to be really one and the same with *Jupiter*.

That *Neptune* was also another Name of the Supreme God, from another Particular Consideration of him, namely as acting in the Seas; (at least according to the *Arcane* and *Natural Theology* of the Pagans) is plainly declared by divers of the Ancients. *Xenocrates* in *Stobæus*, and *Zeno* in *Laertius*, affirm, that *God* as acting in the water is called *Posidone* or *Neptune*. To the same purpose *Salvius* in

De N. D. L. 2. *Cicero*. *Sed tamen his Fabulis spectis ac repudiatis, Deus Pertinens per Naturam cujusque rei, per Terras Ceres, per Maria Neptunus, alit per alia, poterunt intelligi, qui qualesque sint, &c.* But these Poetick Fables concerning the Gods, being despised and rejected; it is easy for us to understand, how *God* passing through the Nature of every thing; may be called by several Names, as through the Earth *Ceres* (and *Pluto*) through the Seas *Neptune*; and through other parts of the world by other Names: so that all these Titular Gods were but so many several

De N. D. L. 3. Denominations of one Supreme Deity. And *Cotta* afterward thus represents the fence of this Theology, *Neptunum esse dictis Animum cum Intelligentiâ per mare pergentem, idem de Cerere: Tunc* meaning is, *Neptune is a Mind which with understanding passes through the Sea, and the like of Ceres through the Earth.* Lastly, to name no more, *Maximus* *Tyrinus* agreeth also herewith, καλεῖ τὸ μὲν Δία τὸν πρεσβύτατον, &c. τὸ δὲ Ποσειδῶν, πάλαι διὰ τῆς καὶ θαλάσσης ἰόν, εἰκονομοῖ αὐτῷ τὴν γῆν καὶ τὴν ἀρμεσίαν. You are to call *Jupiter* that Princely Mind, which all things follow and obey, &c. and *Neptune* that Spirit, which passing through the Earth and Sea, causes their State and Harmony.

Differt. 30.

Lastly, that these Three *Jupiter*, *Neptune* and *Pluto*, were not Three really Distinct Substantial Beings, but only so many Several Names for One Supreme God (according to the *True* and *Natural Theology* of the Pagans) is thus plainly declared by *Pausanias* in his *Corinthiacks*; he there expounding the meaning of a certain Statue of *Jupiter*, with Three Eyes (called the Country-*Jupiter* of the Trojans) in this manner: τρεῖς δὲ ὀφθαλμοὺς ἔχειν ἐπὶ τῷ θεῷ ὃν τις τιμαλροῖο αὐτῷ· Δία γὰρ αὐτὸν ἑρμηνεύει βασιλεύον, ὅτις μὲν λόγος κοινὸς πάντων ὄντων ἀνθρώπων. Ὁ δὲ ἄρχων φαίνεται ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, ἔτιν ἐπὶ τῆς Ὀμίρου Δία ὀνομαζόν καὶ τῆτον,

Ζεύς τε καὶ αἰθέριος, καὶ ἐπὶ τῇ γῇ πρεσβυτάτος.

Αἰχίλλος δὲ ὁ εὐφροσύματος καλεῖ Δία καὶ τὸν αὐτὸν θαλάσσης· τρεῖς δὲ ὀφθαλμοὺς ἔχειν ἐπὶ τῷ θεῷ ὃν ὀνομάσας, ὅτι αὐτὸς τρεῖς ταῖς λιγυμύλαις λήγειν ἀρχοῦσα τὴν αὐτὴν τῆτον θεόν· Now that this Statue of *Jupiter* was made to have

have Three Eyes, one may guess this to have been the reason: Because first the common speech of all men makes Jupiter to reign in the Heaven. Again be that is said to rule under the Earth, is in a certain Verse of Homer called Zeus or Jupiter too, namely the Infernal or Subterraneous Jupiter together with Proserpina. And lastly Æschylus the son of Euphoriion, calls that God who is the King of the Sea also Jupiter. Wherefore this Statuary made Jupiter with Three Eyes, to signifie, that it is One and the same God, which ruleth in those Three several Parts of the World, the Heaven, the Sea, and the Earth. Whether Pausanias were in the right or no, as to his Conjecture concerning this Three-eyed Statue of Jupiter, it is evident that himself and other ancient Pagans acknowledged Jupiter, Neptune and Pluto, to be but Three several Names and Partial Considerations of one and the same God, who ruleth over the Whole World. And since both Proserpina and Ceres were really the same with Pluto, and Salacia with Neptune: we may well conclude, that all these, Jupiter, Neptune, Salacia, Pluto, Proserpina and Ceres, though several Poetical and Political Gods, yet were really taken but for One and the same Natural and Philosophical God.

Moreover as Neptune was a Name for God, as manifesting himself in the Sea and ruling over it, so was Juno another Name of God as acting in the Air. This is expressly affirmed both by Xenocrates in Stobæus; and Zeno in Laertius. And St. Austin propounding this *Quære*, why Juno was joynt to Jupiter as his wife and Sister, makes the Pagans answer thus to it, *Quia Jovem (inquunt) in Æthere accipimus, in Aere Junonem: because we call God in the Æther Jupiter, in the Air Juno.* But the reason why Juno was Feminine and a Goddess, is thus given by Cicero, *Effeminavit autem eum, Junonique tribuerunt, quod nihil est aere mollius, they effeminated the Air and attributed it to Juno a Goddess, because nothing is softer than it.* Minerva was also sometimes taken for a Special or Particular God, and then was it nothing else (as Zeno informs us) but a Name for the Supreme God as *Passing through the (Higher) Æther*: Which gave occasion to St. Austin thus to object against the Pagan Theology, *Si ætheri partem Superiorem Minerva tenere dicitur, & hac occasione fingere Poetas, quod de Jovis Capite nata sit, cur non ergo ipsa potius Deorum Regina deputatur, quod sit Jovis Superior?* If Minerva be said, to possess the Highest part of the Æther, and the Poets therefore to have feigned her to have been begotten from Jupiter's head, why is not she rather called the *Queen of the Gods*, since she is superiour to Jupiter? Furthermore as the Supreme God was called Neptune in the Sea, and Juno in the Air, so by the same reason may we conclude, that he was called Vulcan in the Fire. Lastly, as the Sun and Moon, were themselves sometimes worshipped by the Pagans for Inferiour Deities, they being supposed to be Animated with Particular Souls of their own; so was the Supreme God also, worshipped in them both (as well as in the other Parts of the world) and that under those names of Apollo, and Diana. Thus the Pagans appointing a God to preside over every Part of the world, did thereby but make the Supreme God Polyonymous, all those Gods of theirs, being indeed nothing but several Names of him. Which Theology of the Ancient Pagans, Maximus Tyrius, treating

C.D.L. 4 c. 10.

Differt. 16.
p. 163.

concerning *Homer's Philosophy* (after he had mentioned his Tripartite Empire of the world, shared between *Jupiter, Neptune, and Pluto*) thus declareth, *διεῖς δ' ἂν ἔῃ ἁλλας παρ' ὁμῆρου ἀρχὴς καὶ ἡρώδης παλαιοῦ διωπὼν ὀνομασθάν· ἐν ᾧ μὲν ἀνόντος ἄς μῦθον ἀκούει, ὁ δὲ φιλόσοφος ἄς πραγμάτων· ἐν αὐτῷ καὶ ἀρετῆς ἀρχὴ, ἅλλ' ἄλλωα ἡρώδης, &c.* *You may find also in Homer, other Principles, and the Originals of Several names; which the ignorant hear as Fables, but a Philosopher will understand as Things and Realities. For he assigns a Principle of Virtue and Wisdom, which he calls Minerva; another of Love and Desire, which he calls Venus, another of Artificialness and that is Vulcan, who rules over the Fire. And Apollo also with him presides over Dancings, the Muses over Songs, Mars over War, Æolus over Winds, and Ceres over Fruits. And then does he conclude thus, καὶ ὅτιν μετὰς ὁμῆρου ἄδον, ὅτι διωπὼς ἄπτον, ὅτι ἀρχὴς ἔχον, ἀλλὰ πάντα μετὰ θεῶν ὀνομασθάν, καὶ θεῶν ἡρώδης, καὶ θεῶς πῆχυν· So that no part neither of Nature, nor of the World, is to Homer Godless (or void of a God) none destitute of a Ruler, or without a Superiour Government; but all things full of Divine Names, and of Divine Reason, and of Divine Art. Where his θεῶν ἡρώδης, his Divine Names, are nothing but Several Names of God, as manifesting himself variously in the several Things of Nature, and the Parts of the world, and as presiding over them.*

Wherefore besides those *Special Gods* of the Pagans, already mentioned, that were appointed to preside over several Parts of the world, there are Others, which are but *several Names* of the *Supreme God* neither, as exercising several *Offices and Functions* in the world, and bestowing several *Gifts* upon mankind: as when in giving *Corn and Fruits* he is called *Ceres*, in bestowing *Wine Bacchus*, in mens recovery of their *Health, Æsculapins*, in presiding over *Traffick and Merchandizing, Mercury*, in governing *Military Affairs, Mars*, in ordering the *Winds Æolus*, and the like.

That the more *Philosophick Pagans*, did thus really interpret the *Fables* of the *Gods*, and make their *Many Poetical and Political Gods*, to be all of them but *One and the same Supreme Natural God*, is evident from the testimonies of *Antisthenes, Plato, Xenocrates, Zeno, Cleanthes, and Chrysippus* (who allegorized all the *Fables* of the *Gods* accordingly) and of *Scævola* the *Roman Pontifex*, of *Cicero, Varro, Seneca*, and many others. But that even their *Poets* also, did sometimes venture to broach this *Arcane Theology*, is manifest from those *Fragments* preserved, of *Hermesianax* the *Colophonian* amongst the *Greeks*, and of *Valerius Soranus* amongst the *Latins*; the former thus enumerating the chief *Pagan Gods*, and declaring them to be all but one and the same *Numen*;

Πλάτων, Περσεφόνη, Δημήτρη, Κύπρις, Ἐρώτις,
Τελτωνίς, Νηκεῖς, Τιθύς, καὶ Κυκιοχαίτης,
Ἑμῆς, Σ' Ἡφαιστὸς τε καὶ Τιτίς, Ζεὺς τε καὶ Ἥρῃ,
Ἀφροδίτη, ἡδ' ἑκατέρωθεν Ἀπόλλων, εἰς οὗτος ἐστ'.

Pluto, Persephone, Ceres, & Venus alma & Amores,

Trit-

*Tritones, Nereus, Tethys, Neptuneus & ipse,
Mercurius, Juno, Vulcanus, Jupiter, & Pan,
Diana, & Phœbus Jaculator, sunt Deus Unus.*

The Latter pronouncing Univerſally, that *Jupiter Omnipotens*, is

————— *Deus Unus & Omnes;*

One God, and All Gods. Whether by his *Jupiter* he here meant the *Soul of the World* only, as *Varro* would interpret him agreeably to his own *Hypothesis*, or whether an *Abstract Mind* ſuperiour to it 3 but probably he made this *Jupiter* to be *All Gods*, upon theſe two Accounts 3 Firſt as he was the *Begetter and Creator of all the other Natural Gods*, which were the *Pagans Inferiour Deities* (as the *Stars* and *Dæmons*) Secondly, as that all the other *Poetical and Political Gods*, were Nothing elſe but *ſeveral Names and Notions* of him.

We ſhall add in the laſt place, that *St. Auſtin* making a more Full and Particular Enumeration of the *Pagan Gods*, and mentioning amongſt them many others beſides the *ſelect Roman Gods* 3 (which are not now commonly taken notice of) does pronounce Univerſally of them all, according to the ſence of the more Intelligent Pagans 3 That they were but *One and the ſame Jupiter* 3 *Iſpe in Æthere ſit Ju-* De Crō. D.
piter, Iſpe in Aere Juno, Iſpe in Mari Neptuneus, in Inferioribus etiam L. 4. c. 12.
Mari Iſpe Salacia, in Terra Pluto, in Terra Inferiore Proſerpina, in
Focis Domeſticæ Veſta, in Fabrorum fornace Vulcanus, in Divinanti-
bꝫ Apollo, in Merce Mercurius, in Jano Initiator, in Termino Ter-
minator, Saturnus in Tempore, Mars & Bellona in Bellis, Liber in
Vincis, Ceres in Frumentis, Diana in Sylvis, Minerva in Ingeniis.
Iſpe ſit poſſitorem etiam illa Turba quaſi Plebeiorum Deorum, Iſpe præſit
nomine Liberi Virorum Seminibus, & nomine Liberæ Feminarum.
Iſpe ſit Dieſpiter, qui Partum perducit ad Diem 2 Iſpe ſit Dea
Mena, quam præfecerunt Menſtruis Feminarum, Iſpe Lucina, quæ
à Parturientibus invocatur, Iſpe Opem ferat naſcentibus, excipiens
eos ſinu Terræ, & vocetur Opis. Iſpe in Vagitu os aperiat, & vocetur,
Deus Vagitanus. Iſpe levet de Terræ, & vocetur Dea Levana. Iſpe Cu-
nas tueat & vocetur Dea Cunina. Sit Iſpe in Deabus illis quæ ſata na-
ſcentibus canunt, & vocantur Carmentes. Præſit Fortuitæ, voceturque
Fortuna. In Diva Rumina mammam parvulis immulgeat. In Diva Po-
tina Potionem immiſceat. In Diva Educa Eſcam præbeat. De Pavore
infantium Paventia nuncupetur. De ſpe quæ venit Venilia 3 de Voluptate
Volupia. De Aſſu Agenoria. De ſtimulis quibus ad nimium aſſum
homo impellitur Dea Stimula nominetur. Strenna Dea ſit, ſtrennum fa-
ciendo. Numeria quæ numerare doceat 3 Camæna quæ canere. Iſpe
ſit & Deus Conſus præbendo Conſilia 3 & Dea Sentia ſententias inſpi-
rando. Iſpe Dea Juventas, quæ poſt pretextam excipiat Juvenilis æta-
tis Exordia. Iſpe ſit Fortuna Barbata quæ adultos barba induit quos ho-
norare voluerit. Iſpe in Jugatino Deo Conjuges jungat 3 & cum Virgini
uxori Zona ſolvitur Iſpe invocetur & Dea Virginenſis invocetur. Iſpe ſit
Mutinus, qui eſt apud Græcos Priapus, ſi non pudet. Hæc omnia quæ
dixi, & quæcunque non dixi, hi omnes Dii Deæque ſit Unus Jupiter 3
ſive

sive sint ut quidam volunt omnia ista Partes ejus, sicut eis videtur quibus cum placet esse Mundi Animum; sive Virtutes ejus, quæ sententia velut magnorum multorumque Doctorem est. Let us grant according to the Pagans, that the Supreme God is in the Æther Jupiter; in the Air Juno; in the Sea Neptune; in the lower parts of the Sea Salacia; in the Earth Pluto; in the inferiour parts thereof Proserpina; in the Domestick hearth Vesta; in the Smiths Forges Vulcan; in Divination Apollo; in Traffick and Merchandize Mercury; in the Beginnings of things Janus; in the Ends of them Terminus; in Time Saturn; in Wars Mars and Bellona; in the Vineyards Liber; in the Corn-fields Ceres; in the Woods Diana, and in Wits Minerva. Let him be also that troop of Plebeian Gods; let him preside over the seeds of men under the Name of Liber, and of women under the name of Libera; let him be Diespiter that brings forth the birth to light; let him be the Goddeß Mena, whom they have set over womens monthly courses; let him be Lucina, invoked by women in child-bearing; let him be Opis who aids the new born Infants; let him be Deus Vagitanus that opens their mouths to cry; let him be the Goddeß Levana, which is said to lift them up from the Earth; and the Goddeß Cunina that defends their Cradles; let him be the Carmentes also who foretel the Fates of Infants; let him be Fortune as presiding over Fortuitous events; let him be Diva Rumina which suckles the Infant with the Breasts; Diva Potina which gives it drink; and Diva Educa which affords it meat; let him be called the Goddeß Paventia, from the Fear of Infants; the Goddeß Venilia from Hope; the Goddeß Volupia from Pleasure; the Goddeß Agenoria from Ailing; the Goddeß Stimula from Provoking; the Goddeß Strenua from making Strong and Vigorous; the Goddeß Numeria which teaches to Number; the Goddeß Camæna which teaches to Sing; let him be Deus Confus, as giving Counsel; and Dea Sentia as inspiring men with Sense; let him be the Goddeß Juventas which has the Guardianship of young men; and Fortuna Barbaia which upon some more than others liberally bestoweth beards; let him be Deus Jugatinus which joyns man and wife together; and Dea Virginensis, which is then invoked when the Girdle of the Bride is loosed; Lastly let him be Mutinus also (which is the same with Priapus amongst the Greeks) if you will not be ashamed to say it. Let all these Gods and Goddeses, and many more (which I have not mentioned) be One and the same Jupiter, whether as Parts of him, which is agreeable to their opinion who hold him to be the Soul of the world; or else as his Virtues only, which is the sence of many and great Pagan Doctors.

But that the Authority and Reputation of a late Learned and Industrious Writer, G. I. Vossius may not here stand in our way or be a Prejudice to us, we think it necessary to take notice of one passage of his, in his Book *De Theologia Gentili*, and freely to censure the the same; where treating concerning that Pagan Goddeß Venus, he writeth thus; *Ex Philosophica de Diis Doctrina, Venus est vel Luna (ut vidimus) vel Lucifer, sive Hesperus. Sed ex Poetica ac Civili, supra hos celos statuuntur Mentes quædam à Syderibus diversæ: quomodo Jovem, Apollinem, Junonem. Venerem, ceterosque Deos Consentes, considerare jubet Apuleius. Quippe eos, (inquit) Natura Visibus nostris denegavit: necnon tamen Intellectu eos mirabundi contemplamur,* acie

acientis acius contemplantes. Quid apertius hic quam ab eo, per Deos Consentes intelligi, non Corpora Cælestia vel Subcælestia, sed sublimiorem quandam Naturam, nec nisi animis conspicuam? According to the Philosophick Doctrine concerning the Gods, Venus is either the Moon, or Lucifer, or Hesperus; but according to the Poetick and Civil Theology of the Pagans, there were certain Eternal Minds, placed above the Heavens, distinct from the Stars: accordingly as Apuleius requires us to consider Jupiter and Apollo, Juno and Venus, and all those other Gods called Consentes; by affirming of them, that though Nature had denied them to our sight, yet notwithstanding by the diligent contemplation of our Minds we apprehend and admire them. Where nothing can be more plain (saith Vossius) than that the Dii consentes, were understood by Apuleius neither to be Cæstial nor Subcæstial Bodies, but a certain higher Nature perceptible only to our Minds. Upon which words of his, we shall make these following Remarks; First, that this Learned Writer seems here, as also throughout that whole Book of his, to mistake the Philosophick Theology, of Scævola and Varro, and others, for that which was Physiological only; (which Physiological Theology of the Pagans, will be afterwards declared by us.) For the Philosophick Theology of the Pagans did not Deifie Natural and Sensible Bodies only, but the Principal part thereof was the Asserting of One Supreme and Universal Numen, from whence all their other Gods were derived. Neither was Venus according to this Philosophick and Arcane Theology, taken only for the Moon, or for Lucifer or Hesperus, as this Learned Writer conceives, but as we have already proved for the Supreme Deity also, either according to its Universal Notion, or some Particular Consideration thereof. Wherefore the Philosophick Theology both of Scævola and Varro and others, was called Natural, not as Physiological only, but (in another sense) as Real and True; it being the Theology neither of Cities, nor of Stages or Theaters, but of the World, and of the Wise men in it; Philosophy being that properly which considers the Absolute Truth and Nature of things. Which Philosophick Theology therefore was opposed, both to the Civil and Poetical, as consisting in Opinion and Phancy only. Our Second Remark is, That Vossius does here also seem incongruously, to make both the Civil and Poetical Theology as such, to Philosophize; whereas the First of these was properly nothing but the Law of Cities and Commonwealths, together with Vulgar Opinion and Error; and the Second nothing but Phancy, Fiction and Fabulosity. Poetarum ista sunt, saith Cotta in Cicero; nos autem Philosophi esse volumus, Rerum authores, non Fabularum. Those things belong to Poets, but we would be Philosophers, authors of Things (or Realities) and not of Fables. But the main thing which we take notice of in these words of Vossius is this, that they seem to imply, the Consentes, and Select, and other Civil and Poetical Gods of the Pagans, to have been generally accounted, so many Substantial and Eternal Minds, or Understanding Beings Supercæstial, and Independent; their Jupiter being put only in an equality, with Apollo, Juno, Venus, and the rest. For which since Vossius pretends no other manner of Proof, than only from Apuleius his De Deo Socrate, who was a Platonick Philosopher; we shall here make it evident, that he was not rightly understood by

Vossius

Vossius neither; which yet ought not to be thought any Derogation from this Eminent Philologer (whose Polymathy and Multifarious Learning, is readily acknowledged by us) that he was not so well versed in all the Niceties and Punctilio's of the Platonick School. For though *Apuleius* do in that Book, besides those *Visible Gods*, the Stars; take notice of another kind of *Invisible ones* 3 such as the *Twelve Consentes*, and others, which (he saith) we may *animis con-*
jectare, per varias Utilitates in vita agenda, animadversas in iis re-
bus, quibus eorum singuli curant, make a conjecture of by our minds,
from the various Utilities in humane life, perceived from those things
which each of these take care of 3 yet that he was no Bigot in this Civil
Theology, is manifest from hence, because in that very place, he declares
as well against Superstition, as Irreligious Prophaneness. And his
design there was plainly no other, than to reduce the Civil and Poet-
ical Theologies of the Pagans into some handsome conformity and a-
greement with that Philosophical, Natural, and Real Theology of theirs,
which derived all the Gods from One Supreme and Universal Numen:
but this he endeavours to do, in the Platonick way, himself being
much addicted to that Philosophy. Hos Deos in sublimi aetheris ver-
teice locatos, Plato existimat veros, incorporeales, animales, sine ullo ne-
que sine neque exordio, sed prorsus ac retro æternos, corporis contagio-
ne sua quidem natura remotos, ingento ad summam beatitudinem porre-
cto, &c. Quorum Parentem, qui omnium rerum Dominator atque Author
est, solum ab omnibus nexibus patiendi aliquid getendive, nulla vice
ad alicujus rei mutua obstrictum, cur ego nunc dicere exordiar? cum Plato
cælesti sacundia præditus, frequentissimè prædicet, hunc solum majestatis
incredibili quadam nimietate & ineffabili, non posse penuria sermonis hu-
mani, quavis oratione vel modicè comprehendi. All these Gods placed in
the highest Æther, Plato thinks to be true, incorporeal, Animal, without
beginning or end, Eternal, happy in themselves without any external good.
The Parent of which Gods, who is the Lord and Author of all things, and
who is alone free from all bonds of doing and suffering, why should I go a-
bout in words to describe him? since Plato who was endued with most Hea-
venly eloquence, equal to the Immortal Gods, does often declare, that this
Highest God by reason of his excess of Majesty, is both ineffable and Incom-
prehensible. From which words of Apuleius it is plain, that according
to him, the Twelve Consentes, and all the other Invisible Gods were
derived from One Original Deity, as their Parent and Author. But
then if you demand, what Gods of Plato these should be, to which
Apuleius would here accommodate the Civil and Poetick Gods, con-
tained in those Two Verses of Ennius,

Juno, Vesta, Minerva, Ceres, Diana, Venus, Mars.
Mercurius, Jovis, Neptunus, Vulcanus, Apollo.

and the rest of this kind, that is, all their other Gods (properly so called) *Invisible*? We reply, that these are no other than Plato's *Ideas*, or *First Paradigms* and *Patterns of things*, in the *Archetypal World*, which is the *Divine Intellect* (and his *Second Hypostasis*) derived from his first Original Deity, and most Simple Monad. For as Plato writeth in his *Timæus*, ἀνάγκη τῶνδε τὸ νοητὸν εἶναι καὶ τὸ σῶμα αὐτοῦ εἶναι, *this Sensible*
World

World, must needs be the Image of another Intelligible one. And again afterwards, *τινι τῇ ἑδωκεν αὐτὸς ὡς ὁμοιότητα ὁ ξυνοίας ξυνοίῃσι; τῇ μὲν ἐν Πλάτῳ ἐν Tim. α. μέγας οὐδ' ἡ παρὰ κατὰ μνησὶ κατὰ ξυνοίῃσι μνησὶ. ἀπὸ τοῦ γὰρ ἐκείνους ὅτιν ποτ' ἀντ. 30. ὁμοίῳ κατὰ τὸ εἶναι τὰ ἄλλα ἑκάστῳ ἢ ἐν τῇ γῆνι μέγιστα, πέντεται ὁμοιότητα αὐτῶν εἶναι πᾶσι μνησὶ. τὰ γὰρ δὲ τοῦτο ἑκάστῳ πᾶσι ἐκείνους αὐτοῦ εἶναι ὁμοιότητα ἔχει, κατὰ τὸ εἶναι ὁ κατὰ μνησὶ ὁμοιότητα πᾶσι ἄλλα ξυνοίῃσι σὺν ἐκείνους.* *What Animal was the Pattern, according to whose likeness he that made this great Animal of the World, framed it? certainly we must not think it to be any Particular Animal, since nothing can be perfect which is made according to an imperfect copy. Let us therefore conclude it, to be that Animal, which containeth all other animals in it, as its Parts. For that Intelligible World containeth all Intelligible Animals in it, in the same manner as this Sensible World, doth us and other sensible animals. Wherefore Plato himself here and elsewhere speaking obscurely of this Intelligible World, and the Ideas of it, no wonder if many of his Pagan followers, have absurdly made so many Distinct Animals and Gods of them. Amongst whom Apuleius accordingly would refer all the Civil and Poetick Gods, of the Pagans (I mean their Gods, properly so called, Invisible) to this Intelligible world of Plato's, and those several Ideas of it. Neither was Apuleius singular in this, but others of the Pagan Theologers did the like, as for example Julian in his Book against the Christians; οὗτος ὁμοιοῦσι πλάτων τὰς ἑμφανεῖς, ἡλιον, καὶ σελήνην, ἀστὲρ καὶ ἀστεροὶ, ἀλλ' ὅτι τῇ ἀφανείᾳ εἰναι ἐκείνους. ὁ φανερὸς μνησὶ τοῖς ὁμοιότητις ἡλίου, τὸ τοῦτο καὶ μὴ φανερὸς. καὶ πάλιν, ὁ φανερὸς μνησὶ τοῖς ὁμοιότητις ἡμῶν σελήνης, καὶ τῇ ἀστὲρ ἑκάστῳ, ἐκείνους εἶναι τῇ τοῦτο. ἐκείνους ὅτι τὰς ἀφανεῖς θεοὺς ἑμφανεῖς καὶ σὺν ἀφανεῖς καὶ ἐξ αὐτῶν τὸ δημιουργεῖν ὁμοιότητις, καὶ προελθόντας, ὁ πλάτων οἶδεν ἐκείνους ὅτι φανὲν ὁ δημιουργὸς ὁ παρ' αὐτῶν, θεοὺς, πρὸς τὰς ἀφανεῖς λέγων, θεοὺς, τῇ ἑμφανείᾳ δηλοῦσι. κοινὸς ὁ ἀμφοτέρων δημιουργὸς ὅτις ὅτι, ὁ τεχνισμὸς μνησὶ ἀφανεῖς καὶ γὰρ, καὶ σελήνην, καὶ ἀστὲρ ὁμοιότητις, τὰ τῶν ἀφανεῖς.* *Plato indeed speaketh of certain Visible Gods, the Sun, and the Moon, and the Stars, and the Heaven; but these are all but Images of other Invisible Gods; that Visible Sun which we see with our eyes, is but an Image of another Intelligible and Invisible One: so likewise the Visible Moon, and every one of the Stars, are but the Images and Resemblances of another Moon, and of other Stars Intelligible. Wherefore Plato acknowledged also these other Invisible Gods, inexisting and co-existing with the Demiurgus, from whom they were generated and produced. That Demiurgus in him, thus bespeaking these Invisible and Intelligible Gods; Ye Gods of Gods, that is, Ye Invisible Gods, who are the Gods and Causes of the Visible Gods. There is one common maker therefore of both these kinds of Gods; who first of all made a Heaven, Earth, Sea, & Stars, in the Intelligible World, as the Archetypes & Paradigms of these in the Sensible. Where S. Cyril in his Confutation writeth thus, εἰκοις ὁ δὲ τῶν οὐρανῶν καὶ γῆς καὶ θαλάσσης καὶ ἀστέρων κατὰ ἀνδρῶν, ὡς πᾶσι μὲν ὁμοίῳ, καὶ ὁμοιότητι καὶ αὐτοῖς δημιουργεῖται πλάτων, πᾶσι ὁ καὶ αὐτοῖς εἶναι θεοὺς δημιουργεῖται. πλὴν ὅπως ὅτι ἂν ἔχει καὶ τοῖς αὐτοῖς μαθηταῖς ἀπαρῶν εἶναι φασὶ τὸ εἶναι τὰ δὲ λόγον οἱ αὐτῶν τεχνισμοί. τὰ γὰρ εἶδη χαλεπῶς, φασὶν ὁ ἀρετῆς, πρῶτος ματὰ γὰρ ὅτι, καὶ εἶναι, ὅτιν πρὸς τὸν λόγον. This our excellent Julian, by his Intelligible and Invisible Gods, seems here to mean, those Ideas, which Plato sometimes contends to be Substances, and to subsist alone by themselves. and sometimes again determi-*

meth to be nothing but Notions or Conceptions in the mind of God. But however the matter be, the skilful in this kind of learning affirm, that these Ideas have been rejected by Plato's own Disciples, Aristotle discarding them as Fictions, or at least, such as being meer notions, could have no real causality and influence upon things. But the meaning of this Pagan Theology, may be more fully understood from what the same St. Cyril thus further objecteth against it, περιπαύει ὅτι καὶ τῶν ἑμφανῶν καὶ τῶν νοητῶν δημιουργός ἔστιν ὁ τῶν ὅλων Θεός, ὁ γὰρ καὶ ἀργότερ τεκτονόμενος, ὅτι τίνιν καλεῖται καὶ αὐτὸς διαμελόμενος αἰσχροῦς, τὰτοι τε κἀκείναι γενεουργός ἔστιν ὁ ἀρχόντης Θεός, πᾶς ἐξ αὐτοῦ γεννηόμενος, φησὶ αὐτὸς, συνεπάρχει τε καὶ ἐνυπάρχει αὐτῷ, πῶς, εἰπέ μοι, τὰ ἀγνώστου Θεοῦ συνεπάρχει τὸ γενεῖν; ἀντιλέγει ὁ Χρ. ποῖον τρέπον; ἡμῶς μὲν γὰρ ἀρχόντου ὄντα καὶ τοῦ οὐκ λόγου, συνεπάρχειν ἀναγκαῖος τὰ φύσιν διανοεζόμεθα, καὶ ἐνυπάρχειν μὴ αὐτῷ, προελθεῖν δὲ γενεῖς ἐξ αὐτοῦ. ὁ δὲ γὰρ πλάττων δόξεν πᾶσας συνήρως ἀκρεῖς, ἀρχόντου μὲν ὄναι φησὶ τὸ ἀκατάστατον Θεόν. ἐνυπάρχειν ὃ καὶ ἐξ αὐτοῦ γεννηόμενος καὶ προελθεῖν τὰς παρ' αὐτοῦ γιγνόμενας, τὰ πάλιν καὶ καὶ σφύλλω. The sense whereof seems to be this; Julian addeth, that the God of the Universe who made Heaven and Earth, is alike the Demiurgus both of these Sensible and of the other Intelligible things. If therefore the Ingenit God, be alike the Creator of both, how can he affirm those things that are Created by him, to co-exist with, and inexist in him? How can that which is created, co-exist with the Ingenit God? but much less can it inexist in him. For we Christians indeed affirm, that the Unmade Word of God, doth of necessity co-exist with, and inexist in the Father, it proceeding from him not by way of Creation but of Generation. But this defender of Platonick trifles, acknowledging the Supreme God to be Ingenit, affirmeth notwithstanding those things which were Made and Created by him, to inexist in him; thus mingling and confounding all things. Where notwithstanding, Julian, and the Platonick Pagans would in all probability reply: that those Ideas of the Intelligible and Archetypal World (which is the first ὄν or Intellect) proceeding from the Highest Hypostasis, and Original Deity, by way of Necessary and Eternal Emanation, are no more to be accounted Creatures, than the Christian λόγος; and therefore might, with as little absurdity, be said to exist, With and In, that First Original Deity. But besides, the same Julian elsewhere in that Book of his, accommodates this Platonick Notion also, to the Pagan Gods in Particular, in like manner as Apuleius had done before, he writing of Æsculapius, after this canting way, ὁ γὰρ Ζεὺς, ὃς μὲν τοῖς τοῖσι ἐξ αὐτοῦ καὶ Ἀσκληπιὸν ἐξ ἑωσπευγός ἐστιν γένεσιν διὰ τὸ ἡλίου γένους ζωῆς ἐξέφυεν. ἔστιν ὅτι γὰρ ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ ποιῶν. μὲν προέδεν, ἐνοεῖς μὲν ὁ ἀνθρώπου μορφῇ καὶ τῷ ἐπιδαύρου ἐφάνη, &c. Jupiter, amongst the Intelligible things, generated out of himself Æsculapius, and by the Generative Life of the Sun manifested him here upon Earth, he coming down from Heaven and appearing in a Humane Form, first about Epidaurus, and from thence extending his salutary power or virtue, over the whole Earth. Where Æsculapius is First of all, the Eternal Idea of the Medicinal Art or Skill, generated by the Supreme God, in the Intelligible world; which afterward by the Vivifick Influence of the Sun, was Incarnated, and appeared in a humane form at Epidaurus. This is the Doctrine of that Julian, who was so great an Opposer of the Incarnation of the Eternal Logos, in our

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Neither was this Doctrine, of *Many Intelligible Gods, and Powers Eternal*, (of which the *Archetypal World* consisteth) first invented, by *Platonick Pagans*, after the times of Christianity, as some might suspect; but that there was such a thing extant before amongst them also, may be concluded from this passage of *Philo's*, *ὅς ὡς ὁ θεὸς ἀμειδίτως ὄντι αὐτῷ ἔχει δυνάμεις ἀργύρας καὶ αὐτὴν ἐλκὸς τῷ γαιόμενῳ πύσας· δι' αὐτὸν τὰ δυνάμεις, ὁ ἀσώματος καὶ νοητός ἐπ' αὐτῷ κόσμῳ, τὸ τῷ φαινομένῳ τῷδε ἀρχέτυπον, ἰδίαις ἀεργίαις συναθείς, ὡς ἂν ὅτι σῶμασιν ἐργαίῃ· καταπλάγῃ τις ἐν πῶς τῷ ἑακστῷ τῷ κόσμῳ φύει, ὃ μόνον ὅλος ἐξεθέσταν, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὰ καλῶσα τὰ αὐτῶς μερῶν, ἴδων, καὶ σιλλῶν, καὶ τὸ συμπύκνω ἔργον, ὡς ἂν αἰδῶν αἰδῶν ὁ δὲ θεὸς ὁ καλεῖσταν* *Though God be but one, yet hath he about himself Innumerable Auxiliary Powers, all of them salutiferous and procuring the good of that which is made, &c. Moreover by these Powers and out of them, is the Incorporal and Intelligible World compaſſed, which is the Archetype of this visible World, that consisting of Invisible Ideas, as this doth of visible Bodies. Wherefore some admiring, with a kind of astonishment, the Nature of both these worlds, have not only Deified the whole of them, but also the most excellent parts in them, as the Sun and the Moon and the whole Heaven, which they scruple not at all to call Gods. Where Philo seems to speak of a double Sun, Moon, and Heaven as Julian did, the one Sensible, the other Intelligible. Moreover Plotinus himself sometimes complies with this Notion, he calling the Ideas of the Divine Intellect, νοητὸς θεὸς, Intelligible Gods; as in that place before cited, where he exhorteth men ascending upward above the Soul of the World, θεὸς ὡμῶν νοητὸς, To praise the Intelligible Gods, that is, the Divine Intellect, which as he elsewhere writeth is both, ὅς καὶ πᾶσι One and Many.*

De Consol. L. 345. Par.

We have now given a full account of *Apuleius* his sence in that Book *De Deo Socratis*, concerning the *Civil* and *Poetical* Pagan Gods; which was not to afflict a Multitude of *Substantial* and *Eternal Deities* or *Minds Independent* in them; but only to reduce the *Vulgar Theology* of the Pagans, both their *Civil* and *Poetical*, into some conformity with the *Natural, Real, and Philosophick Theology*; and this according to *Platonick Principles*. Wherein many other of the *Pagan Platonists*, both before and after Christianity concurred with him; they making the *Many Pagan Invisible Gods*, to be really nothing but the *Eternal Ideas of the Divine Intellect*, (called by them the *Parts of the Intelligible and Archetypal World*) which they supposed to have been the *Paradigms* and *Patterns* according to which this *Sensible World*, and all Particular things therein were made and upon which they depended, they being only *Participations* of them. Wherefore though this may well be look'd upon as a *Monstrous Extravagancy*, in these *Platonick Philosophers*, thus to talk of the *Divine Ideas*, or the *Intelligible and Archetypal Paradigms* of things, not only as *Substantial*, but also as so many several *Animals, Persons, and Gods*; it being their humour thus upon all slight occasions to multiply Gods; yet nevertheless must it be acknowledged, that they did at the very same time declare, all these to have been derived from *One Supreme Deity*, and not only so, but also to exist in it; as they did likewise at other times, when unconcerned in this business of their *Pagan Polytheism*,

Itheism, freely acknowledge all these intelligible Ideas, to be Really nothing else, but *voluctates*, Conceptions in the Mind of God, or the First Intellect (though not such *slight Accidental* and *Evanid* ones, as those Conceptions and Modifications of our humane Souls are) and consequently not to be so many Distinct Substances, Persons, and Gods, (much less Independent Ones) but only so many Partial Considerations of the Deity.

What a Rabble of Invisible Gods and Goddesses, the Pagans had, besides those their *Dii Nobiles*, and *Dii Majorum Gentium*, their Noble and Greater Gods (which were the *Consentes* and *Seleſti*) hath been already showed out of St. Austin, from Varro and others; as namely, *Dea Mena*, *Deus Vagitanus*, *Dea Levana*, *Dea Cunina*, *Divia Rumina*, *Divia Potina*, *Divia Educa*, *Divia Paventina*, *Dea Venilia*, *Dea Agenoria*, *Dea Stimula*, *Dea Strenna*, *Dea Numeria*, *Deus Consus*, *Dea Sentia*, *Deus Ingatinnus*, *Dea Virginensis*, *Deus Adtinus*. To which might be added more out of other places of the same St. Austin, as *Dea Deverra*, *Deus Domiducus*, *Deus Domitius*, *Dea Manturna*, *Deus Pater Subignus*, *Dea Mater Prema*, *Dea Pertunda*, *Dea Rufina*, *Dea Collatina*, *Dea Vallonia*, *Dea Scia*, *Dea Segetia*, *Dea Tutilina*, *Deus Nodotus*, *Dea Volutina*, *Dea Patelema*, *Dea Hostilina*, *Dea Flora*, *Dea Laſurtia*, *Dea Matura*, *Dea Runcina*. Besides which there are yet so many more of these Pagan Gods and Goddesses extant in other Writers, as that they cannot be all mentioned or enumerated by us; divers whereof have Very Small, Mean, and Contemptible Offices assigned to them, as their names for the most part do imply; some of which are such, as that they were not fit to be here interpreted. From whence it plainly appears, that there was *μὴδὲν ἄθεον*, nothing at all without a God to these Pagans, they having so strong a Perswasion, that Divine Providence extended it self to all things, and expressing it after this manner, by assigning to Every thing in Nature, and Every part of the World, and whatsoever was done by men, some particular God or Goddess by name, to preside over it. Now that the Intelligent Pagans, should believe in good earnest, that all these Invisible Gods and Goddesses of theirs, were so many Several Substantial Minds, or Understanding Beings Eternal and Unmade, really existing in the World, is a thing in it self Utterly Incredible. For how could any possibly perswade themselves, that there was One Eternal Unmade Mind or Spirit, which for example, Essentially presided over The Rockings of Infants Cradles, and nothing else? another over the Sweeping of Houses? another over Ears of Corn? another over the Husks of Grain? and another over the Knots of Straw and Grass, and the like? And the Case is the very same, for those other Noble Gods of theirs (as they call them) the *Consentes*, and *Seleſti*; since there can be no reason given, why those should all of them, be so many Substantial and Eternal Spirits Self-existent or Unmade, if none of the other were such. Wherefore if these be not all, so many Several Substantial and Eternal Minds, so many Selfexisting and Independent Deities, then must they of necessity, be either Several Partial Considerations of the Deity, viz. the Several Manifestations of the Divine Power and Providence Personated; or else Inferiour Ministers of the same. And thus have we already shewed

shewed, that the more High-flown and Platonick Pagans, (as *Julian*, *Apuleius* and others) understood these *Consentes* and Select Gods, and all the other Invisible ones, to be really nothing else, but the *Ideas* of the *Intelligible* and *Archetypal World*, (which is the *Divine Intellect*) that is indeed, but *Partial Considerations* of the Deity, as *Virtually* and *Exemplarily* containing all things: whilst others of them, going in a more plain and easie way, concluded these Gods of theirs, to be all of them, but several *Names* and *Notions* of the One Supreme Deity, according to the *Various Manifestations* of its Power in the world; as *Seneca* expressly affirmeth, not only concerning Fate, Nature and Fortune, &c. but also *Liber Pater*, *Hercules*, and *Mercury*, (before mentioned by him) that they were *Omnia ejusdem Dei Nomina*, *variè utentis sua potestate*, all Names of One and the same God, as diversifying his power; and as *Zeno* in *Laertius* concludes of all the rest: or else, (which amounts to the same thing) that they were the Several Powers and Vertues of One God *Fiditiously Personated* and *Deified*; as the Pagans in *Eusebius* apologize for themselves, that they did *ἡγοῦντο τὸς ἀσέβητος δυνάμεις αὐτῷ τῷ ἑστὶ πᾶσι*, *Deise nothing but the Invisible Powers of that God which is over all*. Nevertheless because those Several Powers of the Supreme God were not supposed to be all executed immediately by himself, but by certain other *ὑπακούοντες δυνάμεις*, *Subservient Ministers* under him, appointed to preside over the Several Things of Nature, Parts of the World, and Affairs of Mankind (commonly called Demons;) therefore were those Gods sometimes taken also for such *Subservient Spirits*, or *Demons* collectively; as perhaps in this of *Epictetus*, *πάντες οὗ ἐξέφευγον πνεύματι; ὅταν αὐτοὶ δόξῃ, ὁ βλάστη, ἢ τῷ αἰθέρι· οἱ δὲ οὐκ ἐκπνέοντες οὗτος ταμίαν τῆς ἀνέμων, ἀλλὰ τὸ αἰόλον*: *When will Zephyrus or the West-wind blow? When it seemeth good to himself or to Æolus; for God hath not made thee Steward of the Winds, but Æolus*. Py. Ev. L. 3. c. 13. p. 1212. L. 1. c. i. p. 87.

But for the fuller clearing of the whole *Pagan Theology*, and especially this one Point thereof, that their *πολυθεΐα*, was in great part nothing else but *πολυωνυμία*, their *Polytheism* or *Multiplicity of Gods*, nothing but the *Polyonymy* of One God, or his being called by *Many Personal Proper Names*, Two Things are here requisite to be further taken notice of; First, that according to the *Pagan Theology*, God was conceived to be *Diffused throughout the whole World*, to *Permeate and Permeate all things*, to *Exist in all things*, and *Intimately to All all things*. Thus we observed before out of *Horus Apollo*, that the Egyptian Theologers conceived of God, as *τὸ πᾶν ἐξέρχεται τῷ δυνάμι πνεύματι*, a Spirit pervading the whole World, as likewise they concluded, *ὅτι οὐδὲν ὄντως συνέστηκεν, ὅτι οὐδὲν ὄντως συνέστηκεν, ὅτι οὐδὲν ὄντως συνέστηκεν*, that Nothing at all Consisted without God. Which same Theology was Universally entertained also amongst the Greeks. For Thus *Diogenes* the Cynick in *Laertius*, *αὐτῷ πάντα πληρὰ*, *All things are full of him*. And *Aristotle* or the Writer *De Plantis*, makes God not only *Lib. i. cap. 12* to comprehend the whole world, but also to be an *Inward Principle of Life in Animals*; *τις ἐν ὅντι ἡ ἀρχὴ ἢ αἷο τῇ ψυχῇ τῷ ζῴῳ ἢ αἷο, αἰ μὴ τὸ αἷονος ζῶον, ὅ τὸ ἐκπνέον ἐκ τοῦ αἵματος, τὸ ἵδιον, τὸ αἷον, καὶ τὸς πλάντας*: *What is the Principle in the Life or Soul of Animals? certainly no other than that Noble Animal (or Living Being) that encompasseth* and

Adv. Ma-
thcm.p.331.

and surrounds the whole Heaven, the Sun, the Stars, and the Planets. Sextus Empiricus thus represents the sence of Pythagoras, Empedocles, and all the Italic Philosophers; *μη μόνον ἡμῶν πρὸς ἀλλήλους καὶ πρὸς τοὺς θεοὺς εἶναι πᾶσι κοινῶναι, ἀλλὰ καὶ πρὸς τὰ ἀλογα τῶν ζῴων· ἐν γὰρ ὑπάρχει πνεῦμα τὸ διὰ πάντας κέμεν διήκει, ψυχὰς τρέπτει, τὰ καὶ ἑνὸς ἡμῶν πρὸς ἑαυτῶν.*

Protrept.p.44.

That we men have not only a conjunction amongst our selves with one another, but also with the Gods above us, and with Brute Animals below us: because there is One Spirit which like a Soul, pervades the whole

Lib 15.p.730.

World, and unites all the parts thereof together. Clemens Alexandrinus writeth thus of the Stoicks, *διὰ πάσης ὕλης, καὶ διὰ τῆ ἀπειρομάτης τῆ δυνάμεως λέγουσι, They affirm that God doth Pervade all the Matter of the Universe, and even the most vile parts thereof, which that Father seems to dislike.* 3 as also did Tertullian, when he represented their Doctrine thus, *Stoici volunt Deum sic per Materiam decurrissse, quomodo Mel per Fovor, the Stoicks will have God, so to run through the*

Matter, as the Honey doth the Combs. Strabo testifies of the ancient Indian Brachmans, *ὅτι πολλῶν τοῖς Ἑλλησιν ὁμοδοξία, ὅτι γὰρ γενετὴς οὐκ ἔστι καὶ φθορτὴς λέγουσιν κἀκείνοις, ὅτι τι δοικῶν αὐτὸ καὶ πᾶν θεός, δι' ὅλου διαπεραίτηται αὐτῷ.* That in many things they Philosophized after the Greeks manner, as when they affirm that the World had a beginning, and that it would be Corrupted, and that the Maker and Governour thereof, Pervades the whole of it. The Latins also fully agreed with the Greeks in this: For though Seneca somewhere propounds this Question, *Utrum Extrinsecus operi suo Circumsusus sit Deus, an toti inditus?* Whether God be only extrinsically circumsufed, about his work the World, or inwardly insinuating do Pervade it all? yet himself elsewhere answers it, when he calls God, *Divinum Spiritum per omnia, maxima, ac minima, equali intentione diffusum, A Divine Spirit, Diffused through all things, whether Smallest or Greatest, with equal intention.* God in Quintilians Theology, is *Spiritus omnibus partibus Immissus*; and *Infusus, per omnes rerum Nature partes Spiritus, a Spirit which insinuates it self into, and is mingled with all the parts of the world;* And that Spirit which is diffused through all the parts of Nature. Apuleius likewise affirmeth *Deum omnia permeare, That God doth permeate all things,* and that *Nulla res est tam præstantibus viribus, quæ viduata Dei auxilio, sui natura contenta sit, There is nothing so excellent or powerful, as that it could be content with its own Nature alone, void of the Divine Aid or Influence:* and again, *Dei Præsentiam, non jam cogitatio sola, sed Oculi, & aures, & sensibilis Substantia comprehendit, That God is not only present to our Cogitation, but also to our very eyes and ears, in all these sensible things.* Servius agreeably with this doctrine of the Ancient Pagans, determineth, that *Nulla Pars Elementi sine Deo est, That there is no part of the Elements devoid of God.* And that the Poets fully closed with the same Theology, is evident from those known passages of theirs, *Jovis omnia plena,* and *μεταὶ δ' αἰὲς πᾶσι μὲν ἄνθρωποι, &c. i. e. All the things of Nature, and Parts of the world, are full of God;* as also from this of Virgil,

Virg. Georg.
L.4.

Deum namque ire per omnes
Terrasque, Trausque Maris, Cælumque profundum.

Lastly

Lastly we shall observe that both *Plato* and *Anaxagoras*, who neither of them Confounded God with the World, but kept them both distinct and affirmed God to be *ἄθνη μίχμυρόν*, *Unmingled with any thing*, nevertheless concluded, *αὐτὸ πάντα νοσμεῖν καὶ περὶ πάντα διὰ πάντων ἵσθαι*, *that he did order and govern all things passing through and pervading all things*; which is the very same with thar Doctrine of Christian Theologers, *ὅτι διὰ πάντων αἰνίχως διήκει*, *That God permeates and passes through all things, Unmixedly*. Which *Plato* also there in his *Cratylus*, plainly making *διναμον* to be a Name for God, etymologizeth it, from *διὰ ἰδν*, i. e. *passing thorough all things*, and thereupon gives us the best account of *Heraclitus* his *Theosophy*, that is any where extant (if not rather a Fragment of *Heraclitus* his own) in these words, *ἔστι γὰρ ἡγῶμαι τὸ πᾶν εἶναι ὅς ποιεῖ, τὸ μὲν πᾶν αὐτὸ ἐπελαμβάνει πάντων τι εἶναι, οὐκ ἔστιν ἄλλο ἢ ζῆρεν· διὰ ἧς τὸς πάντες εἶναι διέξει, δι' ἧς πάντα τὰ γινόμενα γίνονται· εἶναι ἡ τάχιστα τῶτο καὶ λεπτότατον, ὃ γὰρ ἂν δινασθ' ἄλλως διὰ τῶ ὅντος εἶναι πάντες, εἰ μὴ λεπτότατον τε ἦν, ὥστε αὐτὸ μὲν σέβαν, καὶ τάχιστα, ὥστε χεῖρα καὶ ἑσπέρην τοῖς ἄλλοις, ἐπεὶ ἡ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐπὶ τῶν πάντων τὰ ἄλλα πάντα διὰν, τῶτο τὸ ὅμοιον ἐκείνῳ ὁρῶν διναμον, ἑσπέριας εἶναι, τῶ τῶ καὶ διναμον προσλαβόν·* *They who affirm the Universe to be in constant motion, suppose a great part thereof, to do nothing else but move and change; but that there is something which Passes through and Pervades this whole Universe, by which all those things that are made, are made: and that this is both the Most Swift, and Most Subtil thing; for it could not otherwise pass through all things, were it not so Subtil, that nothing could keep it out or hinder it; and it must be most swift, that it may use all things, as if they stood still, that so nothing might scape it. Since therefore this doth preside over, and Order all things, Permeating and Passing through them; it is called διναμον* quasi διένειν, the Letter Cappa, being only taken in for the more handsom pronunciation. Here we have therefore *Heraclitus* his Description of God, namely this, *τὸ λεπτότατον καὶ τὸ τάχιστα, διὰ πάντων διέξει, δι' ἧς πάντα τὰ γινόμενα γίνονται*, *That Most Subtil and Most Swift Substance, which permeates and passes through the whole Universe, by which all things that are made, are made*. Now saith *Plato*, some of these *Heracliticks*, say that this is *Fire*, others that it is *Heat*; but he deriding both these Conceits; concludes with *Anaxagoras*, that it is a *perfect Atind*, *unmixed with any thing*; which yet *Permeating and Passing through all things*, frames, orders, and disposes all.

Wherefore this being the Universally received Doctrine of the Pagans, that *God was a Spirit or Substance Diffused through the whole World, which Permeating and Inwardly Aiding all things, did Order all*; no wonder, if they called him, in Several Parts of the World and Things of Nature, by several Names; or to use *Cicero's* Language, no wonder if *Deus Pertinens per Naturam ejusque rei, per Terras Ceres, per Mtria Neptunus, &c.* if *God pervading the nature of every thing, were in the Earth called Ceres, in the Sea Neptune, in the Air Juno, &c.* And this very account does *Paulus Orosius* (in his Historick work against the Pagans, Dedicated to *St. Austin*) give of the original of the *Pagan Polytheism*, *Quidam dum In Multis Deum credunt, Multos Deos, indiffereto Timore, pinxerunt*, *That Some whilst they believe God to be*

In Many things, have therefore, out of an indiscreet fear, feigned Many Gods; in which words he intimates, that the Pagans Many Gods, were really but Several Names of One God, as existing in Many things, or in the Several Parts of the world; as the same Ocean is called by several names, as beating upon several Shores.

Secondly the *Pagan Theology* went sometimes yet a strain higher, they not only thus supposing, God to *Pervade the whole World*, and to be *Diffus'd through All Things* (which as yet keeps up some Difference and Distinction betwixt God and the World) but also *Himself to be in a manner All Things*. That the ancient *Egyptian Theology*, from whence the Theologies of other Nations were derived, ran so high as this, is evident from that excellent Monument of Egyptian Antiquity, the *Saitick Inscription* often mentioned, *I am all that Was, Is, and Shall be*. And the *Trismegistick Books* insinuating so much every where upon this Notion, *That God is All Things*; (as hath been observed) renders it the more probable, that they were not all Counterfeit and Supposititious; but that according to the testimony of *Jamblichus*, they did at least contain *θεματικός*, some of the Old *Theistical* or *Hermaical Philosophy*, in them. And from *Egypt* in all probability, was this Doctrine by *Orpheus* derived into *Greece*, the *Orphick Verses* themselves running much upon this strain, and the *Orphick Theology* being thus Epitomized by *Timothens* the Chronographer; *That all things were made by God, and That Himself is All Things*. To this purpose is that of *Æschylus*,

Græc. Exe.
p. 57.

Ζεύς ὅτι αἰθερ, Ζεύς δὲ γῆ, Ζεύς δ' ἄερος·
Ζεύς τινὰ πάντα, καὶ πᾶσι δ' ἔσ' ὑπερέσται·

*Et Terra, & Æther, & Pòli Arx est Jupiter,
Et Cuncta Solus, & aliquid Sublimius.*

And again,

ib. p. 53.

Ποτὶ μὲν ἄς πῶς φαίνεται
Ἀπλᾶς ὁρμῇ· ποτὶ δ' ἔδωκε, πῶς ὃ γινώσκῃ·
καὶ θεῶν αὐτὸς γένεσθαι παρεμφερὲς,
Ἀέμα, κέφα π, καὶ στήθεσσι, βροχῇ, βροχῇ·

————— *Nunc ut implacabilis
Apparet Ignis: nunc Tenebris, nunc Aqua
Par ille cerni: Simulat interdum Feram,
Tonitrua, Ventos, Fulmina, & Nubila.*

As also this of *Lucan* amongst the Latins,

Lib. 9. v. 580.

————— *Superos quid querimus ultra?
Jupiter est quodcumque Vides, quocumque moveris.*

Whereunto agree also, these passages of *Seneca* the Philosopher, *Quid est Deus? Quod vides Totum, & quod non vides, Totum.* And *Sic Solus*

Solum est Omnia opus suum & Extrà & Intrà tenet: What is God? he is all that you see, and all that you do not see. And he alone is All Things, he containing his own work not only without but also within. Neither was this the Doctrine only of those Pagans who held God to be the Soul of the World, and consequently the whole Animated World to be the Supreme Deity, but of those others also, who conceived of God as an *Abstract Mind* Superiour to the *Mundane Soul*, or rather as a *Simple Monad* Superiour to *Mind* also; as those Philosophers, *Xenophanes*, *Parmenides*, and *Melissus*, who described God to be *One* and *All Things*, they supposing that because all things were from him, they must needs have been first in a manner *In him* and *Himself All Things*. With which agreeth the Author of the *Asclepias Dialogue*, when he maketh, *Unum Omnia*, and *Creator Omnium*; *One All Things*, and the *Creator of All Things*, to be but equivalent Expressions; and when he affirmeth, that before things were made, *In eo jam tunc erant, unde Nasci habuerunt*; They then Existed in him, from whom afterwards they proceeded. So likewise the other *Trismegistick Books*; when they give this account of God; being both *All things that Are*, and *All things that Are Not*, τα μὲν ὅτι πάντα ἐποίησεν, καὶ ὃ μὴ πάντα ἔχει ἐν ἑαυτῷ, because those things that Are, he hath manifested from himself, and those things that Are not, he still containeth within himself; or as it is elsewhere expressed, he doth κρύπτειν, Hide them and Conceal them in himself. And the Orphick verses gave this same Account likewise of Gods being *All Things*, πάντα καὶ ὃ κρύπτει, &c. because he first Conceal'd and Hid them all within himself, before they were made and thence afterward from himself displayed them; and brought them forth into Light: Or because

————— τῶν δ' αἰ γὰρ ἅπαντα σὺν ἑαυτῷ παύοντα,

before they were produc'd, they were all contain'd together in the Womb of God.

Now this was not only a further Ground, of that seeming *Polytheism* amongst the Pagans, which was really nothing but the *Polyonymy* of *One God*, and their Personating his *Several Powers*; but also of another more strange and puzzling *Phænomenon* in their Theology, namely, their Personating also, the *Parts of the World Inanimate*, and *Things of Nature*, and bestowing the Names of Gods and Goddesses upon them. It was before observed out of *Moschopolus*, that the Pagans did ἐν ἐσώματι τῶν τῶν δυνάμεων ἔχει, &c. ὅτι ἐν ταύταις τῶν δυνάμεων ὁνομαζέται, Call the things in Nature, and the Gods which presided over them, by one and the same Name. As for Example, they did not only call the God which presideth over those arts that operate by Fire, *Hephestus* or *Vulcan*; but also *Fire* it self. And *Demeter* or *Ceres*, was not only taken by them for that God, who was supposed to Give Corn and Fruits; but also for *Corn* it self. So *Dionysus* or *Bacchus* did not only signify, the God that Giveth Wine, but also *Wine* it self. And he instancing further, in *Venus*, and *Minerva*, and the *Muses*, concludes the same Universally of all the rest. Thus *Arnobius* in his Book against the Pagans, *In usu sermonis vestri*, Martem pro Pugna appellatis, pro Aqua Neptunum, Liberum Patrem pro Vino, Cererem pro Pane, Minervam pro Stamine, pro Obscuris libidinibus Venerem. Now we will not deny,

G g g but

but that this was sometimes done *Metonymically*, the *Efficient Cause*, and the *Ruling or Governing Principle*, being put for the *Effect*, or that which was Ruled and Governed by it. And thus was *War* frequently styled *Mars*, and that of *Terence* may be taken also in this Sense, *Sine Cerere & Libero friget Venui*. And *Plutarch* (who declares his great dislike of this kind of Language) conceives that there was no more at first in it than thus, *ἔσθ' ἡμῖν τ' ἀνέμενοι ρηένια Πλάτωνος, ἀνῶσαι φαρμῶ Πλάτωνα, καὶ Μένανδρον τ' ὑποκεῖναι τὰ Μενάνδρου ποιήματα ὑποπόμενοι, ἕως αἰνοῖσι, τοῖς τῶν Θεῶν ὀνόμασι τὰ τῶν Θεῶν δῶρα, καὶ ποιήματα καλῶν ὡς ἐφ' ἑδῶ, τιμῶντες ὑπὸ χρεῶς καὶ στερητικῆς.* *As we, when one buyeth the Books of Plato, commonly say that he buyes Plato; and when one aſſ the Plays of Menander, that he aſſ Menander; ſo did the ancients not ſpare to call the Gifts and Effects of the Gods, by the names of thoſe Gods ſpecifically, thereby honouring them alſo for their Utility.* But he grants that afterward this Language was by ignorant Persons abused and carried on further, and that not without great Impiety; οἱ ἡ ἔπειτα ἀπαυδῆτας δι-
*χόμενοι καὶ αἰσχυρῶς ἀναφροῦντες, ὅτι τὰς θεὰς τὰ πᾶσι τῶν καὶ τὰς παρ-
 οῦσας τῶν ἀναγκαῶν καὶ ἀπορρήτων, θεῶν γενεὰς καὶ φθογὰς, ἢ προσηγορίας μὲν
 οἱ ἄλλοι καὶ τοιμῶντες, ἀτρεῖς καὶ ἄφρονες καὶ πταρσιμῶντες δορῶν αὐτοὺς
 εἰσπλῶσαι.* *Their followers miſtaking them, and thereupon ignorantly at-
 tributing the Paſſions of Fruits, (their Appearances and Occultations) to
 the Gods themſelves, that preſide over them; and ſo not only calling them,
 but alſo thinking them to be, the Generations and Corruptions of the Gods,
 have by this means filled themſelves with abſurd and wicked Opinions.*
*Where Plutarch well condemns the Vulgar both amongſt the Egyptians
 and Greeks, for that in their mournful Solemnities, they ſottiſhly
 attributed to the Gods, the Paſſions belonging to the fruits of the
 earth; thereby indeed making them to be Gods. Nevertheless the
 Inanimate Parts of the World and Things of Nature, were frequently
 Deified by the Pagans, not only thus Metonymically, but alſo in a fur-
 ther Sense, as Cicero plainly declares; Tum illud quod erat à Deo na-
 tum, Nunc ipſius Dei nuncupabant, ut cum Fruges Cererem appella-
 mus, Vinum autem Liberum; Tum autem Res ipſa in qua V's ineſt Ma-
 jor, ſic appellatur ut ea ipſa Res nominetur Deus. Both that which pro-
 ceeds from God, is called by the name of a God, as Corn is ſometimes
 thus called Ceres, and Wine Liber: and alſo whatſoever hath any greater
 Force in it, That thing itſelf is often called a God too. Philo alſo thus
 repreſents the Religion of the Pagans, as firſt Deifying Corporeal In-
 animate Things, and then beſtowing thoſe Proper Perſonal Names upon
 them: ἐκτιθεῖσθαι τὸ οἱ μὲν τὰς παραχρῆς ἀρχὰς, γῆν, καὶ ὕδωρ, καὶ αἶρα,
 καὶ πῦρ· οἱ δ' ἥλιον καὶ σελήνην καὶ τὰς ἄλλας πλανήτας, καὶ ἀπλανήτας ἀσ-
 τέρους· οἱ ἡ μέντοι τ' ἄρσεν, οἱ ἡ σὺν παῖσι νέεσθαι· τ' δ' ἀνωτάτω καὶ περὶ
 πάντων, τ' ἡμεῖς τ' ἀρχαῖα τ' μετέλθεις πύλας, τ' στεράρχων τ' ἀσκήτων τε
 πᾶς, τ' κυβερνήτων ὅς οἱ κοινῶς σωτηρίας αἰὲν ἀπᾶντα, περικαλύψαντα, ἰδὲ
 νόμος προσήκους ἀεικνῆς ὑπερημνοῦντες, ἐπὶ τὰς ἐπὶ τῇ γῇ πᾶσι
 ῥῶν, ἀσμεῖν, πλάττω· τὴν ἡ θεοκρατὰ προσδόντα, δαίμονας ἀεικνῆς ὑπὲρ
 αὐτῶν προσηγορίας, &c. Ἦγεν ἡ τ' αἶρα, καὶ τὸ πῦρ Ἦφαιστος, καὶ
 ἥλιος Ἀπόλλων, καὶ σελήνη Ἀρtemis, &c. Some have Deified the Four Ele-
 ments, the Earth, the Water, the Air and the Fire. Some the Sun and
 the Moon, and the Planets and Fixed Stars: Others the Heaven, others
 the whole World. But that Higheſt and moſt Ancient Being, the Parent*

De If. & Of.
P. 379.

Id.

De N.D.L.
P. 222.

De Decal.
P. 754, 755.

of

of all things, the Chief Prince of this great City, and the Emperour of this invincible Army, who governeth all things salutiferously, Him have they covered, concealed and obscured, by bestowing Counterfeit Personal Names of Gods upon each of these things. For the Earth they called Proserpina, Pluto and Ceres; the Sea Neptune, under whom they place many Demons and Nymphs also as his Inferiour Ministers; the Air Juno; the Fire Vulcan; the Sun Apollo; the Moon Diana, &c. and dissecting the Heaven into Two Hemispheres, one above the Earth the other under it, they call these the Dioscouri, feigning them to live alternately one one day, and the other another. We deny not here but that the Four Elements, as well as the Sun, Moon, and Stars, were supposed by some of the Pagans, to be Animated with Particular Souls of their own, (which Ammianus Marcellinus seems principally to call *Spiritus Elementorum*, the Spirits of the Elements, worshipped by Julian) and upon that account to be so many Inferiour Gods themselves. Notwithstanding which, that the Inanimate Parts of these, were also Deified by the Pagans, may be concluded from hence; because Plato, who in his *Cratylus* etymologizeth *Dionysus* from *Giving of Wine*, and elsewhere calls the fruits of the earth τὰ δῶματα θεῶν, *The Gifts of Deities*, doth himself nevertheless in compliance with this Vulgar Speech, call *Wine and Water* as mingled together in a Glass (or Cup) to be drunk, Gods: where he affirmeth that a City ought to be, *De Leg. L. 6.*
 θεῶν κρηττὴν καὶ κραμίνον, ὃ κραμίνον μετ' οἶνον κεραμίζον ἔσθ', καὶ ἀποδίδον ὃ ἐν τῇ κρηττῇ ἔστι θεῶν, καὶ ὡς κραμίνον λατρεῖν, ἀποδίδον πῦμα καὶ μετρεῖον ἀποδίδον· *so temper'd, as in a Cup, where the furious Wine poured out bubbles and sparkles, but being Correlated by another Sober God (that is, by Water) both together make a good and moderate Potion.* Cicero also tells us, that before the Roman Admirals went to Sea, they were wont to offer up a Sacrifice to the *Waves*. But of this more afterward. However it is certain, that meer Accidents, and Affections of Things in Nature, were by these Pagans commonly Personated and Deified, as Time in *Sophocles* his *Electra* is a God, χρόνος γὰρ ἀμαρῆς οὐδὲς, *For Time is an easie God*; and Love in *Plato's Symposium*, where it is wondered at, that no Poet had ever made a Hymn τῷ ἔρωτι τοιοῦτόν οἱ καὶ τούτῳ θεῷ, *To Love being such and so great a God.* Though the same Plato in his *Philebus*, when *Protarchus* had called Pleasure a Goddess *P. 12.*
 τοῦ δ' ἐμὸν δέει, ὃ πρόταρχε, αἰεὶ πρὸς τὸ ἔρῳ δύναιτο ὡς ἐν κατ' ἀνθρώπων, ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὸ μέγιστον φίλον· καὶ νῦν τὴν μὲν Ἀφροδίτην, ὅταν οὐκ εἴη φίλον, ταυτίῳ προσπαροῦσαν, τὴν δ' ὑπερῷον οἶδα ὡς ἐν πικρίῳ· *My fear, O Protarchus, concerning the Names of the Gods, is extraordinary great. Wherefore as to Venus, I am willing to call her, what she pleases to be called; but Pleasure I know is a Various and Multiform thing.* Wherefore it cannot be denied but that the Pagans did in some sense or other Deify or Theologize all the Parts of the World, and Things of Nature. Which we conceive to have been done at first upon no other Ground than this, because God was supposed by them, not only to Permeate and Permeate all things, to be Diffused thorough All, and to Act in and upon All; but also to be Himself in a manner All things; which they expressed after this way; by Personating the Things of Nature Severally, and bestowing the Names of Gods and Goddesses

Goddesses upon them. Only we shall here observe, that this was done especially (besides the Greater Parts of the World) to Two Sorts of things, First, such in which *Humane Utility* was most concerned:

N. D. L. 2.
p. 222.

Thus Cicero, *Multa alia Natura Deorum ex Magnis Beneficiis eorum, non sine causa & à Græcæ Sapientibus & à Majoribus nostris, constituta nominataque sunt: Many other Natures of Gods have been constituted and nominated, both by the wise men of Greece, and by our Ancestors, merely for the great Benefits received from them.* The Reason whereof is thus given by him, *Quia quicquid magnam Utilitatem generi afferret humano, id non sine Divina Bonitate erga homines fieri arbitrabatur; Because they thought, that whatsoever brought any great Utility to mankind, this was not without the Divine Goodness.* Secondly, such as were most wonderful and Extraordinary, or Surprising; to which that of Seneca seems pertinent, *Magnorum Fluminum Capita Venerantur. Subita & ex abdito vasti amnis eruptio Aras habet. Coluntur Aquarum Calentium Fontes; & Stagna quædam vel Opacitas vel immensa Altitudo sacravit. We adore the rising Heads and Springs of great Rivers. Every sudden and plentiful Eruption of Waters out of the hidden Caverns of the Earth, hath its Altars erected to it; and some Pools have been made Sacred for their immense Profundity and Opacity.*

Ep. 47.

Now this is that which is properly called, the *Physiological Theology* of the Pagans, their *Personating* and *Deifying* (in a certain sense) the Things of Nature, whether *Inanimate Substances*, or the *Affections of Substances*. A great part of which *Physiological Theology*, was *Allegorically* contained in the *Poetick Fables* of the Gods. Eusebius indeed was of opinion, that those *Poetick Fables* were at first only *Historical*, and *Herological*, but that afterwards some went about to *Allegorize* them into *Physiological Sences*, thereby to make them seem the less impious and ridiculous: ταύτην ἢ τὰ αὐτοῦ παλαιὰς Θεολογίας, ἢ μεταβαλλόντες εἰς τὰς, χθὲς καὶ πάλαι ὑπάρχοντες, λογιζόμενοι τι φιλοσοφῆν αὐχίνους, τὴν ὅσον φησιν ἡμεῖς αὐτοὶ ὅτι αὐτὰ θεῶν ἰσχυρίας δέξαντες ἐσθλαῖς διειρησιολογίας τοῖς μέλλουσιν προστιπνοῦσάσιν, &c. Στραβωνίου δ' ἢ ἡμᾶς οἶδε τι περὶ τῶν ἀμειδιμητῶν προθυμολόγους, ὅτι φυσικὰς ἀρχὰς καὶ δυνάμεις τὰς μετέωρον ἀποδοῦσάσιν. Such was the ancient Theology of the Pagans (namely, *Historical*, of men deceased, that were worshipped for Gods) which some late Upstarts have altered, devising other *Philosophical* and *Physiological senses* of those *Histories* of their Gods, that they might thereby render them the more specious, and hide the Impiety of them. For they being neither willing to abandon those Fopperies of their forefathers, nor yet themselves able to bear the Impiety of these Fables (concerning the Gods) according to the *Literal Sense* of them, have gone about to cure them thus by *Physiological Interpretations*. Neither can it be doubted, but that there was some Mixture of *Herology* and *History*, in the *Poetick Mythology*; Nor denied, that the Pagans of latter times, such as *Porphyrius* and others, did excogitate and devise certain new *Allegorical senses* of their own, such as never were intended. Origen before both him and *Porphyry*, noting this of the Pagans, that when the absurdity of their Fables concerning the Gods was objected and urged against them, some of them did, αὐτοὶ τότε ἀπολογούμενοι ἐπ' ἀλλογορίας κατεφύγων, apologizing for these things, betake themselves to *Allegories*.

But

Pr. Ev. L. 3.
c. 6.

L. 3. c. Cels. p.
123.

But long before the times of Christianity, those First Stoicks Zeno, Cleanthes, and Chrysippus, were famous for the great pains which they took in *Allegorizing* these *Poetick Fables* of the Gods. Of which *Cotta* in *Cicero* thus, *Magnum molestiam suscepit & minime necessariam, primus Zeno, post Cleanthes, deinde Chrysippus, Commentitiarum Fabularum reddere rationem, & vocabulorum cur quidque ita appellatum sit, causas explicare. Quod cum facit, illud profecto confitemini, longe aliter rem se habere atque hominum opinio sit; eos qui Dii appellantur, Rerum Naturas esse, non Figuras Deorum*: Zeno first and after him Cleanthes and Chrysippus took a great deal more pains than was needful, to give a reason of all those *Commentitious Fables* of the Gods, and of the names that every thing was called by. By doing which they confessed that the matter was far otherwise, than according to mens opinion; in as much as they who are called Gods in them, were nothing but the *Natures of things*. From whence it is plain, that in the *Poetick Theology*, the Stoicks took it for granted, that the *Natures of Things* were *Personated* and *Deified*, and that those Gods were not *Animal*, nor indeed *Philosophical*, but *Fictitious*, and nothing but the *Things of Nature Allegorized*. Origen also gives us a Taste of Chrysippus his thus *Allegorizing*, in his interpreting an obscene Picture or Table of Jupiter and Juno, in Samos; *Μην γδ ες τας ιαυτας συχεσθαι τον ε σωμας φησιν οτι, επι τας επερωτικας λεγους τς δις η ειναι εδωκεν, λεγει δε ιαυτη, ες κατανοησιν τς διαν. ελη γδ ες τη ιδ τω σεμνην γεαρη, η "Ηρα, η ε δις ε τδς. This Grave Philosopher in his writings saith; that Matter having received the *Spermatick Reasons* of God, containeth them within it self, for the adorning of the whole World; and that Juno in this Picture in Samos, signifies Matter, and Jupiter God. Upon which occasion that pious Father adds, *η δια ταυτα δι ημας, η δια τας τοις τας υιδας η ανους μυετες, εδωκεν μεχρι οδυμας. Απολαυει οια καλην η εη πιττι διαν, ελλα καθαρην διοικων ες η δυναστην ανωτης, εδωκεν μεχρι οδυματος χεγινομεν τα δινα. For the sake of which, and innumerable other such like Fables, we will never endure to call The God over all, by the name of Jupiter, but exercising pure Piety towards the Maker of the World, will take care not to defile Divine things with impure Names. And here we see again, according to Chrysippus his Interpretation, that Hera or Juno, was no Animal nor Real God, but only the Nature of Matter Personated and Deified; that is, a meer Fictitious and Poetick God. And we think it is unquestionably evident, from Hesiod's Theogonia, that many of these Poetick Fables, according to their First Intention, were really nothing else but *Physiology Allegorized*, and consequently those Gods, nothing but the *Natures of things Personated* and *Deified*. Plato himself, though no friend to these Poetick Fables, plainly intimates as much, in his Second De Rep. *η θεμαχιας, οπως ομοιους πεποινηκε, ε εδωκεν ες την πλην, ετ ες υποποιους πεποινηκε, ετ ανδρ υποποιους. ο γδ νος, η ος τι κελαν ε, τι τι υποποιαι και ο μη. The Fightings of the Gods, and such other things, as Homer hath feigned concerning them, ought not to be admitted into our Commonwealth, whether they be delivered in way of Allegory, or without Allegories: Because Young men are not able to judge, when it is an Allegory, and when not. And it appears from Dionysius Halicarnass, that this was the General opinion concerning the Greekish Fables, that some of***

them

L. 2. p. 68.

them were Physically, and some Tropologically Allegorical: *μὴ δὲ ὅσοι
ἡδὲοι μὴ ἀγνοοῖν ὅτι τὰ Ἐλληνικὰ μύθων, οἱ τινες ἀπελάμναι χεῖνται, οἱ μὲν
ὅτι οὐκ ἐστὶν ἡ ἀλήθεια τὰ ἱερὰ ἀποφύγεσθαι ἀνθρώπων, οἱ δὲ ἀνθρώπων ἐν τῇ
κατὰ φύσιν ἀλήθειαν εὐνοῦσαν, &c.* Let no man think me to be ignorant
that some of the Greekish Fables are profitable to men, partly as declaring
the Works of Nature by Allegories, partly as being helpful for humane life;
&c. Thus also Cicero, *Alia quoque ex ratione, & quidem Physicâ, magna
fluxit Multitudo Deorum, qui induti specie humana, Fabulæ Poetis suppedita-
verunt, hominum autem vitam Superstitione omni reſecerunt.*

N. D. L. 2.
p. 223.

Physioli indeed, seems sometimes to cast it as an Imputation upon the whole Pagan Theology, that it did δειδέναι τινὲς ἀνθρώπων ἔχον ἔχον, *Deify the Inanimate Nature*; but this is properly to be understood of this Part of their Theology only, which was Physiological, and of their Mythology or Poetical Fables of the Gods Allegorized: it being otherwise both apparently false, and all one as to make them downright Atheists. For he that acknowledges no Animant God, as hath been declared, acknowledges no God at all, according to the True Notion of him; whether he derive all things from a Fortuitous Motion of Matter, as Epicurus and Democritus did, or from a Plastick and Orderly but Senseless Nature, as some Degenerate Stoicks, and Strato the Peripatetic; whose Atheism seems to be thus described by Manilius;

*Aut neque Terra Patrem movit, nec Flamma, nec Aer,
Aut Humor, faciuntque Deum per quatuor artus,
Et Mundi struxere Globum, prohibentque requiri
Ultra se quidquam.*

Neither ought this Physiological Theology of the Pagans, which consisted only in Personating and Deifying Inanimate Substances, and the Natures of Things to be confounded (as it hath been by some late Writers) with that Philosophical Theology of Scævola, Varro and others, (which was called Natural also, but in another sense, as True and Real) it being indeed but a Part of the Poetical first, and afterward of the Political Theology, and owing its Original much to the Phancies of Poets, whose Humour it was perpetually to Personate Things and Natures. But the Philosophick Theology properly so called, which according to Varro was that, *de qua multos libros Philosophi reliquerunt*; as it admitted none but Animal Gods, and such as really existed in Nature, (which therefore were called Natural) namely one Supreme Universal Numen, a Perfect Soul or Mind comprehending all, and his ὑπερβολὴ δυνάμεις, other Inferiour Understanding Beings his Ministers Created by him, such as Stars and Demons; so were all those Personated Gods, or Natures of Things Deified, in the Arcane Theology, interpreted agreeably thereunto.

St. Austin often takes notice of the Pagans thus Mingling and as it were Incorporating Physiology with their Theology, he justly condemning the same. As in his 49. Epistle; *Neque illinc excusant impii, sua sacrilega sacra & simulachra, quod eleganter interpretantur quid quaque significant: Omnis quippe illa Interpretatio ad Creaturam refertur, non ad Creatorem, cui uni debetur Servitus Religionis, illa quæ n-*

no nomine Latria Græcè appellatur. Neither do the Pagans sufficiently excuse their sacrilegious Rites and Images, from hence, because they elegantly (and ingeniously) interpret, what each of those things signifieth. For this Interpretation is referred to the Creature, and not to the Creator, to whom alone belongeth Religious Worship, that which by the Greeke is called Latria. And again in his Book *De Civ. D. L. 6. c. 8.* *Attenim habent ista Physiologicas quasdam (sicut aiunt) id est, Naturalium Rationum Interpretationes. Quasi verò not in hac Disputatione Physiologiam queramus, & non Theologiam; id est, Rationem Naturæ, & non Dei. Quamvis enim qui verus Deus est, non Opinione sed Natura sit Deus; non tamen omnis Natura Deus est.* But the Pagans pretend, that these things have certain Physiological Interpretations, or according to Natural Reasons; as if in this Disputation, we sought for Physiology, and not Theology, or the Reason of Nature and not of God. For although the True God, be not in Opinion only, but in Nature God, yet it is not every Nature, God. But certainly the First and Chief Ground of this Practice of theirs, thus to Theologize Physiology and Deïsme (in one sense or other) all the Things of Nature, was no other than what has been already intimated, their supposing God to be, not only Diffused thorough the whole World, and in all things, but also in a manner All things; and that therefore he ought to be worshipped in All the Things of Nature, and Parts of the World.

Wherefore these personated Gods of the Pagans, or those Things of Nature Deified by them, and called Gods and Goddesses, were for all that, by no means accounted by the Intelligent amongst them, True and Proper Gods. Thus Cotta in Cicero; *Cum Fruget Cerecem, Vinum Liberum dicimus, genere nos quidem sermonis utimur usitato: sed equequantiam amentem esse putas, qui illud, quo vescatur, Deum esse credat?* Though it be very common and familiar language amongst us, to call Corn Ceres, and Wine Bacchus, yet who can think any one to be so mad, as to take that to be really a God, which he feeds upon? The Pagans really accounted that only for a God, by the worshipping and invoking whereof, they might reasonably expect benefit to themselves, and therefore nothing was Truly and Properly a God to them, but what was both Substantial, and also Animant and Intellectual. For Plato writes that the Atheistical Wits of his time, therefore concluded the Sun, and Moon, and Stars, not to be Gods, because they were nothing but Earth and Stones (or a certain Fiery Matter) devoid of all Understanding and Sense, and for this cause, *οὐδὲ γὰρ ἀνθρώπων περὶ γυναικῶν φροντισὶν δυνάμενα*, unable to take notice of any Humane Affairs. And Aristotle affirmeth concerning the Gods in general, *ἐν πᾶσι τοῖς θεοῖς ἀνθρώπων αἰσθεῖς, καὶ ἀνθρώπων ἄγα, &c.* That all men conceived them to Live, and consequently to Act, since they cannot be supposed to sleep perpetually as Endymion did. The Pagans, Universally conceived the Gods to be Happy Animals; and Aristotle there concludes, the happiness of them all to consist in Contemplation. Lucretius himself would not debar men of that Language (then vulgarly received amongst the Pagans) of calling the Sea Neptune, Corn Ceres, Wine Bacchus, and the Earth the Mother of the Gods too, provided that they did not think any of these for all that, to be Truly and Really Gods,

De N. D. L. 3;
p. 145.

L. 10. de Leg.

Hic

Metam. (viii.)
L. 2. p. 165.
Lamb.

*Hic liquit Mare Neptunum, Cereremque vocare
Constituit fruges, & Bacchi nomine abuti
Mavolt, quam Laticis proprium proferre vocamen :
Concedamus ut hic, Terrarum diſciſtes Orbem
Eſſe Deum Matrem, dum non ſit re tamen aſpe.*

And the reason why the Earth was not really a Goddeſs, is thus given by him,

Terra quidem vero caret omni tempore Senſu.

N.D.L. 2. p. 110. *Because it is conſtantly devoid of all manner of ſenſe. Thus Balbus in Cicero tells us, that the firſt thing included in the notion or Idea of a God, is this, Ut ſit Animans, That it be Animant; or endued with Life, Senſe, and Underſtanding. And he conceiving the Stars to be undoubtedly ſuch, therefore concludes them to be Gods. Quoniam tenuiſſimus eſt Aether, & ſemper agitur & viget, neceſſe eſt, quod Animal in eo gignatur, idem quoque Senſu acerrimo eſſe. Quare cum in Aethere Aſtra gignantur, conſentaneum eſt in iis Senſum ineſſe & Intelligentiam. Ex quo efficitur in Deorum numero Aſtra eſſe ducenda. Bece the Aether is moſt ſubtil, and in continual agitation, that Animal which is begotten in it, muſt needs be endued with the quickeſt and ſharpeſt ſenſe. Wherefore ſince the Stars are begotten in the Aether, it is reaſonable to think them to have Senſe and Underſtanding; from whence it follows, that they ought to be reckoned in the number of Gods.*

D.N.D. p. 141. *Third Book, affirms that all men were ſo far from thinking the Stars to be Gods, that Multi ne Animantes quidem eſſe concedant, many would not ſo much as admit them to be Animals: plainly intimating, that unleſs they were Animated, they could not poſſibly be Gods.*

De Uſ. Of. p. 377. *Laſtly Plutarch for this very reaſon abſolutely condemns, that whole practice of giving the names of Gods and Goddeſſes, to Inanimate things, as Abſurd, Impious, and Atheiſtical, ὅτις καὶ ἀδίκως ἐμποιεῖ δέξας, ἀναιδώτους, καὶ ἀψύχους, καὶ ἀνοργανοῦς ἀταρταλούς ἢ ἀνθρώπων δομητοῦς καὶ χειρὸς φέρον καὶ περὶ μαντῶν ὀνείματα διὸν ἑταίρους. ταῦτα μὲν γὰρ αὐτὰ νοῦναι διὰς ἢ ἔστι· ὃ γὰρ ἐν ἑδὲ ἀψύχου ἀνθρώπου ὁ διὰς. They who give the names of Gods to Senſeleſs and Inanimate Natures and Things, and ſuch as are deſtroyed by men in the uſe of them, beget moſt wicked and Atheiſtical opinions in the minds of men: ſince it cannot be conceived how theſe things ſhould be Gods; for nothing that is Inanimate, is a God. And now we have very good reaſon to conclude, that the Diſtinction or Diviſion of Pagan Gods (uſed by ſome) into Animal and Natural (by Natural being meant Inanimate) is utterly to be rejected, if we ſpeak of their True and Proper Gods; ſince nothing was ſuch to the Pagans but what had Life, Senſe, and Underſtanding. Wherefore thoſe Perſonated Gods, that were nothing but the Natures of Things Deified, as ſuch, were but Dii Commentitii & Fiſſitii, Counterfeit and Fiſſitious Gods: or as Origen calls them in that place before cited, τὰ ἐπαινῶν ἀνακλάσματα, σωματὰ ποιηθεῖς δοκῶντα ἀπὸ τῶν περὶ γυνώσκοντων, Figments of the Greeks (and other Pagans) that were but Things turned into Perſons and Deified. Neither*
ean

can there be any other sence made, of these *Personated* and *Deified Things of Nature*, than this, that they were all of them really so many *Several Names* of One Supreme God, or *Partial Considerations* of him, according to the *Several Manifestations* of himself in his Works, Thus according to the old *Egyptian Theology* before declared, God is said to have both, *No Name*, and *Every Name*; or as it is expressed in the *Alelephan Dialogue*, *Cum non possit Uno quamvis è Multis composito Nomine nuncupari, potius Omni Nomine vocandus est, siquidem fit Unus & Omnia; ut necesse sit, aut Omnia Ipsius Nomine, aut Ipsum Omnium Nominè nuncupari: Since he cannot be fully declared by any one Name, though compounded of never so many, therefore is he rather to be called by Every Name, he being both One and All Things: so that either Every Thing must be called by His Name, or He by the Name of Every thing.* With which *Egyptian Doctrine*, *Seneca* seemeth also fully to agree, when he gives this Description of God, *Cui Nomen Omne convenit, He to whom every Name belongeth*; and when he further declares thus concerning him, *Quæcunque voles illi Nomina aptabis*; and, *Tot Appellationes ejus possunt esse, quot Munera, Thou may give him whatsoever Names you please, &c.* and, *There may be as many Names of him, as there are Gifts and Effects of his*: and lastly, when he makes God and Nature, to be really One and the same Thing; and, *Every thing we see, to be God.* And the Writer *De Mundo*, is likewise consonant hereunto, when he affirmeth that God is, *πάντα ἐκόντων φύσις ἀπὸ πάντων ὡς αὐτῶν αἰτιᾶ*, or, *may be denominated from Every Nature, because he is the Cause of all things.* We say therefore, that the Pagans in this their *Theologizing of Physiology*, and *Deifying the Things of Nature*, and *Parts of the World*, did accordingly Call Every Thing by the Name God; or God by the Name of Every Thing.

Wherefore these *Personated* and *Deified Things* of Nature were not themselves Properly and Directly worshipped by the Intelligent Pagans, (who acknowledged no *Inanimate thing* for a God) so as to terminate their worship ultimately in them; but either *Relatively* only to the Supreme God, or else at most in way of *Complication* with him, whose Effects and Images they are, so that they were not so much themselves worshipped, as God was worshipped in them. For these Pagans professed, that they did, *τὸ θεῖον μὴ παύτως, μηδὲ ὡς τὰ τοιαῦτα θεωρεῖν*, look upon the Heaven (and World) not slightly and superficially; nor as meer *Bruit Animals*, who take notice of nothing, but those sensible *Phantasies*, which from the objects obtrude themselves upon them; or else as the same *Julian*, in that Oration, again more fully expresseth it, *τὸ θεῖον οὐχ ὡς τὰ ἴππους ἢ βεῖας ἐρεῖ, ἢ τὰ ἀλόγων ἢ ἀμαδῶν ζῶον· ἀλλὰ ἐφ' αὐτῶν τὸ φανερὸν τῶ ἀφανὶ πολυπραγμενῶς φῶναι*, Not view and contemplate the Heaven and World, with the same eyes, that Oxen and Horses do, but so as from that which is Visible to their outward senses, to discern and discover another Invisible Nature under it. That is, they professed to behold all things with *Religious Eyes*, and to see God in Every Thing, not only as *Pervading* all things, and *Diffused* thorough all things, but also as *Being* in a manner *All things*; Wherefore they looked upon the whole World as a *Sacred Thing*, and as having a kind of *Divinity* in it; it being, according to their *Theology*,

gy, nothing but *God himself Visibly Displayed*. And thus was God worshipped by the Pagans, in the whole *Corporeal World* taken all at once together, or in the Universe, under the Name of *Pan*. As they also commonly conceived of *Zeus* and *Jupiter*, after the same manner, that is, not *Abstractly* only (as we now use to conceive of *God*) but *Concretely*, together with all that which Proceedeth and Emaneth from him, that is, the Whole World. And as God was thus described in that old *Egyptian Monument*, to be *All that Was, Is, and Shall be*; so was it before observed out of *Plutarch*, that the Egyptians took the *First God*, and the *Universe*, for *One and the same Thing*; not only because they supposed the *Supreme God*, Virtually to contain all things within himself, but also because they were wont to conceive of him, together with his Outflowing, and all the extent of *Fecundity*, the whole World displayed from him, all at once, as one entire thing. Thus likewise, do the Pagans in *Plato* confound τὸ μέγιστον θεόν, and εἶλον τὸν κτίστην, *The Greatest God*, and *The Whole World* together, as being but one and the same thing. And this Notion was so familiar with these Pagans, that *Strabo* himself, writing of *Moses*, could not conceive of his God, and of the God of the Jews, any other-wise than thus, τὸ περιέχον ἡμᾶς ἀπ᾽ ὧν, καὶ ὅσα ἐκείνηται, καὶ ὅσα ἐκείνηται, καὶ ὅσα ἐκείνηται, καὶ ὅσα ἐκείνηται, namely, *That which containeth us all, and the Earth, and the Sea, which we call the Heaven and World, and the Nature of the Whole*. By which notwithstanding, *Strabo* did not mean, the *Heaven or World Inanimate*, and a *Senseless Nature*, but an *Understanding Being*, framing the whole World and containing the same, which was conceived together with it: of which therefore he tells us, that according to *Moses*, no wise man would go about, to make any *Image or Picture*, resembling any thing here amongst us. From whence we conclude, that when the same *Strabo* writing of the Persians, affirmeth of them, that they did, τὸ ἑρμῆν ἡγεῖσθαι διὰ, *take the Heaven for Jupiter*, and also *Herodotus* before him, that they did, κύκλον πάντα τῷ ἑρμῆν διὰ καλεῖν, *Call the Whole Circle of the Heaven, Jupiter*; that is, the *Supreme God*; the meaning of neither of them was, that the *Body of the Heaven Inanimate*, was to them the *Highest God*, but that though he were an *Understanding Nature*, yet framing the whole Heaven or World and containing the same, he was at once conceived together with it. Moreover, God was worshipped also by the Pagans, in the *Several Parts* of the world, under *Several Names*; as for example in the *Higher and Lower Ether*, under those Names of *Minerva* and *Jupiter*; in the *Air*, under the name of *Juno*; in the *Fire*, under the name of *Vulcan*; in the *Sea*, under the name of *Neptune*, &c. Neither can it be reasonably doubted, but that when the Roman Sea-Captains, Sacrificed to the *Waves*, they intended therein to worship that God, who acteth in the *Waves*, and whose *Wonders are in the Deep*.

But besides this, the Pagans seemed to apprehend a kind of necessity, of worshipping God thus, in his works, and in the Visible things of this World, because the generality of the Vulgar were then unable to frame any notion or conception at all of an *Invisible Deity*, and therefore unless they were detained in a way of Religion, by such a worship

De Leg. l. 7.
p. 811.

L. 16. p. 762.

P. 236, 237.

particularly applies to the Supreme God, who made and containeth the whole World, that being Invisible, he hath made himself Visible in his Works, and consequently was to be worshipped and adored in them. Whether *Socrates* and *Plato*, and their genuine Followers, would extend this any further than to the *Animated Parts* of the World, such as the Sun, Moon, and Stars were to them, we cannot certainly determine. But we think it very probable, that many of those Pagans who are charged with worshipping *Inanimate Things*, and particularly the Elements, did notwithstanding direct their Worship, to the *Spirits of those Elements*, as *Ammianus Marcellinus* tells us *Julian* did, that is, Chiefly the *Souls of them*, all the Elements being supposed by many of these Pagans to be *Animated*, (as was before observed concerning *Proclus*) and Partly also, those Demons which they conceived to inhabit in them and to preside over the parts of them; upon which account it was said by *Plato* and others of the Ancients, that πάντα θεῶν πλήρη, *All things are full of Gods, and Demons*.

XXXIII. But that these *Physiological Gods*, that is, the *Things of Nature Personated and Deified* were not accounted by the Pagans *True and Proper Gods*, much less *Independent and Self-existent ones*, may further appear from hence, because they did not only thus *Personate and Deify Things Substantial and Inanimate Bodies*, but also meer *Accidents, and Affections of Substances*. As for example First, the *Passions of the Mind*; τὰ πνευματικὰ θεοὺς εὐδαιμονίας, ἢ θεοὺς ἰσχυρίας, saith *S. Greg. Nazianzen*, They accounted the *Passions of the Mind* to be *Gods*, or at least worshipped them as *Gods*; that is, built Temples or Altars to their Names. Thus was *Hope*, not only a *Goddeß* to the Poet *Theognis*,

Ἐλπίς ὡς ἀνθρώπων μύθε θεὸς ἰσὺν ἔνεστι,
Ἄλλοι δ' ἑλπιποδὶ ἐκπερλήπντες ἔβαν.

(Where he Fancifully makes her, to be the *only Numen that was left to men in Heaven*, as if the other Gods had all forsaken those Mansions and the World) but also had Real Temples Dedicated to her at *Rome*, as that consecrated by *Attilius* in the *Forum Olitorium*, and others elsewhere, wherein she was commonly pictured or feigned, as a *Woman*, covered over with a *green Pall*, and holding a *Cup* in her hand. Thus also *Love* and *Desire* were *Gods* or *Goddeßes* too, as likewise were *Care*, *Memory*, *Opinion*, *Truth*, *Virtue*, *Piety*, *Faith*, *Justice*, *Clemency*, *Concord*, *Victory*, &c. Which *Victory* was together with *Virtue* reckoned up amongst the Gods by *Plautus* in the Prologue of his *Amphytrio*; and not only so, but there was an Altar erected to her also, near the entrance of the Senate-house at *Rome*, which having been once demolished, *Symmachus* earnestly endeavoured the restauration thereof, in the Reign of *Theodosius*: he amongst other things writing thus concerning it, *Nemo Colendam neget, quam proficitur Optandam*, Let no man deny that of right to be worshipped, which he acknowledgeth to be wished for, and to be desirable. Besides all which, *Eccho* was a *Goddeß* to these Pagans too, and so was *Night* (to whom they sacrificed a *Cock*) and *Sleep* and *Death* it self, and very many more such *Affections of things*

things, of which *Vossius* has collected the largest Catalogue, in his eighth Book *De Theologia Gentili*. And this *Personating* and *Deifying* of *Accidental Things*, was so familiar with these Pagans, that as *St. Chrysostome* hath observed, *St. Paul* was therefore said by some of the *Vulgar Athenians*, to have been a *Setter forth* of *strange Gods*, when he preached to them *Jesus and the Resurrection*, because they supposed him not only to have made *Jesus a God* but also *Anastasis* or *Resurrection*, a *Goddess* too. Nay this *Humour of Theologizing the Things of Nature* transported these Pagans so far, as to *Deifie Evil things* also, that is, things both *Noxious* and *Vicious*. Of the former *Pliny* thus, *H.N.L.2.2.7.*

Inferi quoque in genera describuntur, Morbique, & multe etiam Pestes, dum esse placata trepida metu cupimus. Ideoque etiam publice Febri Fanum in Palatio dedicatum est, Orbonæ ad eadem Larium Ara, & Male Fortune Exquiliis: So great is the number of these Gods, that even Hell or the state of death it self, Diseases and Many Plagues are numbered amongst them, whilst with a trembling fear we desire to have these pacified. And therefore was there a Temple publicly Dedicated in the Palace to the Fever, as likewise Altars elsewhere erected to Orbona, and to Evil Fortune.

Of the latter *Balbus* in *Cicero*, *Quo ex genere Cupidinis & N.D.L.1.*

*Voluptatis, & Lubentiae Veneris, Vocabula Consecrata sunt, Vitijsarum rerum & non Naturalium: Of which kind also, are those Names of Lust, and Pleasure, and Wanton Veneris, things Vicious and not natural, Consecrated and Deified. Cicero in his Book of Laws informs us, that at Athens there were Temples Dedicated also to Contumely and Impudence, but withal giving us this censure of such practices, Quæ omnia ejusmodi detestanda & repudianda sunt, All which kind of things are to be detested and rejected, and nothing to be Deified but what is Vertuous or Good. Notwithstanding which, it is certain, that such Evil Things as these, were Consecrated to no other end, than that they might be Deprecated. Moreover as these Things of Nature, or Nature of Things, were sometimes Deified by the Pagans plainly and nakedly in their own Appellative Names, so was this again sometimes done disguisedly, under other Counterfeit Proper Names: as Pleasure was Deified, under the Names of *Volupia*, and of *Lubentina Venus*; Time, (according to the Opinion of some) under the Name of *Cronos* or *Saturn*, which as it *Produceth* all things, so devours all things into it self again; *Prudence* or *Wisdom* likewise, under the Names of *Athena* or *Minerva*. For it is plain that *Origen* understood it thus, when *Celsus* not only C. Cels. L.8.*

approved of *Worshipping* God Almighty, in the *Sun* and in *Minerva*, as that which was *Lawful*, but also commended it as a thing *Highly Pious*; he making this Reply; Ὁρμηδὲν ἵδμεν ὡς καλὸν εἶναι θεομαρτυρεῖται, &c. Ἀλλὰ καὶ μάλιστα μάλιστα ἡλίου προσομνέμεν, ἡμυθονόμισται δ' ἐν Μινῶν λόγῳ, εἰς ὃ ὑπονοεῖται, ὅτι χρεῖς ὑπονοεῖται, φάσκειν δὲ ὅτι τῷ διὲς γιγνέσθαι κατὰ τὴν καὶ πλεονεχίαν, &c. We speak well of the Sun, as a good work of God's, &c. but as for that *Athena* or *Minerva*, which *Celsus* here joyneth with the *Sun*, this is a thing *Fabulously* devised by the *Greeks* (whether according to some *Mystical*, *Arcane* and *Allegorical* Sence, or without it) when they say that she was begotten out of *Jupiter's Brain* All Armed. And again afterwards, ἡ δὲ θεοποιοῦνται ἡ λέγεται φρένας εἶναι τῷ Ἀθηνᾶ, if it be granted that by *Athena* or *Minerva*, be *Tropologically* meant *Prudence*, &c. Wherefore not only according to the *Poetical*, but also

Græcæ's Edition a little otherwise.

to

to the *Political and Civil Theology* of the Pagans, these *Accidental Things* of Nature, and *Affections* of Substances, Personated, were made so many Gods and Goddesses, Cicero himself in his Book of Laws approving of such *Political Gods* as these; *Benè verò quod Mentis, Pietas, Virtus, Fides, consecratur manu: quarum omnium Romæ dedicata publicè Templà sunt, ut illa qui habeant (habent autem omnes boni) Deos ipsos in animis suis collocatos putent: It is well, that Mind; Piety, Virtue and Faith, are consecrated, (all which have their Temples publicly dedicated at Rome) that so they who possess these things (as all Good men do) may think that they have the Gods themselves placed in their minds.* And himself makes a Law for them, in his own Common-wealth, but with a Cautionary Provision, that no Evil and Vicious Things be Consecrated amongst them; *At oſſa, propter quæ datur homini adſcenſus in Cælum, Mentem, Virtutem, Pietatem, Fidem, earumque laudum delubra ſunt. Nec ullà vitiorum Solemnia obeunt: Let them also worship those things by means whereof, men ascend up to Heaven, and let there be Shrines or Temples Dedicated to them. But let no Religious Ceremonies be performed to Vicious things.*

Notwithstanding all which according to that Theology of the Pagans which was called by *Varro Natural*, (whereby is meant not that which was *Physiological* only, but that which is *True and Real*) and by *Scævola Philosophical*; and which is by both opposed, not only to the *Poetical and Fabulous*, but also to the *Political and Civil*; I say, according to this Theology of theirs, these *Accidental Things* of Nature Deified, could by no means be acknowledged for *True and Proper Gods*; because they were so far from having any Life and Sense in them, that they had not so much as *ὀνείσαντες ἑῷ*, any *Real Subsistence* or *Substantial Essence* of their own. And thus does Origen dispute against *Athenas* Godship, as *Tropologically* interpreted, to *Prudence*, *ὥστε ἡ ἑῷ τροπολογημένη καὶ λόγῳ φρονίμῳ ὅναι ἢ Ἀθηνᾶ, ὡς φρονίμῳ πρὸς αὐτῆς τῷ ὀνείσαντι καὶ τῷ σοφῷ, ὡς ὀνείσαντας καὶ τῷ τροπολογῶντι τὰς αἰτίαι.* If *Athena* or *Minerva* be *Tropologized* into *Prudence*, then let the Pagans show what *Substantial Essence* it hath, or that it Really Subsists according to this *Tropology*. Which is all one as if he should have said, Let the Pagans then shew how this can be a *God* or *Goddess*, which hath not so much as any *Substantial Essence*, nor Subsists by it self, but is a meer *Accidental Affection* of Substances only. And the same thing is likewise urged by *Origen*, concerning other such kind of Gods of theirs, as *Memory* the Mother of the Muses, and the *Graces* all naked, in his First Book; where *Celsus* contended for a multiplicity of Gods against the Jews; that these things having not *ὀνείσαντες ἑῷ*, any *Substantial Essence* or *Subsistence*, could not possibly be accounted Gods, and therefore were nothing else, but *ἑνὸν ἀναπλάσματος συμπακτικόν* ὄντα ἀπὸ τῶν πραγμάτων, meer *Figments* of the Greeks; Things made to have *Humane Bodies*, and so Personated and Deified. And we think there cannot be a truer Commentary upon this Passage of *Origen's*, than these following verses of *Prudentius*, in his Second Book against *Symmachus*,

Deſine,

*Desine, si pudor est, Gentilis ineptia, tandem
Res Incorporeas, Simulatis Fingere membris.*

Let the Gentiles be at last ashamed, if they have any shame in them, of this their folly, in describing and setting forth Incorporeal things with Counterfeit Humane Members. Where Accidents and Affections of Things, such as Victory was, (whose Altar Symmachus there contended for the Restauration of) are by Prudentius called *Res Incorporeæ*, Incorporeal Things, accordingly as the Greek Philosophers concluded, that ποσότητες were ἀσώματα, Qualities Incorporeal. Neither is it possible, that the Pagans themselves should be insensible hereof; and accordingly we find, that Cotta in Cicero doth for this reason utterly banish and explode these Gods out of the Philosophick and True Theology, *Num censes igitur subtiliore ratione opus esse ad hæc refellenda? Nam Mentem, Fidem, Spem, Virtutem, Honorem, Victoriæ, Salutem, Concordiam, ceteraque ejusmodi, Rerum Vim habere videmus, non Deorum. Aut enim in nobismet insunt ipsis, ut Menti, ut Spei, ut Fidei, ut Virtuti, ut Concordiæ; aut optandæ nobis sunt, ut Honor, ut Salus, ut Victoriæ. Quare autem in his Vis Deorum sit, tum intelligam cum cognovero.* Is there any need, think you, of any great Subtily to confute these things? For Mind, Faith, Hope, Virtue, Honour, Victory, Health, Concord, and the like, we see them to have the Force of Things, but not of Gods. Because they either exist in us, as Mind, Hope, Virtue, Concord; or else they are desired to happen to us, as Honour, Health, Victory (that is, they are nothing but meer Accidents or Affections of Things) and therefore how they can have the Force of Gods in them cannot possibly be understood. And again afterwards he affirmeth, *Eos qui Dii appellantur, Rerum Naturas esse, non Figuras Deorum*, That those who in the Allegorical Mythology of the Pagans, are called Gods, are really, but the Natures of Things, and not the True Figures or Forms of Gods.

Wherefore since the Pagans themselves acknowledged, that those Personated and Deified Things of Nature, were not True and Proper Gods; the meaning of them could certainly be no other than this; that they were so many Several Names, and Partial Considerations of One Supreme God, as manifesting himself in all the Things of Nature. For that Vis or Force, which Cicero tells us, was that in all these things, which was called God or Deified, is really no other, than Something of God in Every Thing, that is Good. Neither do we otherwise understand, those following words of Balbus in Cicero, *Quarum Rerum, quia Vis erat tanta, ut sine Deo regi non posset, ipsa Res Deorum Nomen obtinuit;* Of which things because the Force is such, as that it could not be Governed without God, therefore have the Things themselves obtained the Names of Gods, that is, God was acknowledged and worshipped in them all, which was Paganically thus signified, by Calling of them Gods. And Pliny, though no very Divine Person, yet being ingenious, easily understood this to be the meaning of it; *Fragilis & laboriosa Mortalitas, in Partes ista digestis, Infirmis atque sua memor, ut Portionibus quisque coleret, quo maxime indigeret;* Frail and toifom, Mortality, has thus broken and crumbled the Deity into Parts

Parts, mindful of its own Infirmary; that so every one by Parcels and Pieces, might worship that in God, which himself most stands in need of. Which Religion of the Pagans, thus worshipping God, not entirely all together at once, as he is One most Simple Being, Unmixed with any thing, but as it were brokenly, and by piece-meals, as he is severally Manifested, in all the *Things of Nature*, and the *Parts of the World*, *Prudentius* thus perstringeth in his Second Book against *Symmachus*;

N. 236.

*Tu, me praterito, meditaris Numina mille,
Que simulacres parere meis Virtutibus, ut me
Per varias partes minuas, cui nulla recidi
Pars aut Forma potest, quia sum Substantia Simplex,
Nec Pars esse queo.*

From which words of his we may also conclude, that *Symmachus* the Pagan, who determined, That it was *One Thing* that all worshipped, and yet would have *Viſtory*, and such like other things, worshipped as *Gods* and *Goddeſſes*, did by these and all those other Pagan Gods before mentioned, understand nothing but so many *Several Names*, and *Partial Considerations* of One Supreme Deity, according to its several *Virtues* or *Powers*: so that when he sacrificed to *Viſtory*, he sacrificed to *God Almighty*, under that *Partial Notion*, as the *Giver of Viſtory* to Kingdoms and Commonwealths. It was before observed out of *Plutarch*, that the *Egyptian Fable of Osiris*, being mangled and cut in pieces by *Typhon*, did *Allegorically* signifie the same thing, viz. the One Simple Deity's, being as it were divided (in the *Fabulous* and *Civil Theologies* of the Pagans) into many *Partial Considerations* of him, as so many *Nominal* and *Titular Gods*; which *Iſis* notwithstanding, that is *True Knowledge* and *Wisdom*, according to the *Natural or Philosophick Theology*, unites all together into One. And that not only such Gods as these, *Viſtory*, *Virtue* and the like, but also those other Gods, *Neptune*, *Mars*, *Bellona*, &c. were all really, but one and the same *Jupiter*, acting severally in the world, *Plantus* himself seems sufficiently to intimate, in the Prologue of his *Amphitryo* in these words,

*Nam quid ego memorem, ut alios in Tragediis
Vidi, Neptunum, Virtutem, Viſtoriam,
Martem, Bellonam, commemorare que bona
Vobis fecissent? Quis Benefactis meus Pater,
Deum Regnator, Architeſtus omnibus.*

Whereas there was before cited a Passage out of *G. I. Vossius* his Book, *De Theolog. Gent.* which we could not understand otherwise than thus, that the generality of the Pagans by their *Political* (or *Civil*) Gods, meant so many *Eternal Atinds Independent* and *Self-Existent*; we now think our selves concerned, to do *Vossius* so much right, as to acknowledge, that we have since met with another place of his in that same Book, wherein he either corrects the former Opinion, or else declares himself better concerning it, after this manner; that the Pagans generally conceived, their *Political Gods*, to be so many

Substantial

That Osiris was the Supreme Deity, see the Egyptian Inscription, in *Theophrastus*, *Mathem.* c. 49. *Ἡμεῖς πάντες τιμωμεν Ὀσίριδα*. *O-megs* Osiris the most ancient King of all things.

Substantial Minds (or Spirits) not Independent and Self-existent, nor indeed Eternal neither; but Created by One Supreme Mind or God and appointed by him to preside over the several Parts of the World and Things of Nature, as his Ministers. Which same thing he affirmeth also, of those Deified Accidents and Affections, that by them were to be understood, so many Substantial Minds or Spirits Created, presiding over those several Things, or dispensing of them. His words in the beginning of his Eighth Book (where he speaks concerning these Affections and Accidents Deified by the Pagans) are as followeth. Hujusmodi Deorum propè immensa est copia. Ac in Civili quidem Theologia, considerari solent, tanquam Mentes quædam, hoc honoris à Summo Deo sortite, ut Affectionibus istis præessent. Nempe crediderunt Deum, quem Optimum Max. vocabant, non per se omnia curare, quo pacto, ut dicebant, plurimum beatitudini ejus decederet, sed, instar Regis, plurimos habere Ministros & Ministras; quorum singulos huic illius curæ præfecisset. Sic Justitia, quæ & Altra ac Themis, præfata erat actibus cunctis, in quibus Justitia attendetur: Commiscrare creditus est Comestationes. Et sic in cæteris id genus Diis; nomen ab ea Affectione sortitis, cujus cura cuique commissa crederetur. Quo pacto si considerentur, non aliter different à Spiritibus sive Angelis bonis malisque, quamquod hi reverà à Deo conditi sint: illæ verò Mentes, de quibus nunc loquimur, sint Figmentum Mentis humanæ, pro numero Affectionum, in quibus Vis esse major videretur, comminiscens Mentes Affectionibus Singulis præfatas. Facile autem Sacerdotes sua Commenta persuadere simplicioribus potuerunt, quia satis videretur verisimile, summæ illi Menti, Deorum omnium Regi, innumeras servire mentes, ut eò perfectior sit Summi Dei beatitudo, minusque curis implicetur: inque tot Famulantium numero, Summi Numinis Majestas magis eluceat. Ac talis quidem Opinio erat Theologiæ Civilis. Of such Gods as these, there was an innumerable company amongst the Pagans. And in their Civil Theology they were wont to be considered, as certain Minds (or Spirits) appointed by the Supreme God, to preside over the Affections so Things. They supposing, that God, whom they called the Best and the Greatest, did not immediately himself take care of every thing, since that must needs be a distraction to him, and a hinderance of his happiness: but that he had as a King, many He and She-Ministers under him, which had their several offices assigned to them. Thus Justice which was called also Altra and Themis, was by them thought to preside over all those actions, in which Justice was concerned. And Comus over all Revellings, and the like. Which Gods, if considered after this manner, will no otherwise differ from Angels good and bad, than only in this, that these Latter are Beings really created by God; but the former the Figments of men only; they, according to the number of Affections, that have any greater force in them, devising and imagining certain Minds to preside over each of them. And the vulgar might therefore be the more easily led into this persuasion by their Priests, because it seemed reasonable to them, that that Supreme Mind, who is the King of all the Gods, should have many other Minds as his Subservient Ministers under him, both to free him from Solicitous Care, and also to add to his Grandeur and Majesty. And such was the Doctrine of the Civil Theology. Where though Fossius speak Particularly, of that kind of Pagan Gods, which were nothing but Affections and Accidents Deified, (which no

man in his wits could possibly suppose to be themselves *True* and *Proper Gods*, they having no *Subsistence* of their own) That these by the generality of the *Vulgar Pagans*, were conceived to be so many *Created Minds* or *Spirits*, appointed by the *Supreme God*, to preside as his *Ministers* over those several *Affections of Substances*; yet does he plainly imply the same, of all those other *Political Gods* of these *Pagans* likewise, that they were not look'd upon by them, as so many *Unmade, Self-existent, and Independent Beings*, but only as *Inferiour Minds* or *Spirits*, created by the *Supreme God*, and by him appointed to preside over the *Several Parts* of the *World*, and *Things of Nature*, and having their *Several Offices* assigned to them. Wherefore as to the main, We and *Vossius* are now well agreed, viz. That the ancient *Pagans* asserted no such thing as a *Multitude of Independent Deities*; so that there only remain, some *Particular Differences* of smaller moment, betwixt us.

Gr. D. L. 4.
c. 24.

Our selves have before observed, that *Aeolus* was probably taken by *Epictetus* in *Arrianus*, (not indeed for One, but) for Many *Created Ministers* of the *Supreme God*, or *Demons Collectively*; appointed by him to preside over the *Winds*, in all the several *Parts* of the *World*. And the *Pagans* in *St. Austin*, seem to interpret those *Deified Accidents* and *Things of Nature* after the same manner, as the *Names* of certain *Unknown Gods* or *Demons* (one or more) that were appointed to preside over them respectively, or to dispense the same. Quoniam sciebant Majores nostri nemini talia, nisi aliquo Deo largiente concedi, quorum Deorum nomina non inveniebant, earum rerum nominibus appellabant Deos, quas ab iis sentiebant dari; aliqua vocabula inde sistentes: sicut à Bello Bellonam nuncupaverunt non Bellum; sicut à cunis Cuninam non Cunam; sicut à segetibus Segetiam non Segetem; sicut à Pomis Pomonam non Pomum; sicut à bobus Bobonam non Bovem. Ant certè nulla vocabuli declinatione sicut res ipse nominantur: ut Pecunia dicta est Deaque dat pecuniam, non omnino pecunia Dea ipsa putata: Ita Virtus quæ dat virtutem, Honor qui honorem, Concordia quæ concordiam, Victoria quæ victoriam dat. Ita, inquit, cum Felicitas Dea dicitur, non ipsa quæ datur sed, Numen illud attenditur, à quo Felicitas datur. Because our Forefathers knew well that these things, do not happen to any, without the special Gift and Favour of some God; therefore were those Gods, whose names they knew not, called from the names of those very things themselves, which they perceived to be bestowed by them, there being only a little Alteration made in them, as when the God that causeth War, was called not Bellum but Bellona; the God which presideth over Infants Cradles not Cuna but Cunina; that which giveth Corn Segetia; and that which affordeth apples Pomona, &c. But at other times, this was done without any Declension of the Word at all, they calling both the Thing and the God, which is the Bestower of it, by one and the self same name. As Pecunia doth not only signifie Money, but also the Goddess which giveth Money; Virtus the Goddess which giveth Virtue; Honor the God that bestoweth honour; Concordia the Goddess that causeth Concord; Victoria the Goddess which affordeth Victory. So also when Felicity is called a Goddess, by it is not meant, that thing which is given, but that Divine Power, from whence it is given. Here, I say, the Pagani

gans may seem to have understood, by those *Deified Things* of Nature, certain Inferiour *Gods* or *Demons* (One or More) the Ministers of the Supreme God, appointed by him to preside over those several Things respectively, or to dispense the same. Neither can we deny, but that in so much ignorance and diversity of Opinions as there was amongst the Pagans, some might possibly understand, those Political Gods and *Deified Things* also, after the way of *Poets*, for so many *Single Minds* or *Spirits*, appointed to preside over those Several Things respectively, throughout the whole World, and nothing else. Nevertheless it seemeth not at all probable, that this should be the General Opinion amongst the Civilized Pagans, that all those Gods of theirs, were so many Single Created Minds or Spirits, each of them appointed to preside over some One certain thing every where throughout the Whole World, and nothing else. As for Example, that the Goddess Victory, was One Single Created *She-Spirit*, appointed to bestow Victory, to whosoever at any time enjoyed it, in all parts of the World: and so, that the Goddess Justice should be such another Single Mind or Spirit, created to dispence Justice every where and meddle with nothing else. And the like of all those other *Accidental Things*, or *Affections Deified*, as *Virtue*, *Honour*, *Concord*, *Felicity*, &c.

And *Laëtantius Firmianus*, taking notice of that Profession of the Pagans, to worship nothing but One Supreme God and his *Subservient Ministers* Generated or created by him, (according to that of *Seneca* in his Exhortations, *Genuisse Regni sui Ministros Deum*; that the Supreme God had generated other Inferiour Ministers of his Kingdom under him, which were called by them also Gods) plainly denies all the Pagan Gods save One, to be the Created Ministers of that One Supreme, he making this Reply; *Verum hi neque Dii sunt, neque Deos se vocari, aut coli volunt, &c. Nec tamen illi sunt qui vulgo coluntur, quorum & exiguus & certus est numerus*: But these Ministers of the Divine Kingdom, or Subservient Created Spirits, are neither Gods, nor would they be called Gods, or honoured as such, &c. Nor indeed are they those Gods, that are now vulgarly worshipped by the Pagans, of which there is but a Small and Certain number. That is, the Pagan Gods, are reduced into certain Ranks, and the Number of them is determin'd by the Utilities of Humane Life; of which, their Noble and *Selekt* Gods, are but a few. Whereas, saith he, the Ministers of the Supreme God, are according to their own Opinion, not Twelve nor Twenty, nor Three Hundred and Sixty, but Innumerable; Stars, and Demons.

Moreover *Aristotle* in his Book against *Zeno* (supposing the Idea of God, to be this, the Most Powerful of all things, or the Most Perfect Being) objecteth thus, that according to the *Laws of Cities and Countries* (that is, the *Civil Theology*) there seems to be no One absolutely Powerful Being, but One God is supposed to be most Powerful as to one thing, and another as to another: *ἐπεὶ ἅπαντα ὑπεκρέτισεν ὁ θεὸς λαμβάνει τὸ το δυνατάτατον καὶ βέλτιστον λόγον, ὃ δοκῇ τῷ ἅτῳ ὅτι ὁ ἄλλο, πολλὰ κρείττους ἔσται ἄλλωθεν οἱ θεοί· ἔκαστος οὖν τῷ δοκῶντι ἑλέσθαι τὰ αὐτῷ ἅτῳ τῷ θεῷ τῷ ὁμολογίαι·* Whereas *Zeno* takes it for granted, that

men have an Idea in their minds of God, as One the most Excellent and most Powerful Being of all; this doth not seem to be according to Law, (that is, the Civil Theology) for there the Gods are mutually Better one than another, respectively as to several things; and therefore Zeno took not the Consent of mankind concerning God, from that which vulgarly seemeth. From which passage of Aristotle's we may well conclude, that the Many Political Gods of the Pagans, were not all of them vulgarly look'd upon, as the Subservient Ministers of One Supreme God, and yet they generally acknowledging, (as Aristotle himself confesseth) a Monarchy, and consequently not many Independent Deities; it must needs follow, as Zeno doubtless would reply, that these their Political Gods, were but One and the same Supreme Natural God, as it were Parcel'd out, and Multiplied; that is, receiving Several Denominations, according to Several Notions of him; and as he exerciseth Different Powers, and produceth Various Effects. And this we have sufficiently prov'd already to have been the general sense of the Chief Pagan Doctors; that these Many Political and Popular Gods, were but the Polyonymy of One Natural God, that is, either Partial Considerations of him, or his Various Powers and Vertues, Effects and Manifestations in the World, severally Personated and Deified.

L. 9. c. 1.

And thus does Vossius himself afterwards confess also; That according to the Natural Theology, the Many Pagan Gods, were but so many Several Denominations of One God; though this Learned Philosopher doth plainly straiten and confine the Notion of this Natural Theology too much, and improperly call the God thereof, the Nature of Things; however acknowledging it such a Nature, as was endued with Sense and Understanding. His Words are these, *Dispar verò sententia Theologorum Naturalium, qui non aliud Numen agnoscebant quam Naturam Rerum, eoque omnia Gentium Numina referebant, &c. Nempe mens eorum fuit, sicut Natura esset occupata, circa hanc vel illam Affectionem, ita Numina Nominaque Deorum variare. Cum igitur ubicunque Vim aliquam majorem viderent, ita Divinum aliquid crederent: eò etiam devenire, ut immanem Deorum Dearumque fingerent Catervam. Sagaciores interim hæc cuncta, Unum esse Numen aiebant: puta Rerum Naturam, quæ licet una foret, pro variis tamen Effectibus varia sortiretur nomina, vario etiam afficeretur cultu.* But the Case is very different as to the Natural Theologers, who acknowledged no other God but the Nature of Things, and referred all the Pagan Gods to that. For they conceived that as Nature was occupied about several things, so were the Divine Powers and the Names of Gods, multiplied and diversified. And where-ever they saw any Greater Force, there did they presently conceit something Divine, and by that means came they at length to feign an innumerable company of Gods and Goddeses. But the more sagacious in the mean time affirmed, all these to be but One and the same God; to wit the Nature of Things, which though Really but One, yet according to its various Effects both received divers Names, and was Worshipped after different manners. Where Vossius calls the Supreme God of these Natural Theologers, the Nature of Things; as if the Natural Theology had been denominated from Physicks, or Natural Philosophy only, whereas we have already shewed, that the Natural Theology

logy of Varro and Scaevola, was of equal extent with the Philosophick; whose only Numen, that it was not a Blind and Unintelligible Nature of Things, doth sufficiently appear, from that History thereof before given by us: as also that it was called Natural in another sense, as Real; and as opposite to Opinion, Phancy and Fablesity, or what hath no Reality of Existence any where in the World. Thus does St. Austin distinguish betwixt *Natura Deorum*, the True Nature of the Gods, C.D.L.c.5. and *Hominum Instituta*, the Institutes of Men concerning them. As also he sets down the Difference, betwixt the Civil and Natural Theology, according to the Mind of Varro in this manner, *Fieri potest ut ibid. in Urbe, secundum Falsas opiniones ea colantur & credantur, quorum in Mundo vel extra Mundum Natura sit nusquam*: It may come to pass, that those Things may be worshipped and believed in Cities, according to False opinions; which have no Nature or Real Existence any where, either in the World or without it. Wherefore if instead of this Nature of Things, which was properly the God of none but only of such Atheistical Philosophers as Epicurus and Strato, we substitute that Great Mind or Soul of the whole World, which Pervadeth All Things, and is Diffus'd thorough All; (which was the True God of the Pagan Theists) this of Vossius will be unquestionably true, concerning their Natural Theologers, that according to them, those Many Poetical and Political Gods before mentioned, were but One and the same Natural or Real God; who in respect of his Different Vertues, Powers, and Effects, was called by several Names, and worshipped after different manners. Yet nevertheless so, as that according to those Theologers, there were Really also Many other Inferiour Ministers of this One Supreme God, (whether called Minds or Demons) that were supposed to be the Subservient Executioners of all those several Powers of his. And accordingly we had before, this full and true account of the Pagans Natural Theology set down out of Prudentius.

————— In Uno
Constituit jus omne Deo, cui serviat ingen;
Virtutum ratio, Variis instructa Ministris.

Viz. That it acknowledged One Supreme Omnipotent God, ruling over all, who displayeth and exerciseth his Manifold Vertues and Powers in the world, (all severally Personated and Deified in the Poetical and Civil Theologies) together with the subservient Ministry of other Inferiour Created Minds, Understanding Beings, or Demons, called also by them Gods.

It is very true, as we have already declared, that the more High-flown Platonick Pagans, did reduce those Many Poetical and Political Gods, and therefore doubtless all the Personated and Deified Things of Nature too, to the Platonick Ideas, or First Paradigms and Patterns of Things in the Archetypal World, which they affirmed to have been begotten from the Supreme Deity, that is, from the First Hypostasis of the Platonick Trinity; and which were commonly called by them *νοετα* Seel, Intelligible Gods, as if they had been indeed, so many Distinct Substances and Persons. And as we have also proved out of Philo, that this High-flown Paganick Theology, was ancienter than

than either *Julian* or *Apuleius* ; so do we think it not unworthy our Observation here, that the very same Doctrine, is by *Celsus* imputed also to the *Egyptian Theologers*, as pretending to worship Brute Animals no otherwise, than as *Symbols* of those *Eternal Ideas* ; *ὅτι καὶ γε ἡμᾶς* orig. *C. Cels.* *ὅτι μὲν λίγυπτιῶν καλεγεῖσθαι, καὶ τοὶ πολλὰ καὶ ἡ φάσιλα παρεχόμενοι αἰνιγμα-* *L. 3. p. 120.* *τα ἰππὶς ἰδιῶν αἰδέσθαι, καὶ ὅχι (ὡς δεικνύει οἱ πολλοὶ) ζῶων ἐφημερίαν τιμῶς ἔσθαι* *ταῦτα τοιαῦτα διδόντων·* *Celsus* also addeth, *That we Christians deride the Egyptians, without cause, they having many Mysteries in their Religion, for as much as they profess, that perishing Brute Animals are not worshipped by them, but the Eternal Ideas.* According to which of *Celsus* it should seem, that this Doctrine of *Eternal Ideas*, as the *Paradigms* and *Patterns* of all things here below in this Sensible World, was not proper to *Plato* nor the *Greeks* ; but common with them to the *Egyptians* also. Which *Eternal Ideas*, however supposed to have been Generated from, that First Divine *Hypostasis* of the *Platonick* and *Egyptian Trinity*, and called *Intelligible Gods* ; were nevertheless acknowledged by them, all to exist in One Divine Intellect, according to that of *Plotinus*, *ὡς ἔξω τῷ νοῦ τὰ νοῦτα, that the Intelligibles exist nowhere of themselves, without Mind or Intellect* ; which *Mind* or *Intellect*, being the *Second Divine Hypostasis*, these *Intelligible and Invisible Gods*, (however Generated from God) yet are therefore said by *Julian* in his Book against the Christians, both to *Coexist* with God, and to *Inexist* in him. To which purpose also, is this other Passage of *Julian's* in his Sixth Oration, *πάντα γὰρ αὐτὸς ἔσθι, ἕσθι καὶ αὐτὸς ἐαυτοῦ καὶ παρ' ἑαυτοῦ ἔχει· καὶ ὅπου ἔστιν ἔστιν τὰς αἰτίας· ἔστι ἀθανάτων ἀσφατέας· ἐπὶ ἑπικύρειν καὶ ἐπὶ τὰς ἐπὶ ἑπικύρειν, αἰδέσθαι καὶ μενέσθαι αὐτὸν καὶ τὸν αὐτὸν αὐτὸν καὶ ἀσφατέας·* For God is *All things*, forasmuch as he containeth within himself, the Causes of all things, that any way are ; whether of *Immortal things* *Immortal* ; or of *Corruptible and Perishing things*, not *Corruptible* but *Eternal* also, and always remaining ; which therefore are the Causes of their perpetual Generation, and New production. Now these Causes of All things contained in God, are no other than *The Divine Ideas*. Wherefore from hence it plainly appears, that these *Platonick* and *Egyptian Pagans*, who thus reduced their Multiplicity of Gods to the *Divine Ideas*, did not therefore make them to be so many *Minds* or *Spirits*, really distinct from the *Supreme God*. (though dependent on him too) but indeed only so many *Partial Considerations* of One God, as being *All things*, that is, containing within himself the Causes of all things. And accordingly we find in *Origen*, that as the *Egyptian Theologers* called their Religious Animals, *Symbols* of the *Eternal Ideas*, so did they also call them, *Symbols* of God. *τὰ γὰρ λίγυπτιῶν σμυολογούμενα καὶ τὰ ὡς ἐπὶ ἀλόγων ζῶων, καὶ φασκόντων ἔσθαι τινὰ αὐτὰ καὶ θεῶν σμυκολα·* *Celsus* applauds the *Egyptian Theologers* talking so magnificently and mysteriously of those Brute Animals worshipped by them, and affirming them to be, certain *Symbols* of God.

Or. C. Cels.
P. 120.

And now we have given some account of the *Polyonymy* of the One Supreme God, in the Theologies of the Pagans : or of his being called by Many Proper Personal Names, carrying with them an Appearance of So many Several Gods. First, that God had many several Names bestowed

bestowed upon him, from many *Different Notions* and *Partial Considerations* of him, according to his *Universal* and *All-comprehending Nature*. *Janus*, as the *Beginning of the World*, and *All things*, and the *First Original* of the Gods. Whom therefore that ancient Lyrick Poet, *Septimius Apher*, accordingly thus invoked ;

*O cate rerum Sator ! O PRINCIPITUM DEORUM !
Stridula cui Limina, cui Cardine Tumultus,
Cui referata mugiunt aurea Claustra Mundi.*

Genius, as the *Great Mind* and *Soul* of the whole World. *Saturn*, as that *Hidden Source* and *Principle*, from which all *Forms* and *Lives* issue forth, and into which they again retire ; being there laid up as in their *Secret Storehouse* : Or else as one of the *Egyptian* or *Hermack* Writers expresseth it, that which doth, *ἐκ τῆς αὐτῆς καὶ ἐς αὐτὴν ἀνορθῶν*, make all things out of it self, and unmake them into it self again. This *Hetrurian Saturn*, answering to the *Egyptian Hammon*, that likewise signified *Hidden*, and is accordingly thus interpreted by *Jamblicus*, ὁ τῶ ἀφανῆ καὶ κρυπτοῦ λόγου δύναμις ἐς φῶς ἄγειν, he that bringeth forth the secret Power of the Hidden Reasons of things (contained within himself) into Light. God was also called *Athena* or *Minerva*, as *Wisdom* diffusing it self through all things : and *Aphrodite Urania*, the *Heavenly Venus* or *Love*. Thus *Phanes*, *Orpheus* his *Supreme God*, (so called according to *Lactantius*, *Quia cum adhuc nihil esset, Primus ex Infinito apparuerit*, because when there was yet nothing, he First appeared out of that Infinite Abyss, but according to *Proclus*, because he did ἀπαλύνει τὰς νοῦς ἰδέας, discover and make manifest the Intelligible *Unities* (or *Ideas*) from himself ; though we think the *Conjecture* of *Athanasius Kircherus* to be more probable than either of these, that *Phanes* was an *Egyptian Name*, this *Phanes*, I say, was in the *Orphick* and *Egyptian Theology*, as *Proclus* upon *Plato's Timæus* informs us, styled ἀφ' ἑσῆς ἔως, Tender and Soft Love. And *Pherocydes Syrus* likewise affirmed, ἐς ἑσπῆα μεταβῆναι τὸ δὲ μέλλοντα δημιουργῆν, That *Jupiter* was turned all into Love, when he went about to make the world. Besides which, there were other such Names of the *Supreme God* and more than have been mentioned by us ; as for example, *Summanus* amongst the ancient Romans, that afterward grew obsolete, : of which *St. Austin* C.D.L.4.4.23 thus ; *Romani veteres nescio quem Summanum, cui Nocturna Fulmina tribuebant, coluerunt magis quam Jovem, ad quem Diurna Fulmina pertinebant. Sed postquam Jovi Templum insigne ac sublime constructum est, propter ædis dignitatem, sic ad eum multitudo conflavit, ut vix inveniantur qui Summani nomen, quod audiri jam non potest, se saltem legisse meminerit : The ancient Romans, worshipped I know not what God called Summanus, more than they did Jupiter. But after that a stately and magnificent Temple was erected to Jupiter, they all betook themselves thither ; in so much that the Name of Summanus now not at all heard, is scarcely to be found in any ancient writings.*

Again as the Pagans had certain other Gods, which they called *special* ; so were these but *Several Names* of that *Supreme God* also, according to *Particular Considerations* of him, either as *Pre-*
siding

ding over certain *Parts of the World*, and Acting in them ; or as Exercising certain *Special Powers and Vertues* in the World ; which Several *Vertues and Powers* of One God, *Personated and Deified* by the Pagans, though they had an appearance also of *Many Distinct Gods* ; yet were they really nothing but Several *Denominations* of One Supreme God : who as yet is considered as a Thing distinct from the World and Nature.

But Lastly, as God was supposed by these Pagans, not only to *Pervade All things*, and *To Fill All things*, but also, he being the Cause of All things, to be Himself in a manner All things ; so was he called also by the Name of *Every thing*, or *Every thing called by His Name* : that is, the several *Things of Nature and Parts of the World* were themselves *Verbally Deified* by these Pagans, and called *Gods and Goddesses*. Not that they really accounted them such in themselves, but that they thought fit in this manner to acknowledge *God in them*, as the Author of them all. For thus the Pagans in *St. Austin*, *Usque adeo, inquit, Majores nostros insipientes fuisse credendum est, ut hæc nescirent Munera Divina esse, non Deos ? Can you think that our Pagan Ancestors were so foolish, as not to know, that these Things are but Divine Gifts, and not Gods themselves ?* And *Cicero* also tells us, that the meaning of their thus Deifying these *Things of Nature*, was only to signify, that they acknowledged *The Force of all things to be Divine*, and to be Governed by God ; and that whatsoever brought any great *Utility to Mankind*, was not such *Without the Divine Goodness*. They conceiving also, that the *Invisible and Incomprehensible Deity*, which was the *Cause of All things*, ought to be worshipped in All its Works and Effects, in which it had made it self *Visible*, accordingly as they declare in that place

Pr. Exam. L. 3.
c. 13.

of *Eusebius* before cited in part, *μη τὰ ὁράματα σώματα ἢ λίθινά καὶ σιδηρὰ καὶ ἄλλα, μὴ τὰ αἰσθητὰ μὲν τὸ κόσμον φέροντι στοιχεῖα, ἀλλὰ τὰς αὐτῶν ἀοράτους δυνάμεις, ὡς τὸ δὲ τῇ ὅπῃ πάν· ἕνα γὰρ ὅλα θεὸν, παρ' οὗ δυνάμεις τὰ πάντα πληροῦν, καὶ διὰ πάντων δίδουσι, καὶ τοῖς πάνσι ὑπερκεῖται· ἀσωμάτως δὲ καὶ ἀφαιρῶς ἐν πανί ὄντα, καὶ διὰ πάντων δυνάμεις, καὶ τῶν ἐκώστας διὰ τῶν διδουλευμένων σῶσαν· That they did not Deifie those Visible Bodies of the Sun, and Moon and Stars, but those Invisible Powers of the God over all, that were displayed in them. For they affirm, that that God who is but One, but yet Filleth all things with his various Powers, and passeth through all things, so far as he is Invisiblely and Incorporeally present in all, is reasonably to be worshipped in and by those Visible Things.*

Athanasius B. of Alexandria, in his Book against the Greeks, reduces all the *False Gods* of the Pagans, under Two general Heads ; the First, *Poetical, Fictions or Phantastical Gods* ; the Second, *Creatures or Real Things of Nature Deified* by them. His words are these ; *εἰ γὰρ δὲ τὸς θεῶν ποιηταῖς λεγομένων θεὸς, ὡς ἔστι θεὸς ὁ λόγος· ἰδὲ, καὶ τὸς τῶν κτλιν στοιχεῶν ἡλεγεῖται πλαυνόμενος, &c. Since this Reason or Discourse of ours, hath sufficiently convinced, both the Poetical Gods of the Pagans to be no Gods at all ; and also that they who Deifie the Creatures, are in a great Error ; and so hath confuted the whole Pagan Idolatry, proving it to be meer Ungodliness and Impiety, there is nothing*
now

now but the True Piety left; he who is worshipped by us Christians, being the only True God, the Lord of Nature, and the Maker of all Substances. From whence we may observe, that according to *Athanasius*, the Pagan Poetical Gods, were no Real Things in Nature, and therefore they could be no other, than the Several Notions and Powers of the One Supreme God Deified, or several Names of him. So that *Athanasius* his Poetical Gods, or οἱ ποικίλοι μυθολογούμενοι θεοὶ, Gods fabulously devised by the Poets, were chiefly those Two Kinds of Pagan Gods, first mentioned by us; that is, the Various Considerations of the One Supreme Numen, according to its general Notion, expressed by so many Proper Names; and Secondly his Particular Powers diffused thorough the World, severally Personated and Deified. Which considered, as so many distinct Deities, are nothing but meer *Fiction* and *Phancy*, without any Reality. And this do the Pagans themselves in *Athanasius*, acknowledge, ἵσους γὰρ ὡς αὐτοὶ φασί, καὶ τὰ ὀνόματα πέπλασται, P. 14. καὶ οὐκ ἔστι μὴν ὁμοῦς Ζεὺς, ὅθεν Κρόνος, ὅθεν Ἥρα, ὅθεν Ἄρης· πλάθοντα δὲ τούτους, ὡς ὅτις οἱ ποικίλῃ περὶ ἀποτίμῃ γὰρ ἀκροόμενοι, They say, that the names of those Gods are meerly *Fictions*, and that there does no where Really Exist any such Jupiter, or Saturn, or Juno, or Mars; but that the Poets have feigned them to be so many persons Existing, to the deception of their Auditors. Notwithstanding which, that Third Sort of Pagan Gods also mentioned by us, which were Inanimate Substances and the Natures of Things Deified, may well be accounted Poetical Gods likewise; because though those things themselves be Real and not Feigned, yet is their Personation and Deification meer *Fiction* and *Phancy*: and however the first occasion thereof sprung, from this Theological Opinion or Perswasion, That God who is In All Things, and is the Cause of All Things, ought to be worshipped In All Things, especially he being himself Invisible; yet the making of those things themselves therefore to be so many Persons and Gods, was nothing but Poetical *Fiction* and *Phantastry*, accordingly as their old *Mythology* and *Allegorical Fables* of the Gods, run much upon this strain.

XXXIV. Hitherto have we declared the Sence of the Pagans in General, those also being included, who supposed God to be a Being Elevated above the World, That they agreed in these Two Things. First the Breaking and Crumbling as it were, of the Simple Deity, and Parcelling out of the same into Many Particular Notions and Partial Considerations, according to the Various Manifestations, of its Power and Providence in the world; by the Personating and Deifying of which Severally, they made as it were, so Many Gods of One. The chief Ground whereof was this, because they considered not the Deity according to its Simple Nature, and Abstractly only; but Concretely also with the World, as he Displayeth himself therein, Pervadeth all, and Diffuseth his Vertues thorough all. For as the Sun reflected by Grossier Vapours, is sometimes Multiplied, and the same Object beheld through a Polyedrous Glass, by reason of those many Surfaces, being represented in several places at once, is thereby rendred Manifold to the Spectator; So One and the same Supreme God, considered Concretely with the World as Manifesting his Several Powers and Vertues in it, was multiplied into Several Names, not with-

out the Appearance of so *Many Several Gods*. Whereas *πλῆθύνειον* with those ancient Pagans, was the same thing with *πλῆθυναιμον*, That which hath *Many Names*, all one with that which hath *Many Powers*: According to this of *Callimachus* concerning *Diana*,

Δός μοι παρθένῳ αἰδῶνον, ἥπτα, φυλάσσειν,
καὶ Πολυονομίῳ.

And this of *Virgil* concerning *Aktho*,

————— *Tibi Nomina Mille,*
Mille nocendi Artes.

And accordingly the *Many Pagan Gods* are in *Plato's Cratylus*, interpreted as the *Many Powers* of One God *Diffused* through the World. And the Pagan Theologers seem'd to conceive, this to be more suitable to the Pomp, State and Grandeur, of the Supreme God, for him to be considered *Diffusively*, and called by *Many Names*, signifying his *Many Several Vertues and Powers* (Polyonymy being by them accounted an Honour) rather than to be contracted and shrunk all up, into One General Notion, of a *Perfect Mind*, the *Maker or Creator of the whole World*. The Second Thing in which the Pagans agreed is, their *Personating* and *Deifying* also the *Parts of the World*, and *Things of Nature* themselves, and so making them so many Gods and Goddesses too. Their meaning therein being declared to be really no other than this; That God who doth not only *Pervade all things*, but also was the *Cause of All things*, and therefore himself is in a manner *All things*, ought to be worshipped in all the *Things of Nature and Parts of the World*: as also that the *Force* of every thing was *Divine*, and that in all things that were Beneficial to mankind, *The Divine Goodness* ought to be acknowledged.

We shall now observe how both those forementioned Principles, of Gods *Pervading all things*, and his *Being All things*, which were the Chief Grounds of the *Seeming Polytheism* of the Pagans, were improved and carried on further, by those amongst them, who had no *Higher Notion* of the *Supreme Deity*, than as the *Soul of the World*. Which Opinion that it found entertainment amongst so many of them, probably might be from hence, because it was so obvious for those of them that were Religious to conceive, that as themselves consisted of *Body and Soul*, so the *Body of the Whole World*, was not without its *Soul* neither: and that their *Humane Souls* were as well derived from the *Life and Soul of the World*, as the Earth and Water in their Bodies was, from the Earth and Water of the World. Now whereas the more refined Pagans, as was before observed, supposed God to *Pervade and Pass thorough All things ἀμυγῶς Unmixedly*; these concluded God to be, (according to that Definition of him in *Quintilian*, taken in a rigid sense) *Spiritum omnibus Partibus Immissum*, a *Spirit Immingled with all the Parts of the World*: or else in *Manilius* his Language,

Infusumque Deum Celo, Terrisque Fretoque,

Infused

Infused into the Heaven, Earth, and Seas : Sacroque meatu Conspirare Deum, and intimately to conspire with his own Work the World, as being almost one with it. Upon which account he was commonly called *Nature* also, that being thus defined by some of the Stoicks, *Deus Mundo permixtus, God Atangled throughout with the World,* and *Divina Ratio toti Mundo insita, The Divine Reason inferted into the whole World.* Which *Nature* notwithstanding, in way of distinction from the *Particular Natures* of things, was called *καὶ φύσις*, and *Communis Natura, the Common Nature.* And it was plainly declared by them, not to be a *Senseless Nature* ; according to that of *Balbus* in *Cicero*, *Natura est quæ continet Mundum omnem, eumque tuctur ; atque ea quidem non sine Sensu, atque Ratione : It is Nature by which the whole World is contained and upheld, but this such a Nature as is not without Sense and Reason.* As it is elsewhere said to be, *Perfect and Eternal Reason, the Divine Mind and Wisdom* containing also under it, all the *ἀνὰ σπερματικὰ, the Spermatick Principles* by which the things of *Nature* (commonly so called) are effected. Wherefore we see that such *Naturalists* as these, may well be allowed to be *Theists* ; (*Moses* himself in *Strabo* being accounted one of them) whereas those that acknowledge no Higher Principle of the World, than a *Senseless Nature* ; (whether *Fortuitous*, or *Orderly and Methodical*) cannot be accounted any other than *Absolute Atheists*. Moreover this *Soul of the World*, was by such of these Pagans as admitted no *Incorporeal Substance*, itself concluded to be a *Body* too, but *λεπτότατον ἔχον, τὰς αἰθέρας, a Most Subtil and Most Swift Body*, as was before observed out of *Plato* (though endued with *Perfect Mind and Understanding*, as well as with *Spermatick Reasons*) which insinuating it self into all other Bodies, did *Permeate and Pervade* the whole Universe, and frame all things, inwardly Mingling it self with a *κρατίζον, and Hippasus* thinking this to be *Fire*, and *Diogenes Apolloniates* *Air* ; whom *Simplicius*, who had read some of his then extant Works, vindicates from that Imputation of *Atheism*, which *Hippo* and *Anaximander* lye under.

Again, whereas the more Sublimated Pagans affirmed the *Supreme God* to be *All*, so as that he was nevertheless something *Above All* too, he being *Above the Soul of the World* ; (and probably *Æschylus* in that forecited passage of his, is to be understood after this manner, *Ζῆς τοι τὰ πάντα καὶ πᾶσι θεῶν ὑπερτατός, Jupiter is the Ether, Jupiter is the Earth, Jupiter is the Heaven ; Jupiter is All things, and yet something Higher than all ; or Above all :*) those Pagans who acknowledged no Higher *Nature*, than the *Soul of the World* ; made *God* to be *All Things* in a grosser sence, they supposing the whole *Corporeal World* Animated to be also the *Supreme Deity*. For though *God* to them, were Principally and Originally, that *Eternal Unmade Soul and Mind*, which diffuseth it self thorough all things, yet did they conceive, that as the *Humane Soul and Body*, both together, make up one whole *Rational Animal*, or *Man* ; so this *Mundane Soul*, and its *Body* the *World*, did in like manner both together, make up One Entire *Divine Animal*, or *God*.

As *Simplicius* describeth *God*, to be *πάντα καὶ ὑπὲρ πάντα. Omnia ante omnia, in Epist. p. 224*

It is true indeed, that as the *Humane Soul* doth Principally act in some one Part of the Body, which therefore hath been called the *Hegemonicon* and *Principale*, some taking this to be the *Brain*, others the *Heart*, but *Strato* in *Tertullian* ridiculously, the Place betwixt the *Eye-browes*; so the *Stoicks* did suppose the *Great Soul* or *Mind* of the World, to act Principally in some one Part thereof, (which what it was notwithstanding they did not all agree upon) as the *Hegemonicon* or *Principale*; and this was sometimes called by them, *Emphatically*, *God*. But nevertheless they all acknowledged this *Mundane Soul*, as the Souls of other Animals, to Pervade, *Animate*, or *Enliven* and *Animate*, more or less its whole Body, *The World*. This is plainly declared by *Laetius* in the Life of *Zeno*. τὸν δὲ κόσμον διοικῶνται καὶ τὸν καὶ περιποιῶν, εἰς ἅπαν αὐτῷ μέρῳ διέκοιτο· τῷ νῷ, καὶ τῷ ἰφ' ἡμῶν τ' ψυχῆς· ἀλλ' ἴδιον δὲ τῷ μέρῳ μέλλοι, δι' ἐν ᾧ ἡ ψοῖ, δι' ᾧ μέρῳ ᾧ ὡς ἕξιν καὶ ζώοντι, ὡς διὰ τῆς οὐσῆς καὶ τῆς ἰδέας· δι' ἐν ᾧ ὡς νῶς, ὡς διὰ τῆς ἡγεμονικῆς· ὅπου δὲ καὶ τὸ ἔλπον κόσμον ζῶον ὅσα καὶ ἡμψυχον καὶ λογικόν, ἔχον ἡγεμονικόν μὲν τ' αἰσθησ, ἢ τ' ὁρεσνόν, ἢ τ' ἡλυσ. ὁ καὶ πρῶτον θεὸν λέγουσι αἰσθητῶς ὡς πρὸς καὶ ζώοντι, διὰ τῆς αἰσθησ, καὶ διὰ τῆς ὁρᾶς ἀποκρίναι καὶ φωνῆ, διὰ τῆς αἰσθησ αὐτῆς καὶ ἕξιν· *The Stoicks affirm, that the World is governed by Mind and Providence, this Mind passing through all the Parts of it, as the Soul doth in us: Which yet doth not act in all parts alike, but in some more, in some less: it passing through some parts only as a Habit, (as through the bones and Nerves) but through others as Mind or Understanding, (as through that which is called the Hegemonicon or Principale.)* So the whole World being a Living and Rational Animal, hath its *Hegemonicon* or *Principal Part* too, which according to *Antipater* is the *Æther*, to *Possidonius* the *Air*, to *Cleantes* the *Sun*, &c. And they say also, that this *First God* is, as it were, sensibly Diffused through all Animals and Plants, but through the Earth is self, only as a *Habit*. Wherefore the whole World, being thus Acted and Animated by one Divine Soul, is it self according to these *Stoicks* also *The Supreme God*. Thus *Didymus* in *Eusebius*, εἶλον ἢ τὸν κόσμον περιποιῶν, εἶλον θεόν, *The Stoicks call the whole World God*; and *Origen* against *Celsus*, σαφῶς δὲ τὸν εἶλον κόσμον λέγουσιν εἶσαι θεόν, Στωικοὶ μὲν τὸ πρῶτον· *The Greeks universally affirm the World to be a God, but the Stoicks, the First and Chief God*. And accordingly *Manilius*,

*Quid pateat Mundum Divino Numine verti
Atque Ipsum esse Deum:*

Whereby it may appear the World to be Governed by a Divine Mind, and also is self to be God. As likewise *Seneca* the Philosopher, *Totum hoc quo continemur, & Unum est, & Deus est*; *This whole World, within which we are contained, is both One thing, and God*. Which is not to be understood, of the Meer Matter of the World, as it is nothing but a Heap of Atoms, or as endowed with a *Plaslick* and *Sensless Nature* only; but of it as Animated by such a Soul, as besides Sense was originally endowed with perfect Understanding; and as deriving all its Godship from thence. For thus *Varro* in *St. Austin* declares, both his own, and the Stoical Sence concerning this Point, *Dicit idem Varro, adduc de Naturali Theologia proloquens, Deum se arbitrari esse*

P. E. L. 15.

c. 15.

L. 5 p. 235.

C. D. L. 7. c. 6.

esse Animam Mundi (quem Græci vocant κόσμον) & hunc ipsum Mundum esse Deum. Sed sicut Hominem Sapientem, cum sit ex Corpore & Animo, tamen ab Animo dici Sapientem; ita Mundum Deum dici ab Animo, cum sit ex Animo & Corpore: The same Varro discoursing concerning Natural Theology, declareth that according to his own sense God is the Soul of the World, (which the Greeks call Cosmos) and that this World it self is also God. But that this is so to be understood, that as a Wise man, though consisting of Soul and Body, yet is denominated Wise only from his Mind or Soul; so the World is denominated God, from its Mind or Soul only, it consisting both of Mind and Body.

Now if the Whole *Animated World* be the *Supreme God*, it plainly follows from thence, that the *Several Parts and Members* thereof, must be the *Parts and Members* of God; and this was readily acknowledged by *Seneca*, *Membra sumus Corporis magni; We are all Members of One great Body:* and *Totum hoc Deus est, Socii ejus & Membra sumus; This whole World is God, and we are not only his Members, but also his Fellows or Companions;* as if our *Humane Souls*, had a certain kind of *Fellowship* also, with that *Great Soul of the Universe*. And accordingly, the *Soul of the World*, and the whole *Mundane Animal*, was frequently worshipped by the *Pagans*, in these its *several Members*; the *chief Parts of the World*, and the *most important Things of Nature*; as it were by *Piece-meal*. Nevertheless it doth not at all follow from thence, that these were therefore to them *Really* so many *Several Gods*; for then not only every *Man*, and every *Contem-
plible Animal*, every *Plant* and *Herb* and *Pile of Grass*, every *River* and *Hill*, and all things else whatsoever, must be so many *several Gods*. And that the *Pagans* themselves did not take them for such, *Origen* observes against that Assertion of *Celsus*; *That if the Whole were God, then the Several Parts thereof must needs be Gods, or Divine* 100: *ὡς εἶναι θεῶν ἢ μέντοι ἀνθρώπων, ἀλλὰ καὶ πάντα τὰ ἀλογα ζῷα, L. 5 p. 134.*
*μήν εἶναι τῷ κόσμῳ, πρὸς ἢ τέρας καὶ τὰ φυτὰ· οἱ ὅ μέρη τῷ κόσμῳ καὶ οἱ ποταμοί, καὶ τὰ ὄρη, καὶ αἱ θάλασσαι· ἅρ' ἐπὶ ὅλῳ ὁ κόσμος εἶναι δεῖν, ὅθεν καὶ οἱ ποταμοὶ καὶ αἱ θάλασσαι θεοὶ εἰσι· ἀλλ' ὅθεν τὸ τοιοῦτον ἐλλειπὴς· τὸς δ' ἐπισχετῶντας (οἱ ἄρα δαίμονας, ἢ θεοὺς, ὡς οὐκ οἶον οὐκ ἐστὶν) ποταμοὺς καὶ θαλάσσεις, τότες ἐν λέγοντι θεοὺς. καὶ τὰ καθελεῖν κίλως γινώσκει καὶ καθ' ἑλ-
λως ψεύδεται, ἐπὶ ἰσότητι ὅλον ἢ οὐδὲν, πάντως τὰ μέρη τέρας δεῖν εἶναι· καὶ τῷ τοιοῦτον θεῶν εἶναι ζῷα, καὶ μύητα, καὶ σκώληκες, καὶ πᾶν τὸ ἄν-
θρωπον ὅλον, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸ ἄνθρωπον ὅλον, καὶ τὸ ἄνθρωπον ἰχθύων· ἅπαντα δ' οἱ λέγοντες θεοὺς εἶναι τὸν κόσμον, φησὶν.* From hence it would follow, that not only *Men* must be *Divine and Gods*, but also all *Brute Animals* too (they being *Parts of the World*) and *Plants* too. Nay *Rivers*, and *Mountains*, and *Seas*, being *Parts of the World* likewise, (if the *Whole World* be *God*) must according to *Celsus* needs be *Gods* also. Whereas the *Greeks* themselves will not affirm this; but they would only call those *Spirits* or *Demons*, which preside over these *Rivers* and *Seas*, *Gods*. Wherefore the *Universal Assertion* of *Celsus*, is false even according to the *Greeks* themselves; That if the whole be *God*, then all the *Parts* thereof must needs be *Divine* or *Gods*. It following from thence that *Flyes*, and *Gnats*, and *Worms*, and all kind of *Serpents*, and *Birds*, and *Fishes*, are all *Divine Animals* or *Gods*: Which they themselves, who assert the *World* to be *God*, will not affirm. Wherefore

Wherefore though it be true, that the Pagans did many times Personate and Deify, the Chief Parts of the World, and Things of Nature, as well as they did the Several Powers and Vertues of the Mundane Soul, diffused through the whole World, yet did not the intelligent amongst them, therefore look upon these, as so many True and Proper Gods, but only worship them as Parts and Members of One Great Mundane Animal; or rather, Worship the Soul of the whole World, their Supreme I, in them all, as its various Manifestations. This St. Austin intimates, when writing against Faustus the Manichean, he prefers even the Pagan Gods before the Manichean; Jam verò Cælum, & Terra, & Mare, & Aer, & Sol, & Luna, & cætera sydera omnia, hæc manifesta oculis apparent, atque ipsis sensibus præsto sunt. Quæ cum Pagani tanquam Deos colunt, vel tanquam PARTES UNIVS MAGNI DEI (nam universum Mundum quidam eorum putant MAXIMUM DEVM) ea colunt quæ sunt. Vos autem cum ea colatis, quæ omnino non sunt, propinquiore effectis Veræ Pietati, si saltem Pagani effectis, qui Corpora colunt, etsi non colenda, tamen vera. Now the Heaven, Earth, Sea, and Air, Sun, Moon, and Stars, are Things all manifest and really present to our senses, which when the Pagans Worship as Gods, or as PARTS OF ONE GREAT GOD, (for some of them think the Whole World to be the GREATEST GOD) they Worship things that are; so that you worshipping things that are not, would be nearer to true Piety than you are, were you Pagans and worshipped Bodies too; which though they ought not to be worshipped, yet are they True and Real Things. But this is further insisted upon by the same St. Austin in his Book De C. D. where after that large Enumeration of the Pagan Gods before set down; he thus convinces their Folly in worshipping the Several Divided Members, Parts and Powers, of the One Great God, after that manner Personated; Hæc omnia quæ dixi, & quæcunq; non dixi (non enim omnia dicenda arbitratus sum) Hi omnes Dii Deaque sit Unus Jupiter; sive sint ut quidam volunt omnia ista Partes ejus, sive Virtutes ejus, sicut ei videtur quibus cum placet esse Mundi Animum; quæ sententia velut magnorum, multorumq; Doctorum est. Hæc, inquam, si ita sint, quod quale sit, nondum interim quero, Quid perderent, si Unum Deum colerent prudentiori Compendio? Quid enim ejus contemneretur, cum ipse coleretur? Si autem metuendum sit nò prætermisissæ sive Neglectæ Partes ejus irascerentur: non ergo ut volunt velut Unius Animantis hæc tota vita est, quæ Omnes simul continet Deos, quasi Suas VIRTUTES, vel MEMBRA, vel PARTES: sed suam quæque Pars habet vitam à cæteris separatam, si præter alteram irasci alia potest, & alia placari alia concitari. Si autem dicitur Omnia simul, id est, Totum ipsum Jovem potuisse offendi, si PARTES ejus non etiam singillatim, minutatimque colerentur, stultè dicitur. Nulla quippe earum præmitteretur, cum ipse Unus qui haberet Omnia, coleretur. All these things, which we have now said, and many more which we have not said (for we did not think fit to mention all) All these Gods and Goddesses, let them be One and the same Jupiter: whether they will have them to be his PARTS, or his POWERS and VERTUES, according to the sense of those who think God to be the Soul or Mind of the Whole World; which is the opinion of many and great Doctors. This I say, if it be so, which what it is, we will not now examine; What would these

these Pagans lose, if in a more prudent compendium, they should worship One only God? For what of him could be despised, when his whole self was worshipped? But if they fear, lest his PARTS pretermitted, or neglected, should be angry or take offence; then is it not as they pretend, the Life of One Great Animal, which at once contains all the Gods, as his VERTUES or MEMBERS or PARTS, but every Part hath its own Life by it self, separate from the rest, since One of them may be angry when another is pleased, and the contrary. But if it should be said that all together, that is, the whole Jupiter might be offended, if his Parts were not worshipped all of them severally and singly, this would be foolishly said, because none of the Parts can be pretermitted, when He, that hath All, is Worshipped.

Thus do the Pagans in *Athanasius* also declare, that they did not worship the several Parts of the World, as Really so many True and Proper Gods, but only as the Parts or Members, of their One Supreme God, that Great Mundane Animal (or Whole Animated World) taken all together as one thing; ἀλλ' ἵσους διακρίματα μὴ, ἐκ καθ' ἑαυτὰ λαμβανόμενα, ἑσθλὴν αὐτὰ καὶ αὐτοὶ συναμειλογῶσι, ἐμὸς δὲ πάντα συνάψους, καὶ ὡς ἐν ἀντιλήπτῳ μέγα σῶμα, τὸ ὅλον οὐδὲν εἶναι φησὶ. But the Pagans themselves will acknowledge, that the Divided Parts of the World, taken severally, are but indigent and imperfect things; nevertheless do they contend, that as they are by them joynd all together, into One Great Body (enlivened by one Soul) so is the whole of them truly and properly God. And now we think, it is sufficiently evident, that though these Pagans Verbally Personated and Deified, not only the several Powers and Vertues, of the One Supreme God or Mundane Soul, diffused throughout the whole World, but also the several Parts of the World it self, and the Natures of Things, yet their meaning herein was not, to make these in themselves really, so many several True and Proper Gods, (much less Independent Ones) but to worship One Supreme God (which to them was the whole Animated World) in those his several Parts and Members; as it were by Piece-meal, or under so many Inadequate Conceptions,

The Pagans therefore were plainly Divided in their Natural Theology, as to their opinions concerning the Supreme God; some of them conceiving him to be nothing Higher, than a Mundane Soul: Whereas others of them, to use *Origen's* Language, did *transcend* πᾶσιν τῶν αἰσθητῶ φύσιν, καὶ μακάρις αὐτῆς τομῆζεν ἰδεῖσθαι τὸ θεῖον, p. 160. ἀνεῖν καὶ ὑπερ τὰ σώματα ἑστῆν αὐτῷ, Transcend all the sensible Nature, and thinking God not at all to be seated there, look'd for him, above all Corporeal things. Now the Former of these Pagans, worshipped the whole Corporeal World, as the Body of God; but the Latter of them, though they had Higher thoughts of God, than as a Mundane Soul; yet supposing Him to have been the Cause of all things, and so at first to have Contained all things within himself; as likewise that the World after it was made, was not Cut off from him, nor subsisted alone by it self, as a Dead Thing, but was Closely united to him, and Livingly dependent on him; these, I say, though they did not take the World to be God, or the Body of God, yet did they also look upon it

as *θεόν*, as that which was *Divine and Sacred*; and supposed that God was to be worshipped in *All*, or that the whole World was to be worshipped, as his *Image or Temple*. Thus *Plutarch*, though much disliking the *Deifying of Inanimate Things*, doth himself nevertheless approve, of worshipping God in the whole Corporeal World, he affirming it to be *ἱερὸν ἀγιάσιον καὶ σεμνотеύσιον*, a *most Holy, and most God-becoming Temple*. And the ancient Persians or *Magi*, who by no means would allow of worshipping God in any *Artificial Temples* made with mens hands, did notwithstanding thus worship God, *Sub Dio*, and upon the Tops of Mountains, in the whole Corporeal World, as his

De Leg. L. 2.
P. 335.

Natural Temple, as *Cicero* testifieth; *Nec sequor Magos Persarum, quibus antiquioribus Xerxes inflammasse Tempia Græciæ dicitur, quod Parietibus includerent Deos quibus omnia deberent esse patentia ac libera, quorumq; hic Mundus Omnis Templum esset & Domicilium*: Neither do I adhere to the Persian *Magi*, by whose suggestion and persuasion, *Xerxes* is said to have burnt all the Temples of the Greeks, because they enclosed and shut up their Gods within walls, to whom all things ought to be open and free, and whose Temple and Habitation this whole World is. And therefore when *Diogenes Laërtius* writeth thus of these *Magi*, that they did, *θεὸς ἀποφαίνεσθαι πῦρ καὶ γῆν καὶ ὕδωρ, καὶ τὸ ζῶον καταργήσαντες*, make *Fire and Earth and Water to be Gods, but condemn all Statues and Images*; we conceive the meaning hereof to be no other than this, that as they worshipped God in no Temple, save only that of the whole World, so neither did they allow any other Statues or Images of him, than the *Things of Nature*, and *Parts of the World*; such as *Fire, and Earth, and Water*, called therefore by them, in this sense and no other, *Gods*. For thus are they clearly represented by *Cle-*

Precept. p. 43.

mens Alexandrinus, and that according to the express Testimony of *Dion*; *ὅθεν αἱ ὑπερέχουσαι τῶν μάγος ὁ δίνειν λόγον, θεῶν ἀγάλματα μὴ τὰ πῦρ καὶ ὕδωρ νομίζουσαι. οὐκ ἀπειρο-λόγῳ ὅτι καὶ τὰ τοιαῦτα ἔχουσιν. εἰ γὰρ καὶ τὰ μάλιστα ἀπεφύγεν οἰοῦμαι ὅτι πλάκας, ἀλλ' εἰς ἐπὶ τοῖς κατασκευάζουσιν ἀπείρῳ. ἀγάλματα μὲν θεῶν ὅς ἐστι καὶ λίθους ὑπελίσσαντο, ὥσπερ Ἕλληες· ὅτι μὲν τοιαύτας καὶ ἰχθυόμεναι καθάπερ Αἰγυπτίοι· ἀλλὰ πῦρ καὶ ὕδωρ ὡς φιλόσοφοι. *Dion* affirmeth, that the Persian *Magi* sacrificed under the open Heavens, they accounting *Fire and Water to be the only Statues and Images of the Gods*. For I would not here conceal their ignorance neither, who thinking to avoid One Error fall into another; whilst they allow not *Wood and Stones to be the Images of the Gods*, as the *Greeks* do, nor *Ichneumon*es and *Ibides*, as the *Egyptians*, but only *Fire and Water*, as *Philosophers*. Which difference betwixt the Pagan Theologers, that some of them look'd upon the whole World as *God*, or as the *Body of God*, others only as the *Image*, or the *Temple of God*; is thus taken notice of by *Macrobius* upon *Scipio's Dream*, where the World was called a *Temple*. *Bene autem Univerfus Mundus Dei Templum vocatur, propter illos qui æstimant, nihil esse aliud Deum, nisi Cælum ipsum & Cælestia ista quæ cernimus. Idè ut Summi Omnipotentiam Dei, ostenderet posse vix intelligi, nunquam posse videri, quicquid humano sub-jicitur aspectui Templum ejus vocavit; ut qui hæc veneratur ut Temple, cultum tamen maximum debeat Conditori; sciatque quisquis in usum Templi hujus inducitur, ritu sibi vivendum Sacerdotis*: The whole World is well called the Temple of God, in way of opposition to those, who*

L. 1. c. 14.

think

think God to be nothing else, but the Heaven it self, and those Heavenly things which we see, (or the whole Sensible World Animated :) Wherefore Cicero, that he might shew the Omnipotence of the First and Supreme God, to be such as could scarcely be understood, but not at all perceived by Sense, he calleth whatsoever falleth under humane sight, His Temple; that so he that worshippeth these things as the Temple of God, might in the mean time remember, that the chief Worship is due to the Maker and Creator of them; as also that himself ought to live in the World like a Priest or Mystra, holily and religiously. And thus we see that the Pagans were universally Cosmolatres, or World-worshippers, in one sense or other: not that they worshipped the World as a Dead and Inanimate thing, but either as the Body of God, or at least as the Temple or Image of him. Neither of which terminated their worship, in that which was Sensible and Visible only, but in that great Mind or Soul, which Framed and Governeth the whole World Understandingly: though this was called also by them (not the Nature of Things; but) φύσις κοινὴ, The Common Nature, and φύσις τῷ παντί or τῇ ὅλῃ, the Nature of the Universe, because it contained under it, the *Spermatick Reasons*, or *Plastick Principles* of the whole World.

Furthermore these Pagan Theists Universally acknowledging the whole World to be an *Animal*, and that *Mundane Animal* also to be a God; those of them who supposed it not to be the First and Highest God, did consequently all conceive it, as hath been already observed, to be either a *Second* or at least a *Third God*. And thus Origen, *σαφὲς δὲ ὅτι ἔστιν κόσμος λόγον ἔχων οὐκ εἶναι, ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν ἀπὸ πλάτωνος ἢ ἀδ' αὐτοῦ, πῶς ὁ αὐτὸς ὁ τεῖτον.* The Greeks do plainly affirm the whole World to be a God; some of them, as the Stoicks, the First God; others, as the Platonists, (to whom may be added the Egyptians also) the Second God: though some of these Platonists call it the Third God. Those of the Platonists who called the *Mundane Animal*, or *Animated World*, the Second God, look'd upon that whole *Platonick Trinity* of Divine Hypostases (Ταχαὶ, Νῦς and Ψυχή) all but as One First God: but those others of them who called it a Third God, supposed a greater distinction betwixt those Three Hypostases, and made so many several Gods of them; the First, a *Monad* or *Simple Goodness*; the Second, *Mind* or *Intellect*; the Third, *Psyche* or the Universal Soul, which also without any more ado they concluded to be the *Immediate Soul* of this *Corporeal World*, Existing likewise from Eternity with it. Now this Second God, which was the whole *Animated World* as well to the Egyptians as the Platonists, was by them both said to be, not only the Temple and Image, but also the Son of the First God. That the Egyptians called the *Animated World*, the Son of God, hath been already proved; and that the other Pagans did the like also, is evident from this of Celsus, where he pretends, that the Christians called their Jesus, the Son of God, in imitation of those Ancient Pagans, who had styled the World so; *ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν αὐτὸ ἰπλάτων αὐτοῦ, οὐδ' αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἔστιν καλὸν, σημαίνω. Ἀνδρες πελαγοὶ, τίς δὲ ὁ κόσμος, ὃς ἐκ θεοῦ ἡρμύμβρον, πλάττει αὐτὸν ὁ πλάτων, ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν αὐτοῦ πλάτων, ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν αὐτοῦ πλάτων, ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν αὐτοῦ πλάτων.* Whence these Christians came to call their Jesus, the Son of God, I shall now declare. Namely because our Ancestors had called, the World as

Orig. C. Cels.
p. 108.

made by God, the Son of God, and God. Now is there not a goodly similitude (think you) betwixt these two Sons of God, theirs and ours? Upon which words of his, Origen writeth thus, ὡς δὲ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ ὡς ὁ θεὸς, ὡς καὶ οὗτος καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ, ὡς καὶ οὗτος καὶ ὁ θεός, Celsus supposed, as Christians to have borrowed, this Appellation of the Son of God, from the Pagans, they calling the World, as made by God, the Son of God, and God. Wherefore these Pagans, who look'd upon the whole Animated World only as the Second God, and Son of God, did unquestionably also worship the First God, in the World, and that probably by Personating and Deifying his several Parts and Members too. Thus do we understand, what that was which gave occasion to this mistake of late Writers, that the Pagans worshipped the Inanimate Parts of the World, as such, for True and Proper Gods; viz. their not perceiving, that they worshipped these only, as the Parts or Living Members of One Great Mundane Animal, which was to them, if not the First God, yet at least the Second God; the Temple, Image, and Son, of the First God.

And now have we (as we conceive) given a full account of the Seeming Polytheism of the Pagans, not only in their Poetical and Fabulous, but also their Political or Civil Theology; the Former of which was nothing but Phancy and Fiction, and the Conforming of Divine, to Humane Things; the Latter nothing but Vulgar Opinion and Error, together with the Laws and Institutes of Statesmen and Politicians, designed Principally to amuze the Vulgar, and keep them the better in obedience and subjection to Civil Laws. Besides which the Intelligent Pagans, generally acknowledged another Theology, which was neither Fiction, nor meer Opinion and Law, but Nature and Philosophy, or Absolute Truth and Reality: according to which Natural and Philosophick Theology of theirs, there was only One Unmade Self-originated Deity, and many other Created Gods, as his Inferiour Ministers. So that those many Poetical and Political Gods, could not possibly be look'd upon otherwise, than either as the Created Ministers of One Supreme God, whether taken Singly or Collectively; or else as the Polyonymy and Various Denomination of him, according to several Notions and Partial Conceptions of him; and his several Powers and Manifestations in the World, Personated and Deified. Which latter we have already proved to have been the most generally received Opinion of the Pagan Theologers; according to that of Euclides the Philosopher, ἐν ταῖς θύραις πολλοῖς ἑνὲα καὶ ἑκατόμβη, There is One Supreme Good (or Highest Deity) called by Many Names: and according to that of Antisthenes before cited, That the Many Popular Gods, were but One and the same Natural God, viz. as Laërtius adds, Summa totius Artifex, The Maker of the whole World.

L. 1. c. 5.

C. D. L. 1. c. 10.

We shall conclude with repeating what hath been already suggested, that though the Intelligent Pagans, did Generally disclaim their Fabulous Theology; St. Austin telling us, that when the absurdities thereof were urged against them, they would commonly make such replies as these, Absit, inquit, Fabularum est ista Garrulitas; and again, Rursus, inquit, ad Fabulas redis; Far be it from

from us (say they) to think so or so, this is nothing but the garrulity of idle Fables, and, You would bring us again to Fables; and though they owned another Theology besides their Civil also, which was the Natural and Philosophical, as the only True, yet did they notwithstanding acknowledge a kind of necessity, that in those times at least, there should be besides the Natural and Philosophical Theology, which the Vulgar were not so capable of, another Theology framed and held forth, that might be more accommodate to their apprehensions. Thus that Roman Pontifex Scævola in St. Austin declareth, *Expedire existimat falli in Religione Civitates*, That it was expedient (as he thought) that Cities and Commonwealths, should be deceived in their Religion, or have something False or Fabulous intermingled with it. He giving this reason for the same, Because the Natural and Philosophick Theology, contained many things in it, which though True, yet would be hurtful for the Vulgar to know; as for example, *Quod Verus Deus nec Sexum habeat, nec Aetatem, nec definita Corporis Membra*, That the True God hath neither Sex, nor Age, nor bodily Members; and that Hercules and Æsculapius, &c. were not Gods but Men, obnoxious to the same infirmities with others, and the like. And the Learned Varro, in his Book of Religions, publicly maintained the same Doctrine; Varro de Religionibus loquens, *evidenter dicit, Multa esse Vera quæ vulgo scire non sit Utile; Multaque quæ tametsi Falsa sint, aliter existimare Populum expediat*; & ideo Græcos Teletas & Mysteria taciturnitate parietibusque clausisse, &c. That there were many things True in Religion, which it was not convenient for the Vulgar to know; as likewise many things False, of which it was expedient they should think otherwise; and that for this cause, the Greeks enclosed their Teletæ or Mysteries within walls, and kept them under a Seal of Secrecy. Upon which of Varro St. Austin thus noteth, *Hic cerè totum Consilium prodidit Sapientium, per quos Civitates & Populi regerentur*; Varro here plainly discovers and betrays the whole counsel and secrecy of Statesmen and Politicians, by whom Cities and Nations were governed, and their very Arcanum of Government, namely this, That People were to be deceived in their Religion, for their own good and the good of their Governors. The same Father there adding, That Evil Demons were much gratified with this Doctrine, and liked this Fraud and Imposition very well, which gave them an advantage to Rule and Tyrannize, as well over the Deceivers as the Deceived. Lastly Strabo also, though otherwise a grave and sober Writer, speaks freely and broadly to the same purpose, ὅτι ὅχλος τι γεναίων καὶ πολλὰ ἡμαῖς πλείους ἐπαρῶν λόγῳ δυνατὴν φιλοσοφῆν, καὶ προσκαλίσσασθαι πρὸς ἀσέβειαν καὶ ὁσιότητα καὶ πίσιν· ἀλλὰ οὐ καὶ διὰ διαποικιλίας, τὸτο ὃ οὐκ ἀνδρ. μυθωπίας καὶ περὶ τῆς. It is not possible, that women and others of the Vulgar sort, should be convinced and carried on towards Piety, Holiness and Faith, merely by Philosophick Reason and Truth; but this must be done by Superstition, and that not without the help of Fables and Prodigiums or Wonderful Narrations. From whence it is plain, that Strabo did not only allow a necessity of a Civil Theology besides the Natural and Philosophical, but also of a Fabulous and Poetical one too. And this is a thing the less to be wondered at in these Pagans, because some Christians also seem to acknowledge a kind of truth herein; *synesius* himself writing after this man-

net; τὴν ἑαυτὸν καταγελάσσει ὁ δῆμος· αὐτὴν γὰρ περὶ τῆς· *That which is easie and ordinary will be contemned by the Vulgar, or Common People; and therefore there is need of something Strange and Prodigious in Religion for them.* *Flavins Josephus*, making this Free Acknowledgment, concerning the Wise men among the Greeks, ταῦτα φησὶ διὰ φρονῶν οἱ σοφίσταις δεῖναι τοῖς ἔλλησι, *That they held the same things concerning God which the Jews did*, adds notwithstanding afterwards, εἰς πλῆθος δέξαις παραπεισμένον, τῷ ἀλῆθειαν τῷ δόγματι ἐξιστῆν ἢ ἐπὶ λησσαι, *That they were afraid to declare the Truth of this their Doctrine to the Vulgar, prepossessed with other Opinions.* And indeed they did not think it safe to declare the Natural and True Theology, promiscuously to all; *Plato* himself intimating as much in these Words, ὅτι πικρὸν καὶ πικρὰ τῶντι τῇ πικρῇ, εἰς πῶς αὐτὸν ἀδύνατον λέγειν· *That as it was hard, to find out the Maker of this Universe, so neither, being found out, could be declared to the vulgar.* Wherefore since God was so hard to be understood, they conceived it necessary, that the Vulgar should be permitted, to Worship him in his Works, by Parts and Piecemeal, according to the various Manifestations of himself; that is, should have a Civil Theology at least, distinct from the Natural and Philosophical, if not another Fabulous one too.

XXXV. We have now dispatched the First of those Three Heads proposed to be insisted on, viz. That the Pagans worshipped One and the same Supreme God, under Many Personal Names, so that much of their Polytheism, was but Seeming and Phantastical, and indeed nothing but the Polyonymy of One Supreme God, they making Many Poetical and Political Gods of that One Natural God: and thus worshipping God by Parts and Piece-meal; according to that clear acknowledgement of *Maximus Madanensis* before cited; *Unius Summi Dei Virtutes, per Mundanum Opus Diffusæ, non multis Vocabulis invocamus; & dum Ejus quasi quedam Membra carptim variis Supplicationibus prosequimur, Totum colere videmur; The virtues of the One Supreme God diffused throughout the whole World, we (Pagans) invoke under many several Names, and so prosecuting with our supplications, his as it were Divided Members, must needs be thought to worship him whole, we leaving out nothing of him.* We shall proceed to the Second Head proposed, That besides this Polyonymy of One Supreme God, in the Poetical and Civil Theology of the Pagans, which was their Seeming and Phantastick Polytheism, they had another Real Polytheism also, they acknowledging in their Natural and Philosophick Theology likewise, a Multiplicity of Gods, that is, of Substantial Understanding Beings, Superiour to men, really Existing in the world. Which though they were called by them Gods, yet were they not therefore supposed to be ἀφύμνω and αὐτοῦτοις, *Unmade and Self-existent, or Independent Beings*, but all of them (One only excepted) *ἡμιότι θεοί, Generated Gods*, according to the larger Notion of that word before declared, that is, though not αὐτὸν χρόνον, yet at least, ἀπ' αἰτίας γενεοί, though not as Made in time, yet as Produced from a Superiour Cause. *Plutarch* propounding this for one amongst his Platonick Questions, Why ὁ ἀνωτάτω θεός, the Highest or Supreme God, was called by *Plato*, both The Father and Maker of all things, gives this Reply to it in the Words

Words before cited; ἡ τοῦ μὲν θεοῦ τοῦ γυναικὸς ἡ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου πα-
 τὴρ ἔστι (ὡς Ὀμήρου ἐπιτομή) ποιητὴς ἢ τοῦ ἀλόγου ἢ ἀψύχου, *That*
perhaps he was said to be the Father of all the Generated Gods, and of
Men, (as he is also styled in Homer) but the Maker of all other Ir-
rational and Inanimate Beings. From which Passage of *Plutarch's* it
 plainly appears, that the ὁ ἀνωτάτω θεός, *The One Highest God,*
 being every way ἀγνώστῳ, *Unmade and unproduced,* was
 thought to be the Maker or Father of all the other Gods,
 therefore called γυναικὸς. Which is further plainly declared elsewhere
 by the same *Plutarch* in these words; Πλάτωνος πατέρας ἡ πωτὶ τῶν Συμφ. L. 6.
 κόσμου καὶ τοῦ ἄλλου γυναικὸς, ἢ Ἀγενητὸν ἢ Ἀίδιον εἶναι ἐπινοοῦντων. c. 1.
Plato calleth the One Unmade and Eternal God, the Father and Maker of
the World, and of all other things Generated. And though some of those
 Many Gods of *Plato's* were by him also called Ἀίδιον or *Eternal,* yet were
 they likewise, γεννῶ too, in another sense, that is *Produced and Derived*
 by way of Emanation, from that One, who is every way Ἀγνώστῳ, *Un-*
derived and Independent upon any other Cause. And thus *Proclus* U- Theol. P. L. 3:
 νικητικῶς ἀποφασίζει; τὸ εἶναι θεοὺς, πάντας αἱ θεοὺς, διὰ τὸ πρῶτον ἔχοντα θεόν. c. 7.
All the Gods owe, their Being Gods, to the First God. He adding, that
 he is therefore called πηγὴ τῆς θεότητος, *The Fountain of the Godhead.*

Wherefore the *Many Gods* of the Intelligent Pagans, were derived
 from One God, and but ὑπερεὶς δυνάμεις, (as *Plutarch* somewhere calls
 them) *The Subservient Powers, or Ministers of the One Supreme Un-*
made Deity. Which (as hath been before observed) was frequently
 called by these Pagans θεός, *God,* κατ' ἐξουσίαν, or in way of Emi-
 nency; as likewise were those other *Inferiour or Generated Gods,* in
 way of distinction from him called θεοὶ *The Gods.* And accordingly
 the sense of *Celsus* is thus represented in *Origen*, θεὸς δημιουργὸς ὅλων L. 4. p. 109;
 πάντων σωμάτων, μόνος ψυχῆς ἔχων εὐνοίας θεός. *That the Gods were the*
Makers of the Bodies of all Animals, the Souls of them only, being the
Work of God. Moreover these *Inferiour Gods,* are styled by *Ammia-*
nus Marcellinus, Substantiales Potestates, Substantial Powers, probably L. 1.
 in way of distinction from those other Pagan Gods, that were not
Substantial, but only so many Names and Notions of the One Supreme
 God, or his Powers severally Personated and Deified, Which *Substan-*
tial Powers of Am. Marcellinus, (as Divination and Prophecy was by
 their means imparted to men) were all said to be subject to that One
 Sovereign Deity called *Themis*: whom (saith he) the ancient Theo-
 logers seated In Cubili & Sedia Jovis, in the Bed-chamber and Throne
 of Jupiter; as indeed some of the Poets have made her to be the
 wife of Jupiter, and others his Sister. And *Anaxarchus* in *Plutarch*
 styles her παρὰ τὸν τῷ Διὶ, *Jupiter's Assessor,* though that *Philosophar*
 abused the Fable, and grossly depraved the meaning of it, as if it sig-
 nified πᾶν τὸ περὶ τὸν τῷ θεῷ ἔργον, ἢ μὴ, ὅτι, *That what-*
soever is done by the Sovereign Power, is therefore Just and Right:
 whereas the True Moral thereof was this, That *Justice or Righteous-*
ness sits in Counsel with God, and in his Mind and Will, prescribes
 Laws to Nature and the whole World. *Themis* therefore was ano-
 ther Name of God, amongst the Pagans, according to his Universal Con-
 sideration, besides those before mentioned: and when *Plato* in his
 Book

L. 11.

De Dea Themide p. 39.

Book of Laws, would have men to swear by the Names of those Three Gods, *Jupiter, Apollo, and Themis*; these were but so many several Partial Notions of the One Supreme Deity; the meaning thereof being no other than this, as *Pighius* observeth, *Timore Divino, Veritate ipsa, ac Æquitate sanciri debere Juramenta. In Jove enim Summi Numinis Potestatem, Falsi ac Perjurii Vindicem; in Apolline Veritatis Lumen; in Themide, Jus, Fas atque Licitum esse intelligitur. Est enim Themis, ipsa Lex aeterna atq; Universalis, Mundo ac Naturæ præscripta; or according to Cicero, Ratio recta Summi Jovis. And Ficinus in his Commentary as to the main agreeth herewith. So that, when the Pagan Theologers affirmed, the Numen of Themis to preside over the Spirits of the Elements, and all those other Substantial Powers, from whom Divination was participated to men; their meaning therein was clearly no other than this; That there was One Supreme Deity ruling over all the other Gods, and that the Divine Mind, which prescribeth Laws to Nature and the whole World, and contains all the Fatal Decrees in it, according to the Evolution of which, things come to pass in the World, was the Fountain from whence all Divination proceeded; as these Secrets were more or less imparted from thence to those Inferiour Created Spirits. The Philosophy of the Pagan Theology amongst the Greeks was plainly no other than this; That there is One Unmade Self-existent Deity the Original of all, and that there are many other Substantial Powers or Spirits, created by it, as the Ministers of its Providence in the World: but there was much of Poetry or Poetick Phancy, intermingled with this Philosophy, as the Flourish to it, to make up their Pagan Theology.*

Thus, as hath been before declared, the Pagans held both *One God*, and *Many Gods*, in different senses: *One Unmade Self-existent Deity*, and *Many Generated or Created Gods*. *Onatus* the Pythagorean declaring that they who asserted one only God and not Many, *Understood not what the Dignity and Majesty of the Divine Transcendency consisted in, namely in ruling over Gods*: and *Plotinus* conceiving that the Supreme God was most of all Glorified, not by being *Contracted into One*, but by *having Multitudes of Gods, Derived from him, and Dependent on him*; and that the Honour done to them, redounded unto him. Where there are Two Things to be distinguished; First, that according to the Pagan Theists, God was no *Solitary Being*; but that there were Multitudes of Gods, or *Substantial Powers*, and *Living Understanding Natures*, Superiour to men, which were neither *Self-existent*, nor yet *Generated out of Matter*, but all *Generated or Created from One Supreme*. Secondly, that inasmuch as these were all supposed to have some Influence more or less, upon the Government of the World, and the Affairs of Mankind, they were therefore all of them conceived to be the due Objects of mens Religious Worship, Adoration and Invocation; and accordingly was the Pagan Devotion scattered amongst them all. Nor were the Gods of the Oriental Pagans neither, meer *Dead Statues and Images*, as some would conclude from the Scripture, but *Living Understanding Beings, Superiour to men*, (though worshipped in Images) according to that Reply of the Chaldeans in *Daniel* to *Nebuchadnezzar*, when he required them to tell his Dream,

Dream, *There is none other that can shew this thing before the King, Except Those Gods whose Dwelling is not with Flesh; that is, The Immortal Gods, or who are exalted above the Condition of Humane Frailty.* Though some conceive, that these words are to be understood of a Peculiar sort of Gods; namely, that this was such a thing, as could not be done by those *Demons* and *Lower Aerial Gods*, which frequently converse with men, but was reserved to a *Higher Rank* of Gods, who are above humane converse. Now as to the Former of these Two Things, that God is no *Solitary Being*, but that there are Multitudes of Understanding Beings Superiour to Men, the *Creatures* and *Ministers* of One Supreme God; the Scriptures both of the Old and New Testament fully agree with the Pagans herein: *Thousand Thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him, and Ye are come to an innumerable Company of Angels.* But the Latter of them, That Religious Worship and Invocation doth of right belong to these Created Spirits, is constantly denied and condemned in these Writings, that Being a thing peculiarly reserved, to that one God, who was the Creator of Heaven and Earth. And thus is that Prophecy of *Jeremy* to be understood, expressed in the Chaldean Tongue, that so the Jews might have it in readiness for those Chaldean Idolaters, when they came into *Babylon*, Thus *shall ye say unto them, the Gods that have not made the Heavens and the Earth, shall perish from the Earth, and from under these Heavens.* That is, there shall come a time, when none shall be *Religiously Worshipped* any where upon the face of the whole Earth, save only that God who made the Heavens and the Earth, and he without Images too. Which Prophecy, but in part yet fulfilled, shall then have its complete accomplishment, when the Kingdoms of this world, shall become the Kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ. And thus is the Controversie rightly stated betwixt the Pagans and the Christians by *Laſſan-*
tius. *Sed fortasse querat aliquis à nobis, quod apud Ciceronem querit Hortensius; Si Deus Unus est, quæ esse beata Solitudo queat? Tanquam nos qui unum esse dicimus, Desertum ac Solitarium esse dicamus. Habet enim Ministros, quos vocamus Nuntios. Et est istud verum quod dixisse Senecam supra retuli: Genuisse Regni sui Ministros Deum. Verum hi neque Dii sunt, neque Deos se vocari aut coli volunt: quippe, qui nihil præter Jussum ac Voluntatem Dei faciant. As if we who say, there is but one God, therefore made a Solitary and Deserted Deity. Whereas we acknowledge that God hath his Ministers, whom we call Angels: And we grant that to be true, which was before cited out of Seneca, That God hath Generated or Created Ministers of his Kingdom. But these are neither Gods, nor would they be called Gods, nor worshipped; forasmuch as they only Execute the will and command of God. And again afterwards to the same purpose, Si eos multitudo deleſſat, non Duodecim dicimus, nec Trecentos sexaginta quinque (ut Orpheus) sed innumerabiles, & arguimus eorum errores in diversum, qui tam paucos putant. Siant tamen quo nomine appellari debeant; nè Deum Verum violent, cuius Nomen exponunt, dum Pluribus tribuunt, &c. If Multitude delight them, we say not, that there are Twelve, nor yet three hundred sixty five, as Orpheus, but innumerable. And we tax their error on the contrary who think them to be so few. Nevertheless let them know, by what name they*

Daniel 7.10.

Heb. 12.22:

Jercy 10.11;

Rom. 11.15;

L.1.

they ought to be called, *Lest they violate the true God, whose Name is profaned, when it is given to many.* From which passages of *Lactantius* it plainly appeareth, that the main Controversie between the Christians and the Pagans, was then only this, *Whether or no, the Created Ministers of the Supreme God, might be called Gods, and Religiously Worshipped.* But this Pagan Objection against the *Solitary Deity* of the Christians, is by some ancient Christian Writers also otherwise answered; namely from those Three *Hypostases* or *Persons* of the *Trinity*; they affirming upon that account, that though Christians did not acknowledge such a Multitude of Gods, as the Pagans, yet did they not therefore make God a *Solitary* and *Steril Being*, before the Creation neither, as the Jews did; but went in a middle way betwixt Jews and Pagans: they interpreting also *Moses* his *Faciamus Hominem*, to this sence.

XXXVI. We shall now shew Particularly what these *Many Gods* of the Pagans were. It hath been often observed, That the Pagans were divided in their *Philosophick* or *Natural Theology*, as to their Opinions concerning the *Supreme God*: some of them thinking, τὸ οὖν ἐξουσιώδες εἶναι τὸ ὅλης φύσεως, *That the Supreme Deity was an Abstract Being, Elevated above Nature and the Whole World*: but others that he was nothing higher, than an *Anima Mundi*, or *Soul of the World*. Now the former of these Two were chiefly amongst the Greeks, the *Pythagoreans* and the *Platonists*, who had accordingly several Distinctions amongst them concerning their Gods, as between the ὑπερκόσμοι θεοὶ and the ἐνκόσμοι, *The Supermundane and the Mundane Gods*; The θεοὶ αἰδίου and the γεννητοὶ, *the Eternal and the Generated Gods*; that Latter word being now taken in a narrower and more confined sence, for such as were made in Time, or had a Beginning of their Existence: and Lastly, the νοητοὶ θεοὶ and the αἰσθητοὶ, *the Intelligible and the Sensible Gods*. And the ὑπερκόσμοι, αἰδίου and νοητοὶ θεοὶ, *Supermundane, Eternal, and Intelligible Gods*, of these *Pythagoreans* and *Platonists*, were first of all and Principally, those τρεῖς ἀρχαὶ ὑποστάεις, (as *Plotinus* calls them) those *Three Divine Hypostases*, that have the Nature of *Principles* in the Universe, viz. *Taughton* or *Hew*, *Nous* and *Psyche*; or *Monad*, *Mind*, and *Soul*. That this *Trinity* was not first of all a meer Invention of *Plato's*, but much antienter than him, is plainly affirmed by *Plotinus* in these words, καὶ εἶναι τὰς λόγους τούτους μὴ καινὸς, μὴ ἤνυν, ἀλλὰ πάλαι μὲν εἰρηδοῦναι μὴ ἀπαπεισμένους, τὰς δὲ νῦν λόγους ἐξηγητὰς εὐακρῶς γινώσκοντες· μαρτυροῦντες πρῶτον μὲν ταῖς διέξαι ταύτας παλαιὰς εἶναι, τοῖς αὐτῶ τῷ πλάτωνα γράμματι· ἠπείτα μὲν ἐν καὶ Παρμενίδης πρῆνεν τὸ τοιαύτης διέξαι· *That these Doctrines are not new, nor of yesterday; but have been very antiently delivered, though obscurely (the discourses now extant, being but Explanations of them) appears from Plato's own writings; Parmenides before him having insisted on them.*

En. 3. L. 1.

Now it is well known, that *Parmenides* was addicted to the *Pythagorick Sect*, and therefore probable, that this *Doctrine* of a *Divine Triad* was one of the *Arcanums* of that School also. Which is further confirmed from hence, because *Numenius* a famous *Pythagorean* entertained

entertained it, as such. And *Moderatus* (as *Simplicius* informeth ^{In. Ar. Phys. fol. 50.} us) plainly affirmeth, this *Trinity of Principles*, to have been a *Pythagorick Cabala*; ἡ γὰρ τῶν Πυθαγορείων τὸ μὲν πρῶτον ἐν ὑπὲρ τὸ ὄν καὶ πᾶσιν ἐστὶν ἀπερρώσεται· τὸ δὲ δεύτερον δὲ, ὑπὲρ ἑστὶ τὸ ὄντος ὃν καὶ τοῦτ, καὶ ὅθεν φασὶν εἶναι· τὸ δὲ τρίτον ὑπὲρ ἑστὶ ψυχικόν, μετέχον τῶ ὄντος καὶ τῶ ὁδῶν. This (*Moderatus*) declareth, that according to the *Pythagoreans*, the *First One or Unity*, is above all *Essence*; that the *Second One*, which is that which truly is, and *Intelligible*, according to them, is the *Ideas*; and that the *Third*, which is *Psychical* or *Soul*, partaketh both of the *First Unity*, and of the *Ideas*. Lastly we have *Jamblichus* his Testimony also in *Proclus* to the same purpose; τρεῖς εἶναι θεοὺς τέτους καὶ ὧν τοῖς πυθαγορείοις ὑμνομενέας, That there were Three Gods also praised by the *Pythagoreans*. Now we have before shewed, that *Pythagoras* his *Philosophy*, was derived from the *Orphick Cabala*, which *Proclus* in another place thus fully testifieth, ἅπαντα γὰρ ἐν πάρ' ἐλλῆσι θεολογία καὶ ὅρ. Theol. Plat. L. 1. c. 5. φικῆς ἑστὶ μυστικῆς ἔκθεσις· πρῶτος μὲν Πυθαγόρας ὧν Ἀγλαοφῆμος τὸ ὧν θεῶν ὅργια διδασκόμενος· δεύτερος δὲ Πλάτων· ὑποδέχμενος τῷ παντὶ ὧν τῶν ἑσπερίων, ἐν τῇ τῶν πυθαγορείων καὶ ὀρφικῶν γεωμετρίας. All the *Theology* of the *Greeks*, was derived from the *Orphick Mystagogia*; *Pythagoras* being first instructed by *Aglaophemus* in the *Orphick Orgia*, or *Mysteries* concerning the Gods; and *Plato* being the next who received a perfect knowledge of all these *Divine things*, both out of the *Pythagorick* and the *Orphick writings*. And that a *Trinity* was part of that *Orphick Cabala*, we have already proved, out of *Amelius*, he affirming (in *Proclus*) that *Plato's Three Kings* were the same with *Orpheus* his *Trinity*, of *Phanes*, *Uranus*, and *Cronus*. Moreover, since all these *Three*, *Orpheus*, *Pythagoras*, and *Plato*, travelling into *Egypt*, were there initiated in that *Arcane Theology* of the *Egyptians* (called *Hermaical*) it seemeth probable (as was before observed) that this *Doctrine of a Divine Triad*, was also part of the *Arcane Theology* of the *Egyptians*. It hath been also noted, that there were some footsteps of such a *Trinity* in the *Mithraick Mysteries* amongst the *Persians*, derived from *Zoroaster*; as likewise that it was expressly contained in the *Magick* or *Chalday Oracles*, of whatsoever authority they may be. Moreover it hath been signified, that the *Samothracians* had very anciently a certain *Trinity of Gods*, that were the Highest of all their Gods, and that called by an *Hebrew* name too, *Cabbirim*, or the *Mighty Gods*: and that from thence the *Roman Capitoline Trinity of Gods*, was derived. The second whereof was *Minerva*, which amongst the *Latins*, as *Athena* amongst the *Greeks*, was understood to signify the *Divine Wisdom*. Lastly, the *Ternary* or *Triad*, was not only accounted a *Sacred Number* amongst the *Pythagoreans*, but also as containing some *Mystery* in *Nature*, was therefore made use of by other *Greeks* and *Pagans*, in their *Religious Rites*; as *Aristotle* informeth us; διὸ ὧν τὸ φύσις ἀναφύει ἀπὸ τῶν τρεῶν καὶ πρὸς τὰς ἀγνῶστας τῶν θεῶν χάριτας τὰς ἀεὶ αὐτῶν τῶν· Wherefore from *Nature*, and as it were observing her *Laws*, have we taken the *Number of Three*, making use of the same in the *Sacrifices* of the Gods, and other *Purifications*. ^{De Caelo L. 7.}

Now since it cannot well be conceived, how such a *Trinity of Divine Hypotheses*, should be first discovered merely by humane Wit and Reason

βαλονται μὴ ἐπ' ἀφ' οὗ τούτου, μὴ δ' αὖ ἐπὶ ψυχῆς διὸς παρκαταί, ἀλλ' ἔσται αὐτῷ καὶ ἄλλος ἀμείνων πρὸ αὐτοῦ προῖον. *And this Nature is God, I say a Second God, offering himself to view, before that other God can be seen, who is Seated above, this being as it were the Glorious Throne of him. For it is not fit, that he should be immediately Seated in anything that is Inanimate; nor in meer Soul neither, but that there should be such an immense Pulchritude and Splendour shining before him; like the Pomp and Procession before the Great King.* He also elsewhere mentions all these Three Gods together, making this World to be an Image of them all. Εἰκότως ἐν λέγειναι ἔσθ' ὁ κόσμος ἐκείν, αἱ εἰκονίζομενος· ἐκδοτῶν μὲν τῷ πρώτῳ, καὶ δ' ἄλλῳ, τῷ ἡ τῶν, ἐκδοτῶν μὲν καὶ αὐτῷ, ἀλλ' ἐν τῷ ὅλῳ, καὶ τῷ συμμεινόμενος κατωμίνε· *Wherefore this World may well be called an Image, it depending upon that above, as an Image in a Glass, which is Threefold. Whereof the First and Second God always stand Immovably, the Third likewise is in it self Stable too, but accidentally moved, by reason of the Mobility of matter, and things below it. And that we may here give a Taste of the Mystical Theology and Enthusiasm of these Platonists too; Porphyrius in the Life of Plotinus affirmeth, that both Plotinus and Himself, had sometimes experience of a kind of Ecstatick Union with the First of these Three Gods, that which is above Mind and Understanding; πλάττειν ἀνάγκη ἑαυτὸν εἰς τὸ πρῶτον καὶ ἐπέμνεον διὰ τὰς ἐνοίας, ἐφ' αἷν ἐκείνους ὁ μὲν μαρτυρῶν, μὴ τί τινα ἰδὲν ἔχον, ὑπὲρ ἧτον καὶ πᾶν τὸ ποτὶ ἰδρυμένος· ὁ δὲ καὶ ἐγὼ παρφύρεως ἅπαξ λέγων πλησάσαι καὶ ἐκιδύνα· Plotinus often endeavouring to raise up his mind to the First and Higheſt God; That God sometimes appeared to him, who hath neither Form nor Idea, but is placed above Intellect, and all that is Intelligible: to whom I Porphyrius affirm my self to have been once united in the Sixty eighth year of my age. And again afterwards, τέλος αὐτῷ καὶ σκοπὸς ἦν, τὸ ἐκιδύνασθαι καὶ πελάσαι τῷ ἐπὶ πᾶσι θεῷ, ἔτυχεν ἡ περὶ τούτου πρὸς τὸν αὐτὸν τῷ σκοπῷ τότε, Plotinus his chief aim and scope was, to be united to, and conjoynd with the Supreme God, who is above all, which scope he attained unto, Four several times, whilst my self was with him, by a certain ineffable Energie. That is, Plotinus aimed at such a kind of Rapturous and Ecstatick Union with the τὸ ἕν, and τὰ ἀγαθόν, the First of the Three Higheſt Gods, (called The One and The Good) as by himself is described towards the latter end of his Last Book. Where he calls it ἐπαφῶν, and παρκαταί ἑπὶ τῷ κόσμῳ καὶ ἑαυτῷ, καὶ τὸ ἐκιδύνασθαι τῷ οὐρανῷ καὶ τῷ κόσμῳ συνάπτειν, a kind of Tactual Union, and a certain Presence better than Knowledge, and the joyning of our own Centre, as it were, with the Centre of the Universe. Thus we see that the Platonick Trinity, is a Trinity of Gods, of which Three Gods therefore, the Second and the Third must of necessity be Inferiour Gods, because otherwise, they would be Three Independent Gods, whereas the Pagan Theology. Expressly disclaims a Plurality, of Independent and Self-originated Deities,*

But since according to the Principles of Christianity, which was partly designed to oppose and bear down the Pagan Polytheism; there is *One only God*, to be acknowledged; the meaning whereof notwithstanding seems to be chiefly directed, against the *Deifying of Created Beings*, or giving Religious Worship to any, besides the Uncrea-

ted, and the Creatour of all: moreover, since in the Scripture which is the only true Rule and Measure of this *Divine Cabala* of the *Trinity*, though the *Λόγος* or *Word* be said to have been, *With God* (that is, *God the Father*) and also it self to *Be God* (that is, not a *Creature*) yet is it no where called *An Other*, or *Second God*. Therefore cannot we Christians entertain this Pagan Language of a *Trinity of Gods*, but must call it either a *Trinity of Divine Hypostases*, or *Subsistences*, or *Persons*, or the like. Nevertheless it is observable, that *Philo*, though according to his Jewish Principles, he was a zealous Opposer of the *Pagan Polytheism* and *Idolatry*, yet did he not for all that, scruple to call the *Θεὸν Λόγον* the *Divine Word*, after the Platonick way, *ἑκτον θεόν* a *Second God*; as not suspecting this to clash with the Principles of his Religion, or that *Second Commandment* of the Decalogue, *Thou shalt have no other Gods before my Face*; possibly because he conceived, that this was to be understood of *Creature-Gods* only; whereas his *Second God*, the *Divine Λόγος* or *Word*, is declared by him to be *αἰδώς*, *Eternal*, and therefore according to the Jewish Theology *Uncreated*. However this Language of a *Second* and *Third God*, is not so excusable in a Jew, as it might be in a Pagan; because the Pagans according to the Principles of their Religion, were so far from having any *Scrupulosity*, against a *Plurality of Gods*, (so long as there was only *One Fountain of the Godhead* acknowledged) that they rather accounted it an honour to the Supreme God, as hath been already shewed, that he should have *Many other*, not only *Titular Gods* under him, but also such as were *Religiously Worshipped*: Wherefore besides this *Second* and *Third God*, they also did luxuriate in their other *Many Creature-gods*. And indeed *St. Austin* doth upon this accompt, seem somewhat to excuse the Pagans for this their *Trinity of Gods*, and *Principles*, in these words, *Libere enim verbis loquuntur Philosophi, nec in rebus ad intelligendum difficillimis, offensionem religiosarum aurium pertimescunt. Nobis autem ad certam Regulam loqui fas est, ne Verborum licentia, etiam in rebus, quæ in his significantur, impiam gignat opinionem. Nos autem non dicimus Duo vel Tria Principia, cum de Deo loquimur: sicut nec Duos Deos vel Tres, nobis licitum est dicere, quamvis de Unoquoque loquentes, vel de Filio, vel de Spiritu Sancto, etiam singulum quemque Deum esse fateamur.* The Philosophers use *Free Language*, nor in these things which are extremely difficult to be understood, did they at all fear the offending of any *Religious* and *Scrupulous* ears. But the Case is otherwise with us *Christians*, for we are tied up to *Phrases*, and ought to speak according to a certain Rule, lest the licentious use of words, should beget a wicked Opinion in any concerning those things that are signified by them. That is, though this might be in a manner excusable in the Pagans, because each of those *Three Hypostases* is *God*, therefore to call them severally *Gods*, and all of them a *Trinity of Gods*, and *Principles*; they having no such Rule then given them to govern their Language by as this, *That though the Father be God, the Son God, and the Holy Ghost God, yet are they not Three Gods, but One God*: yet is not this allowable for us *Christians*, to speak of a *Second* or *Third God* or *Principle*, or to call the *Holy Trinity* a *Trinity of Gods*, notwithstanding that when we speak of the Father or of the Son, or of the Holy Ghost severally, we confess each of them to be *God*. And

And indeed when the Pagans thus spake of a *First, Second and Third God*, and no more, though having Innumerable other Gods besides, they did by this Language plainly imply, that these *Three Gods* of theirs, were of a very different kind, from all the rest of their Gods; that is, not *Διοὶ γένετοὶ* but *αἰδίδου*, not *Created*, but *Eternal and Uncreated Ones*. And that many of them did really take this *Whole Trinity of Gods*, for the *Τὸ ὅλον* in general, the *Divine Numen*, and sometimes call it the *First God* too, in way of distinction from their *Generated Gods*; will be showed afterward. So that the *πρῶτος θεὸς* the *First God*, was used in different senses by these Pagans, sometimes in a larger sense, and in way of opposition to all the *γένετοὶ θεοὶ* the *Generated or Created Gods*, or the Gods that were made in Time together with the World; and sometime again, more Particularly, in way of distinction from those *Two other Divine Hypostases Eternal*, called by them the *Second and Third God*. Which *First of the Three Gods*, is also frequently by them called *θεὸς*, *God*, *Emphatically* and by way of Excellency, they supposing a *Gradual Subordination* in these Principles.

Neither was this *Trinity of Divine Substances* only thus ill-*language'd* by the Pagans generally, when they called it a *Trinity of Gods*; but also the *Cabala* thereof, was otherwise much Depraved and Adulterated, by several of the Platonists and Pythagoreans. For first, the *Third* of these *Three Hypostases* commonly called *Psyche*, is by some of them made to be *ψυχὴ ἑνός μοῦ* the *Immediate Soul of the Corporeal World*, informing, acting, and enlivening it, after the same manner as the Souls of other Animals do their respective Bodies; inasmuch that this Corporeal World itself, as together with its Soul it makes up one Complete Animal, was frequently called the *Third God*. This *Proclus* affirmeth of *Numenius* the Pythagorean, *ὃ γὰρ κόσμος κατ' αὐτὸν ὁ τρίτος ἐστὶ θεὸς*, *That the World according to him, was the Third God*. And *Plotinus*, being a great Reader of this *Numenius*, seems to have been somewhat infected by him with this conceit also, though contrary to his own Principles; from those words before cited out of him, *ὁ κόσμος θεὸς, ὡς αὖθις συνήθως λέγεται, τρίτος, the World, as is commonly said, is the Third God*.

Now if the World be not a *Creature*, then is there no *Created Being* at all, but all is God. But not only *Timæus Locrens*, but also *Plato* himself, calls it, *θεὸν γένετον*, that is, a *Created God*, the word *γένετον* being here put for that, which after it once was not, is brought into Being; which is the proper Notion of a *Creature*. So that the *Animated World*, is by *Plato* made to be only the chief of all the *γένετοὶ θεοὶ*, that is, the *Creature-Gods*. Wherefore it is plain that in this Trinity of some Platonists and Pythagoreans, wherein the World is made to be the *Third God*, there is a confused Jumble of *Created*, and *Uncreated Beings* together. For the First of those Gods is the Father and Fountain of all, or the Original of the Godhead. And the Second, inasmuch as he is called by them, both *πρωτὸς* and *δημιουργός*, the *Maker*, and the *Opificer of the whole World*, he there-
fore

fore can be no Creature neither : whereas the *Third*, which is said to be the World, was by *Numenius* himself also expressly called, both ποιμα and τὸ δημιουργούμενον, the *Work* or *Thing Made*, that is, plainly, the *Creature* of both the Former. *Proclus* thus fully represents his sense, Παῖτες μὲν καὶ τὸ πρῶτον, ποιητὴν δὲ τὸ δεύτερον, ποιμα δὲ τὸ τρίτον· ἔστι δὲ κατ' αὐτὸ δημιουργὸς αὐτῶν, ὃ, πρῶτος καὶ ὁ ἀδύνατος εἶς, τὸ δὲ δημιουργούμενον ὁ τρίτος· *Numenius* called the *First* of the *Three Gods*, the *Father* ; the *Second* of them the *Maker* ; and the *Third* the *Work* or *Thing Made* ; so that according to *Numenius* there were two *Opificers* or *Creators* of the *World*, the *First* and the *Second God* ; and the *World* it self (that is, the *Thing Made* and *Created* by them both) is said to be the *Third God*.

And that this Notion of the Trinity, is an Adulterated One, may be also further concluded from hence, because according to this *Hypothesis*, they might have said that there were *Three Hundred* and more *Gods*, as well, as that there are *Three* : since all the other γενητοὶ θεοὶ, *Generated Gods*, might have come into the Number too, as well as the *World*, they being *Parts* thereof, and *Gods* that differ not in kind from it but only in degree. Wherefore these Philosophers ought not to have made a *Trinity of Gods*, distinguished from all the rest, but rather *First* to have distributed their *Gods* into θεοὶ αἰῶνοι and γενητοὶ, that is *Eternal* or *Uncreated*, and *Created Gods*, and then to have subdivided those *Created Gods*, into the *Whole World*, and the *Parts* thereof *Animated*.

But because it may be here alledged in favour of this Spurious *Hypothesis* of the Trinity, That the *World* was accounted the *Third God*, only by Accident, in respect of its Soul, which is properly that *Third God* ; though *Numenius* with others plainly affirm the *World* it self, as ποιμα and δημιουργούμενον, as the *Work* and *Thing Made*, to be the *Third* ; we shall therefore reply to this, that even the *Soul* of the *Mundane Animal* it self, according to *Timæus*, and *Plato*, and others, is affirmed to be γενητὸς θεός, a *Generated God*, that is, such as was produced from Non-existence into Being, and therefore truly and properly a *Creature*. Which *Aristotle* observing, therefore took occasion to tax *Plato* as contradicting himself, in making the *Soul* of the *World* a *Principle*, that is, the *Third God*, and yet supposing it to be ὡς ἐν ἑνὶ καὶ τῷ αὐτῷ, not *Eternal* but *Made* or *Created* together with the *Heaven*, of which something before. Wherefore we conclude, that this ancient *Cabala* of the Trinity, was *Depraved* and *Adulterated*, by those *Platonists* and *Pythagoreans*, who made either the *World* it self, or else ψυχὴν ἐν κόσμῳ, an *Informing Soul* of the *World*, to be the *Third Hypostasis* thereof, they Mingling *Created* and *Uncreated Beings* together, in that which themselves notwithstanding call a *Trinity of Causes* and of *Principles*.

And we think it highly probable that this was the true Reason, why *Philo*, though he admitted the *Second Hypostasis* of the *Platonick*, and *Pythagorick* (if not *Egyptian*) Trinity, called by him θεὸς λόγος, the *Divine Word*, and styled δεύτερος θεός, the *Second God*, and as *Eusebius*

sebum adds, *ἡ δὲ δεύτερη αἰτία* *The Second Cause*, yet he would not *Platonize* or *Pythagorize* any further, so as to take in that *Third God* or *Cause*, supposed by so many of them to be the *Soul of the whole World*, as an *Animal*; because he must then have offer'd violence to the Principles of his own Religion, in making the whole *Created World* a *God*: which Practice is by him condemned in the Pagans. It is true, that he somewhere sticks not to call *God* also, the *Soul of the World*, as well as the *Mind thereof*, whether he meant thereby *τὸ πρὸ τοῦ κόσμου* *Stor*, That *God who is before the World*, or else rather the *Word* it self, the *Second God*, (according to him the *Immediate Creator* and *Governour* of the same) nevertheless he does not seem to understand thereby, such a deeply *Immersed Soul*, as would make the *World* an *Animal*, and a *God*, but a more *Elevated One*, that is, *ὑπερκοσμίου*, a *Supermundane Soul*.

To this First Depravation of that *Θεοπελάγιος Θεολογία*, that *Theology* of *Divine Tradition*, and ancient *Cabbala of the Trinity*, by many of the *Platonists* and *Pythagoreans*, may be added another, That some of them declaring the *Second Hypostasis* of their *Trinity* to be the *Archetypal World*, or *τὸ ἐκ τῆς ἰδέας παγκόσμιον κόσμον*, as *Philo* calls it, the *World that is compounded and made up of Ideas*, and containeth in it all those kinds of things *Intelligibly* that are in this *Lower World Sensibly*; and further concluding, that all these several *Ideas* of this *Archetypal* and *Intelligible World*, are really so many distinct *Substances*, *Animals*, and *Gods*; have thereby made that *Second Hypostasis*, not to be *One God*, but a *Congeries* and *Heap of Gods*. These are those *Gods* commonly called by them, *νοετοὶ θεοὶ* *Intelligible Gods*, not as before in way of distinction from the *αἰσθητοὶ* the *Sensible Gods* (which is a more general notion of the word) but from those other *Gods* of theirs (as *P. 357*) terwards to be insisted on also) called *νοετὶ θεοὶ* *Intellectual Gods*. *Proclus* upon *Plato's Politia* concludes, that there is no *Idea of Evil*, for this reason, because if there were, *ἐν τῇ κακῇ ἰδέᾳ θεὸς ἔσται, ἡ περὶ πάντα ἰδέα θεὸς ὡς παρμενίδης ἔφηκεν* that very *Idea of Evil* also would it self be a *God*, because *Every Idea is a God*, as *Parmenides* hath affirmed. Neither was *Plotinus* himself, though otherwise more sober, altogether uninfected with this Phantastick Conceit, of the *Ideas* being all of them *Gods*, he writing thus concerning the *Second God*, *The First Mind or Intellect*; *γενόμενον ὃ ἰδὼν τὰ ὄντα σὺν αὐτῷ γένεσται, πῶς μὲν τὸ ἐκ ἰδῶν κάλλος, πῶς δὲ ὁ θεὸς νοετὶς*, That he being begotten by the *First God*, (that is, by way of *Emanation*, and from *Eternity*) generated all *Entities* together with himself, the *Plebritude of the Ideas*, which are all *Intelligible Gods*. *Apuleius* also (as hath been already noted) grossly and fullsomely imputes the same to *Plato*, in those words, *Quos Deos Plato existimat, Veros, Incorporales, Animales, sine ullo neque sine neque exordio, sed prorsus ac retro aviternos, ingenio ad summam beatitudinem porrecto, &c.* And he with *Julian* and others, reduce the Greater part of the *Pagan Gods*, to these *Ideas* of the *Intelligible* or *Archetypal World*, as making *Apollo* for Example, to be the *Intelligible Sun*, the *Idea of the Sensible*; and *Diana*, the *Intelligible Moon*, and the like for the rest. Lastly, it hath been observed also that the *Egyptian Theologers*, pretended in like manner, to worship

Worship these *Intelligible Gods*, or *Eternal Ideas*, in their Religious Animals, as *Symbols* of them.

Philo indeed Platonized so far. as to suppose God to have made an Archetypal and Intelligible World, before he made this Corporal and Sensible : *πρωτὸς (ὁ θεὸς) τὸ ἐργάσθαι τῷ κόσμῳ διμυροῦντα, προεργάσας τὸ νοητὸν, ἵνα χρημίσθῃ ἀσώματου καὶ διορθήσεται παρὰ δέγματι, τὸ σωματικὸν ἀπεργασάμενος, προεβούλην νόμον ἀπεικόνισμα, τοιοῦτον ὡς αὐτὸς ἦν, ὅσα καὶ αὐτὸς οὐκ ἐξείλετο νοητῶν· καὶ ὅτι καὶ ἰδεῖν συνέστατο κόσμον αὐτῷ τῷ ὑποκειν ἀδύνατον·* God intending to make a Visible World, first formed an Intelligible One; that so having an Incorporeal, and most God-like Pattern before him, he might make the Corporal World agreeably to the same, this Younger an Image of that Older, that should contain as many Sensible kinds in it, as the other did Intelligible. But it is not possible (saith he) to conceive this World of Ideas to exist in any place. Nay according to him, *Alofer* himself philosophized also after the same manner, in his *Cosmopœia*, describing in the First Five Verses of *Genesis*, the making of an Intelligible Heaven and Earth, before the Sensible; *πρῶτον ἐν παραδείσῳ τοῦ κόσμου ὁ ποιῶν ἐποίησεν ἀσώματον καὶ γὰρ ἀέθρῳ, καὶ αἶρες ἰδεῖν καὶ κατὰ, ἐν ὅσῳ ἀσώματου ὅλων καὶ πνεύματων, καὶ ἐπὶ πάντων ἐκδόμας φανείς, ὁ ποιεῖν ἀσώματους ἦν καὶ νοητῶν ὅλων παρὰ δέγματι, &c.* The Creator first of all made, an Incorporeal Heaven and an Invisible Earth; the Ideas of Air and Vacuum; Incorporeal Water and Air; and last of all Light, which was also the Incorporeal and Intelligible Paradigm of the Sun and Stars, and that from whence their Sensible Light is derived. But *Philo* does not plainly make these Ideas of the Intelligible and Archetypal World, to be so many distinct Substances, and Animals; much less Gods: though he somewhere takes notice of those, who admiring the Pulchritude of both these Worlds, did not only Deify the whole of them, but also their several Parts; that is, the several Ideas of the Intelligible World also, as well as the Greater Parts of the Sensible; an Intelligible Heaven and Earth, Sun and Moon; they pretending to worship those Divine Ideas, in all these Sensible things. Which high-flown Platonick Notion, as it gave Sanctuary and Protection, to the grossest and foulest of all the Pagan Superstitions and Idolatries, when the Egyptians would worship Brute Animals, and other Pagans, all the Things of Nature, (*Inanimate Substances*, and meer *Accidents*) under a pretence of worshipping the Divine Ideas in them; so did it directly tend to absolute Impiety, Irreligion, and Atheism; there being few that could entertain any thoughts at all of those Eternal Ideas, and scarcely any who could thoroughly persuade themselves, that these had so much Reality in them, as the Sensible things of Nature; as the Idea of a House, in the mind of an Architect, hath not so much Reality in it, as a Material House, made up of Stones, Mortar and Timber; so that their Devotion must needs sink down wholly into those Sensible Things, and themselves naturally at length fall, into this Atheistick Perswasion; That the Good Things of Nature, are the only Deities.

Here therefore have we a Multitude of Pagan Gods *Supermundane* and *Eternal*, (though all depending upon *One Supreme*) the Gods by
themselves

them properly called, *νοητοὶ* *Intelligible*, or the *Divine Ideas*. And we cannot but account this for another *Depravation* of the ancient *Mosaick Cabbala of the Trinity*, that the Second *Hypostasis* thereof, is made to be the *Archetypal World*, and all the *Divine Ideas*, as so many distinct *Substances*, *Animals*, and *Gods*; that is, not One God, but a whole *World of Gods*.

But over and besides all this, some of these Platonists and Pythagoreans, did further Deprave and Adulterate, the ancient *Hebrew or Mosaick Cabbala of the Trinity*, (the certain Rule whereof is now only the Scriptures of the New Testament) when they concluded, that as from the *Third Hypostasis* of their *Trinity*, called ἡ πρώτη ψυχή, *The First Soul*, there were Innumerable other *Particular Souls* derived, namely the Souls of all Inferiour Animals, that are Parts of the World; so in like manner, that from their *Second Hypostasis*, called ὁ πρῶτος νους, *The First Mind or Intellect*, there were innumerable other *μετακοὶ νους* *Particular Minds or Intellects* Substantial Derived, Superiour to the First Soul; and not only so, but also, That from that First and Highest *Hypostasis* of all, called τὸ ἓν, and τὰ ἀγαθόν, *The One*, and *The Good*, there were derived likewise many *Particular Ενάδες*, and Ἀγαθότητες, *Unities and Goodnesses* Substantial, Superiour to the First *Intellect*. Thus Proclus in his Theologic Institutions, μετὰ τὸ τὸ ἓν ἀπὸ τῆς πρώτης ἐνάδος ἔστι μετὰ τὸν ἄντὶ πρώτου, νους ἔστι μετὰ τὸν ψυχῶν τὸν πρώτου, ψυχῶν ἔστι μετὰ τὸν ὅλον φύσιν, φύσιν. N. 11.
After the First One, (and from it) there are many *Particular Henades* or *Unities*; after the First *Intellect* and from it, many *Particular Noes*, *Minds* or *Intellects*; after the First *Soul*, many *Particular* and *Derivative Souls*; and lastly, after the *Universal Nature*, many *Particular Natures*, and *Spermatick Reasons*. Where it may be obiter observed, that these Platonists supposed, below the *Universal Psyche*; or *Mundane Soul*, a *Universal φύσις*, or *Substantial Nature* also, but so as that besides it, there were other *Particular λόγοι σπερματικοὶ*, *Seminal Reasons*, or *Plastick Principles* also.

As for these *Noes*, and that besides the First *Universal Mind or Intellect*, there are other *Particular Minds* or *Intellects* Substantial, a Rank of Beings not only immutably *Good and Wise*, but also every way *Immovable*, and therefore above the Rank of all *Souls*, that are *Self-moveable Beings*; Proclus was not singular in this, but had the concurrence of many other Platonists with him; amongst whom Plotinus may seem to be one, from this Passage of his besides others, ἐπὶ ἀσθενῶν ἢ αἱ ψυχῶν ἢ νους πᾶς, ὅτι ἕλληος διὰ πλεόντων ἔσονται. P. 653.
That *Souls* are *Immortal*, and every *Mind or Intellect*, we have elsewhere largely proved. Upon which words Ficinus thus, *Hic, & supra & infra scilicet, per verba Plotini notabis, Plures esse Mentium Animarumque Substantias inter se distinctas, quamvis inter eas Unio sit Mirabilis: Here and from many other places, before and after, you may observe, that according to Plotinus there are many Substantial Minds, distinct from Souls, though there be a wonderful Union betwixt them. Moreover, that there was also above these Noes or Immovable but Multiform Minds, not only one Perfect Monad, and First Good, but also a Rank of Many Particular Henades or Monades, and Agathotetics; was,*
N n n besider

In Phil. Ench.
P. 9.

besides Proclus and others, asserted by *Simplicius* also; ἀφ' ἑαυτοῦ τὸ ἀγαθὸν πάντα παράγει, καὶ τὰ πρῶτα, καὶ τὰ μέσα, καὶ τὰ ὑψίστα· ἀλλὰ τὰ μετὰ πρῶτα καὶ ἑαυτῷ προσχέει, ὅμοια ἑαυτῷ παράγει, μὴ ἀγαθότης πολλὰς ἀγαθότητας, καὶ μὴ ἑνὶς ἢ ὑπὲρ πολλῶν, πολλὰς ἐνός ας· *The Highest Good* (saith he) *produceth all things from himself, in several Ranks and Degrees; The First, the Middle, and the Last or Lowest of all. But the First and the next to himself, doth he produce like himself, One Goodness Many Goodnesses, and one Unity or Henade, Many Henades.* And that by these *Henades* and *Autoagathotetes*, he means *Substantial Beings*, that are *Conscious of themselves*, appears also from these following words, τὰ μετὰ τὸν πρῶτον καὶ ὑπὸ τῷ πρῶτῳ ἀγαθῷ παραχρημαζόμενα, διὰ τὸ πρὸς αὐτῷ ὁμοίους, ἐν ἑξῆς τῷ ὅντι ἀγαθῷ, ἀκίνητα ὄντα καὶ ἀμείνωντα, καὶ οὐ τῇ αὐτῇ αἰὶ μακροτέρῳ ἰσχυμένα, ἐν αὐτῷ τῷ ἀγαθῷ, ὅτι αὐτοαγαθότητες εἰσι· *Those Beings which are first produced from the First Good, by reason of their Sameness of Nature with him, are immovably and unchangeably Good, always fixed in the same Happiness, and never indigent of Good or falling from it, because they are all Essentially Goodnesses.* Where afterward he adds something concerning the *noes* also, that though these were a Rank of *Lower Beings*, and not *αὐτοαγαθὰ*, not *Essentially Goodnesses*, but only by *Participations*; yet being by their own Nature also *Immovable*, they can never degenerate, nor fall from that *Participation* of Good. Notwithstanding which, we must confess that some of these *Platonists*, seem to take the word *Henades* sometimes in another sense, and to understand nothing else thereby, but the *Intelligible Ideas* before mentioned; though the ancient *Platonists* and *Pythagoreans* were not wont to call these *Unities*, but *Numbers*.

P. 12.

And now have we discovered, more of the *Pagans Inferiour Gods*, *Supermundane* and *Eternal*; viz. besides those *θεοὶ Διοί*, those *Intelligible Gods*; Troops of *Henades* and *Autoagathotetes*, *Unities* and *Goodnesses*; and also of *Noes*, *Immovable Minds* or *Intellects*; or as they frequently call them, *Διοί ἰναιῶν*, and *Διοί νοεγῶν*, *Henadical* (or *Atomadical*) *Gods*, and *Intellectual Gods*.

But since these *Noes*, or *νοεγῶν Διοί*, are said to be all of them in their own nature a Rank of Beings above *Souls*, and therefore Superior to that *First Soul*, which is the *Third Hypostasis* of this *Trinity*; as all those *Henades* or *ἰναιῶν Διοί*, those *Simple Monadical Gods*, are likewise yet a higher Rank of Beings above the *Noes*, and therefore Superior to the *Second Hypostasis* also, the *First Mind*; and yet all these *Henades* and *Noes*, however supposed by these Philosophers to be *Eternal*, so far as they are *Particular Beings* only, and not *Universal*, cannot be placed higher than in the Rank of *Creatures*; it follows from hence unavoidably, that both the *Second* and *Third Hypostasis* of this *Trinity*, as well the *First Mind* as the *First Soul*, must be accounted *Creatures* also; because no *Created Being*, can be Superior to any thing *Uncreated*. Wherefore *Proclus* and some others of those *Platonists*, plainly understood this *Trinity* no otherwise, than as a certain *Scale* or *Ladder* of Beings in the Universe; or a *Gradual Descent* of things from the *First* or *Highest*, by steps downward, lower and lower, so far as to the *Souls* of all *Animals*. For which

which came, *Proclus* to make up this *Scale* complete, adds to these three Ranks and Degrees, below that *Third of Souls*, a *Fourth of Natures* also; under which there lies nothing but the Passive Part of the Universe, Body and Matter. So that, their Whole *Scale*, of all that is above Body, was indeed not a *Trinity*, but a *Quaternity*, or *Four Ranks* and Degrees of Beings, one below another; the First of *Henades* or *Unitiers*, the Second of *Noes*, *Minds* or *Intellects*, the Third of *Souls*, and the Last of *Natures*: these being as it were so many Orbs and Spheres, one within and below another. In all which several Ranks of Being, they supposed *One First Universal*, and *Unparticipated*, as the Head of each respective Rank, and Many *Particular*, or *Participated Ones*: as *One First Universal Henade*, and Many *Secondary Particular Henades*; *One First Universal Nous*, Mind or Intellect, and Many *Secondary* and *Particular Noes* or *Minds*; *One First Universal Soul*, and Many *Particular Souls*; and Lastly *One Universal Nature*, and Many *Particular Natures*. In which *Scale* of Beings, they Deified, besides the First *Tò Æv* and *Tàχαρόν*, *One*, and *Good*, not only the *First Mind*, and the *First Soul*, but also those other *Particular Henades*, and *Noes* universally; and all *Particular Souls* above Humane: leaving out besides them and Inferiour Souls, that Fourth Rank of *Natures*, because they conceived, that nothing was to be accounted a *God*, but what was *Intellectual* and *Superiour to Men*. Wherein though they made Several Degrees of Gods, one below another, and called some *αἰδῆς* and some *ἁγιώτης*, some *Eternal*, and some *Generated*, or *Made in time*; yet did they no where clearly distinguish, betwixt the *Deity* properly so called, and the *Creature*, nor shew how far in this *Scale*, the True *Deity* went, and where the *Creature* began. But as it were melting the *Deity* by degrees, and bringing it down lower and lower, they made the *Juncture* and *Commixture* betwixt *God* and the *Creature*, so smooth and close, that where they indeed parted, was altogether undiscernible. They rather implying them, to differ only in Degrees, or that they were not *Absolute* but *Comparative Terms*, and consisted but in *More* and *Less*. All which was doubtless a gross Mistake of the ancient *Cabbala* of the *Trinity*.

This is therefore that *Platonick Trinity*, which we oppose to the *Christian*, not as if *Plato's* own *Trinity* in the very Essential Constitution thereof, were quite a Different Thing from the *Christian*; it self in all probability having been at first derived from a *Divine* or *Mosaic Cabbala*; but because this *Cabbala*, (as might well come to pass in a thing so Mystrious and Difficult to be conceived) hath been by divers of these *Platonists* and *Pythagoreans*, *Misunderstood*, *Depraved* and *Adulterated*, into such a *Trinity*, as *Confounds the Differences* between *God* and the *Creature*, and removes all the *Bounds* and *Land-marks* betwixt them: sinks the *Deity* lower and lower by Degrees; (still multiplying of it, as it goes) till it have at length brought it down to the *Whole Corporeal World*, and when it hath done this, is not able to stop there neither, but extends it further still, to the *Animated Parts* thereof, *Stars* and *Demons*. The *Design* or *Direct Tendency* thereof, being nothing else but to lay a *Foundation*, for *Infinite Polytheism*.

theism, Cosmolatry (or World-Idolatry) and Creature-Worship. Where it is by the way observable, that these *Platonick Pagans*, were the only Publick and Professed Champions against Christianity; for though *Celsus* were suspected by *Origen* to have been indeed an Epicurean, yet did he at least Personate a Platonist too. The reason whereof might be; not only because the *Platonick* and *Pythagorick Sect*, was the Divinest of all the Pagans, and that which approached nearest to Christianity and the Truth, (however it might by accident therefore prove the worst, as the *Corruption* of the *Best thing*;) and by that means could with greatest confidence, hold up the Bucklers against Christianity and encounter it; but also because the *Platonick Principles*, as they might be understood, would of all other, serve most plausibly to defend the Pagan *Polytheism* and *Idolatry*.

Concerning the Christian Trinity, we shall here observe only *Three Things*; First, that it is not a *Trinity of meer Names or Words*, nor a *Trinity of Partial Notions* and *Inadequate Conceptions*, of One and the Same Thing. For such a kind of Trinity as this, might be conceived, in that First *Platonick Hypostasis* it self, called τὸ ἓν and τὰ πρῶτον *The One* and *The Good*, and perhaps also in that *First Person* of the *Christian Trinity*; namely of *Goodness*, and *Understanding* or *Wisdom*, and *Will* or *Active Power*, Three *Inadequate Conceptions* thereof. 'Tis true, that *Plotinus* was so high flown, as to maintain, that the *First* and *Highest Principle* of all, by reason of its *Perfect Unity* and *Simplicity*, is above the *Multiplicity* of *Knowledge* and *Understanding*, and therefore does not so much as τοῦ ἑαυτοῦ, in a proper sense, *Understand it self*: Notwithstanding which, this Philosopher himself adds that it cannot therefore be said to be *Ignorant* nor *Unwise* neither; these Expressions belonging only to such a Being, as was by Nature Intellectual, οὐκ ἔστι μὴ νοῦν, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἔστι, *Intellectus nisi intelligat, demens meritis judicatur*. And he seems to grant, that it hath a certain *Simple Clarity* and *Brightness* in it, *Superiour* to that of *Knowledge*: As the *Body* of the *Sun* has a certain *Brightness* *Superiour* to that *Secondary Light* which streameth from it; and that it may be said, to be οὐκ ἔστιν αὐτῇ *Knowledge it self*, that does not *Understand*, as *Motion* it self does not *Move*. But this can hardly be conceived by ordinary Mortals, that the *Highest* and *most Perfect* of all Beings, should not fully comprehend it self, the *Extent* of its own *Fecundity* and *Power*, and be conscious of all that proceedeth from it, though after the most *Simple* manner. And therefore this high-flown conceit of *Plotinus* (and perhaps of *Plato* himself too) has been rejected by latter *Platonists*, as *Phantastical*, and *Unsafe*: for thus *Simplicius*, ἀλλὰ ἔ, γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀνέγνω τὸν ἀπεριόριστον, ὅς τ' ἔστιν ἢ τ' ἔστιν αὐτῷ ἀποφασίζον ὁ γνῶναι, *But it must needs have also the most perfect Knowledge, since it cannot be ignorant of any thing, that is produced from it self*. And *St. Anselm* in like manner, confutes that Assertion of some Christians, that the λόγος, or *Eternal Word*, was that *very Wisdom* and *Understanding* by which the *Father* himself was wise; as making it nothing, but an *Inadequate Conception* of *God*. But this opinion, that the *Christian Trinity* is but a *Trinity of Words*, or meer *Logical Notions*, and *Inadequate Conceptions* of *God*, hath been plainly condemned by the *Christian Church*

En. 6. l. 7.
6 37.

In Epil. p.
135.

Church in *Sabellius* and others. Wherefore we conclude it to be a Trinity of *Hypostases*, or Substances, or Persons.

The Second Thing that we observe concerning the Christian Trinity is this, that though the *Second Hypostasis* or *Person* thereof, were begotten from the First, and the *Third* Proceedeth both from the First and Second; yet are neither this *Second* nor *Third*, *Creatures*; and that for these following Reasons. First, because they were not made *ἐκ οὐκ ὄντος*, as *Arius* maintained, that is, from an Antecedent Non-existence brought forth into being, nor can it be said of either of them, *Erat Quando Non erant*, that once they were not, but their *Going forth Was from Eternity*, and they were both *Coeve* and *Coeternal* with the Father. Secondly, because they were not only *Eternal Emanations* (if we may so call them), but also *Necessary*, and therefore are they both also, *Absolutely Undestroyable* and *Unannihilable*. Now according to true Philosophy and Theology, no *Creature* could have existed from *Eternity*, nor be *Absolutely Undestroyable*, and therefore that which is both *Eternal*, and *Undestroyable*, is *ipso facto* *Uncreated*. Nevertheless, because some Philosophers have asserted (though erroneously) both the whole World's *Eternity*, and its being a *Necessary Emanation* also from the Deity, and consequently, that it is *Undestroyable*; we shall therefore further add, that these *Second* and *Third Hypostases* or *Persons* of the Holy Trinity, are not only therefore *Uncreated*, because they were both *Eternal*, and *Necessary Emanations*, and likewise are *Unannihilable*; but also because they are *Universal*, each of them comprehending the Whole World, and all created things under it; which *Universality* of theirs, is the same thing with *Infinity*: Whereas all other Beings besides this Holy Trinity, are *Particular* and *Finite*. Now we say, that no *Intellectual Being*, which is not only *Eternal*; and *Necessarily Existent*, or *Undestroyable*; but also *Universal* or *Infinite*, can be a *Creature*.

Again in the Last place we add, that these *Three Hypostases* or *Persons*, are truly and really *One God*. Not only because they have all *Essentially One* and the same Will, according to that of *Origen*, *ὁμοουσιον ἔστι τὸ πατρὸς τὸ ἀληθινόν, καὶ τὸ υἱὸν τὸ ἀληθινόν, οὐκ ἄλλο τῆ ὑποστάσεως πραγματικῶν, ἐν ᾧ τῇ ὁμοιοῦ καὶ τῇ συμπονίᾳ καὶ τῇ ταυτίτητι ἐκλήσεως*, *We worship, the Father of Truth, and the Son the Truth*; self, being *Two Things* as to *Hypostasis*; but *one in Agreement, Consent, and Sameness of Will*: but also because they are *Physically* (if we may so speak) *One* also; and have a *Mutual interpenetration*, and *interpenetration*, and *Permeation* of one another; according to that of our Saviour Christ, *I am In the Father, and the Father In Me. And the Father that dwelleth In Me, he doth the Works*. We grant indeed, that there can be no Instance of the like Unity or *Oneness* found in any Created Beings; nevertheless we certainly know from our very selves, that it is not impossible, for two distinct Substances, that are of a very different Kind from one another, the *One Incorporeal*, the other *Corporeal*, to be so closely united together, as to become *One Animal* and *Person*; much less therefore should it be thought impossible, for these *Three Divine Hypostases*, to be *One God*.

We

We shall conclude here with Confidence, that the *Christian Trinity*, though there be very much of *Mystery* in it, yet is there nothing at all of *plain Contradiction* to the Undoubted Principles of Humane Reason, that is, of *Impossibility* to be found therein, as the Atheists would pretend, who cry down all for *Non-sence* and *Absolute Impossibility*, which their Dull Stupidity cannot reach to, or their Insatuated Minds easily comprehend, and therefore even the Deity it self. And it were to be wished, that some *Religionists* and *Trinitarians* did not here symbolize too much with them, in affecting to represent the *Mystery* of the *Christian Trinity*, as a thing directly contradictory to all Humane Reason and Understanding; and that perhaps out of design to make men surrender up themselves and Consciences, in a Blind and *Implicit Faith*, wholly to their Guidance: as also to debauch their Understandings by this means, to the swallowing down of other Opinions of theirs, plainly repugnant to Humane Faculties. As who should say, he that believes the *Trinity*, (as we all must do, if we will be Christians) should boggle at nothing in Religion never after, nor scrupulously chew or examine any thing: as if there could be nothing more Contradictory or Impossible to Humane Understanding propounded, than this Article of the *Christian Faith*.

But for the present we shall endeavour only to shew, that the *Christian Trinity* (though a *Mystery*, yet) is much more agreeable to Reason, than that *Platonick* or *Pseudo-Platonick Trinity* before described; and that in those Three Particulars then mentioned. For First, when those *Platonists* and *Pythagoreans*, interpret their *Third God*, or Last *Hypostasis* of their *Trinity* to be either the *World*, or else a *ψυχὴ ἰστέμους*, such an *Immediate Soul* thereof, as together with the *World* its *Body*, makes up *One Animal* and *God*; as there is plainly too great a *Leap* here betwixt their *Second* and *Third Hypostasis*, so do they *Debase* the *Deity* therein too much, confound *God* and the *Creature* together, laying a *Foundation* not only for *Cosmo-Latry* or *World-Idolatry* in general, but also for the grossest and most sottish of all *Idolatries*, the worshipping of the *Inanimate Parts* of the *World* themselves, in pretence as *Parts* and *Members* of this great *Mundane Animal*, and *Sensible God*.

It is true indeed that *Origen* and some others of the ancient *Christian Writers*, have supposed, that *God* may be said in some sence to be the *Soul* of the *World*. Thus in that Book *Peri Archon*, *Sicut Corpus nostrum unum ex multis Membris aptatum est, & ab una Anima continetur, ita & Universum Mundum, velut Animal quoddam Immane opinandum puto; quod quasi ab una Animâ, Virtute Dei ac Ratione teneatur. Quod etiam à Sanctâ Scripturâ indicari arbitror, per illud quod dictum est per Prophetam; Nonne Cælum & Terram ego repleo, dicit Dominus & Cælum mihi Sedes, Terra autem Scabellum pedum meorum; Et quod Salvator cum ait, non esse jurandum neque per Cælum, quia Sedes Dei est, neque per Terram quia Scabellum pedum ejus. Sed & illud quod ait Paulus, Quoniam in ipso Vivimus & Movemur & Sumus. Quomodo enim in Deo Vivimus, & Movemur, & Sumus, nisi quod in Virtute sua Universum constringit & continet Mundum?* As our own Body is made up of many Members, and contained by One

One Soul, so do I conceive that the whole World is to be looked upon, as One huge great Animal, which is contained as it were by One Soul, the Virtue and Reason of God. And so much seems to be intimated by the Scripture in sundry places ; as in that of the Prophet, Do not I fill Heaven and Earth ? And again, Heaven is my Throne and the Earth my Footstool. And in that of our Saviour, Swear not at all, neither by Heaven, because it is the Throne of God ; nor by the Earth because it is his Footstool. And lastly in that of Paul to the Athenians, For in him we Live and Move, and have our Being. For how can we be said to Live and Move, and have our Being in God, unless because he by his Virtue and Power, does Constrain and Contain the whole World ? And how can Heaven be the Throne of God, and the Earth his Footstool, unless his Virtue and Power fill all things both in Heaven and Earth ? Nevertheless, God is here said by Origen, to be but *Quasi-Anima*, As it were The Soul of the World : As if he should have said, That all the Perfection of a Soul, is to be attributed to God, in respect of the World ; he Quickening and Enlivening all things, as much as if he were the Very Soul of it, and all the Parts thereof were his Living Members. And perhaps the whole Deity ought not to be look'd upon, according to Aristotle's Notion thereof, merely as *ἀνθρώπου ἕνεκα*, an Immovable Essence, for then it is not conceivable, how it could either Act upon the World, or be Sensible of any thing therein : or to what purpose any Devotional Addresses should be made by us to such an Unassailable, Inflexible, Rockie and Adamantine Being. Wherefore all the Perfection of a Mundane Soul, may perhaps be attributed to God in some sense, and he called, *Quasi Anima Mundi*, As it were the Soul thereof : Though St. Cyprian would have this, properly to belong to the Third Hypostasis or Person of the Christian Trinity, viz. The Holy Ghost. But there is something of Imperfection also, plainly cleaving and adhering to this Notion of a Mundane Soul, besides something of Paganity likewise necessarily consequent thereupon, which cannot be admitted by us. Wherefore God, or the Third Divine Hypostasis, cannot be called the Soul of the World in this sense, as if it were so Immerged therein, and so Passive from it, as our Soul is Immerged into, and Passive from its Body. Nor as if the World and this Soul together, made up one Entire Animal, each Part whereof, were incomplete alone by it self. And that God or the Third Hypostasis of the Christian Trinity, is not to be accounted in this Sense properly, the Soul of the World, according to Origen himself, we may learn from these words of his ; *Solius Dei, id est, Patris, & Filii, & Spiritus Sancti, Naturæ, id proprium est ; ut sine Materiali Substantia, & absque ulla Corporeæ adjectionis societate intelligatur subsistere* : It is proper to the Nature of God alone, that is, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, to subsist without any Material Substance, or Body Vitally United to it. Where Origen affirming, that all Created Souls and Spirits whatsoever, have always some Body or other Vitally United to them, and that it is the Property only of the Three Persons of the Holy Trinity, not to be Vitally United to any Body, as the Soul thereof ; whether this Assertion of his be true or no (which is a thing not here to be discussed) he does plainly hereby declare, that God or the Third Hypostasis of the Trinity, is not to be accounted in a true and proper sense, the Soul of the World. And

*Peri Arch.
L. 1. c. 6.*

And it is certain that the more *Refined Platonists*, were themselves also, of this Perswasion; and that their *Third God*, or *Divine Hypostasis*, was neither the Whole World (as supposed to be Animated) nor yet ψυχή ἐν κόσμῳ, the *Immediate Soul of this Mundane Animal*, but only ψυχή ὑπερκόσμου, a *Supermundane Soul*; that is, such a thing as though it Preside over the Whole World, and take Cognizance of all things in it, yet is not properly an *Essential Part* of that *Mundane Animal*, but a Being Elevated above the same. For thus Proclus plainly affirmeth, not only of *Amelius* but also of *Porphyrus* himself, who likewise pretended to follow *Plotinus* therein; μὲν δὲ ἡ Ἀμελίου ὁ Προφύρουσις οὐδένα τῶν Πλωτίνου συνέθεν, τὴν μὲν ψυχὴν τῷ ὑπερκόσμῳ ἀποκαλῶν δημιουργῶν, ἣ δὲ νῦν αὐτῆς, πρὸς ἐν ἀντιστοιχείᾳ, τὸ αὐτοῦ ὄν, ὡς ἔστιν τὸ ἐξουσίᾳ τῷ δημιουργῶ κατὰ τὴν. After *Amelius*, *Porphyrus* thinking to agree with *Plotinus*, calls the *Supermundane Soul*, the *Immediate Opificer or Maker of the World*, and that *Mind or Intellect*, to which it is converted, not the *Opificer himself*, but the *Paradigm thereof*. And though *Proclus* there make a question whether or no, this was *Plotinus* his true meaning, yet *Porphyrus* is most to be credited herein, he having had such an intimate acquaintance with him. Wherefore according to these Three *Platonists*, *Plotinus*, *Amelius*, and *Porphyrus*, the *Third Hypostasis* of the *Platonick Trinity*, is neither the *World*, nor the *Immediate Soul of the Mundane Animal*; but a certain *Supermundane Soul*, which also was δημιουργὸς the *Opificer and Creator of the World*, and therefore no *Creature*. Now the *Corporal World*, being supposed by these *Platonists* also, to be an *Animal*, they must therefore needs acknowledge a *Double Soul*, one ψυχὴν ἐν κόσμῳ, the *Immediate Soul of this Mundane Animal*, and another ψυχὴν ὑπερκόσμου, a *Supermundane Soul*, which was the *Third* in their *Trinity of Gods*, or *Divine Hypostases*, the *Proper and Immediate Opificer of the World*. And the same in all probability, was *Plato's* opinion also, and therefore that *Soul*, which is the only *Deity*, that in his *Book of Laws* he undertakes to prove, was ψυχή ὑπερκόσμου a *Supermundane Soul*, and not the same with that ψυχή ἐν κόσμῳ that *Mundane Soul*, whose *Genesis* or *Generation* is described in his *Timæus*; the *Former* of them being a *Principle and Eternal*; the *Latter* made in *Time*, together with the *World*; though said to be *Older* than it, because in order of *Nature* before it. And thus we see plainly, that though some of these *Platonists* and *Pythagoreans*, either *Misunderstood* or *Depraved*, the *Cabbala of the Trinity*, so as to make the *Third Hypostasis* thereof, to be the *Animated World*, which themselves acknowledged to be, πῶμα and δημιουργήματος, a *Creature and Thing made*; yet others of the more *Refined* of them, supposed this *Third Hypostasis* of their *Trinity*, to be, not a *Mundane* but a *Supermundane Soul*, and δημιουργῶν, not a *Creature*, but the *Creator or Opificer of the Whole World*.

And as for the *Second Particular proposed*; it was a gross *Absurdity* in those *Platonists* also, to make the *Second*, in their *Trinity of Gods*, and *Hypostases*, not to be one *God* or *Hypostasis*, but a *Multitude of Gods* and *Hypostases*: as also was that a *Monstrous Extravagancy of theirs*, to suppose the *Ideas*, all of them, to be so many distinct *Substances*

stances and Animals. Which besides others *Tertullian* in his Book *De P.* 320. 215. *Anima* thus imputes to *Plato*; *Vult Plato esse quasdam Substantias Invisibiles, Incorporeales, Supermundiales, Divinas, & Eternas, quos appellat Ideas, id est, Formas & Exempla, & Causas Naturalium istorum manifestorum, & Subjacentium Corporalibus: & illas quidem esse Veritates, hæc autem Imagines earum: Plato conceiveth, that there are certain Substances, Invisible, Incorporeal, Supermundial, Divine and Eternal; which he calls Ideas, that is, Forms, Exemplars and Causes of all these Natural and Sensible Things, they being the Truths, but the other the Images.* Neither can it be denied, but that there are some odd Expressions in *Plato*, sounding that way, who therefore may not be justified in this, nor I think in some other Conceits of his, concerning these *Ideas*; as when he contends that they are not only the *Objects of Science*, but also the Proper and Physical Causes of all things here below; as for example, that the *Ideas of Similitude and Dissimilitude*, are the Causes of the Likeness and Unlikeness of all things to one another by their Participation of them. Nevertheless it cannot be at all doubted, but that *Plato* himself and most of his Followers very well understood, that these *Ideas*, were all of them, really nothing else but the *Noemata* or *Conceptions*, of that one *Perfect Intellect*, which was their *Second Hypostasis*; and therefore they could not look upon them in good earnest, as so many *Distinct Substances* Existing severally and apart by themselves out of any Mind; however they were guilty of some Extravagant Expressions concerning them. Wherefore when they called them, *Essences* or *Substances* (as they are called in *Philosophy* ἀντικείμενα νοήματα the most necessary *Essences*) their true meaning herein was only this, to signify that they were not such *Accidental* and *Evanescent* things, as our Conceptions are, they being the *Standing Objects* of all Science, at least, if not the Causes also of *Existent* Things. Again when they were by them sometimes called *Animals* also, they intended only to signify thereby that they were not meer *Dead Forms*, like *Pictures drawn upon Paper*, or *Carved Images and Statues*. And thus *Amelins* the *Philosopher*, plainly understood that Passage of *St. John* the Evangelist, concerning the *Eternal Word*, he pointing the Words otherwise than our Copies now do, ὃ ἡγορευ ἐκ αὐτοῦ ζωὴν ἔν, *That which was made, in him was Life*: this *Philosopher* glossing after this manner upon it, ὃ ἐκ τοῦ ἡγορευμένου ζωὴν, ἢ ζωὴν, ἢ ἐν περικείμεναι, *In whom whatsoever was made, was Living, and Life, and True Being.* Lastly no wonder if from *Animals* these *Ideas* forthwith became *Gods* too, to such men, as took all occasions possible to multiply *Gods*; in which there was also something of that *Scholastick Notion*, *Quicquid est in Deo, est Deus, Whatsoever is in God is God.* But the main thing therein, was a piece of *Paganick Poetry*; these *Pagan Theologers* being Generally possessed with that *Poetic humour* of *Personating Things* and *Deifying* them. Wherefore though the *Ideas* were so many *Titular Gods* to many of the *Platonick Pagans*, yet did *Julian* himself (for Example) who made the most of them, suppose them all συνυποκείμενον ἢ ἐνυποκείμενον, *to Coexist with God and Inexist in him*, that is, in the *First Mind*, or *Second Hypostasis* of their *Trinity*.

So Clem. Al.
S. Cyril. S.
Aug. and o-
ther Latins,

Lastly whereas *Proclus* and others of the *Platonists* intermingle Many *Particular Gods* with those *Three Universal Principles* or *Hypotheses*, of their *Trinity*, as *Noes*, *Minds*, or *Intellects* Superiour to the *First Soul*; and *Henades* and *Agathotetes*, *Unities* and *Goodnesses* Superiour to the *First Intellect* too; thereby making those *Particular Beings*, which must needs be *Creatures*, Superiour to those *Hypotheses* that are *Universal* and *Infinite*, and by consequence *Creaturizing* of them; this *Hypothesis* of theirs (I say) is altogether *Abfurd* and *Irrational* also: there being no *Created Beings* *Essentially Good* and *Wise*, but all by *Participation*, nor any *Immovable Natures* amongst them whose *ἔστις* is their *ἔσσεσθαι*, their *Essence* their *Operation*; but all *Mutable* and *Changeable*, and probably, as *Origen* and others of the *Fathers* add, *Lapsable* and *Peccable*. *Nulla Natura est, quæ non recipiat Bonum & Malum. Excepta Dei Naturâ, quæ Bonorum omnium Fons est; & Christi Sapientia, Sapientia enim Fons est, & Sapientia utique Stultitiam recipere non potest; & Justitia est, quæ nunquam profecto Injustitiam capiet; & Verbum est vel Ratio, quæ utique Irrationalis effici non potest; Sed & Lux est, & Lucem certum est quod Tenebræ non comprehendunt. Similiter & Natura Spiritus Sancti, quæ sancta est, non recipit Pollutionem; Naturaliter enim vel Substantialiter Sancta est. Signa autem alia Natura Sancta est, ex Assumptione hoc vel Inspiratione Spiritus Sancti habet, ut sanctificetur, non ex sua Naturâ hoc possident, sed ut Accidens; propter quod & decidere potest, quod accidit. There is no Nature, which is not capable both of Good and Evil, excepting only the Nature of God, who is the Fountain of all Good; and the Wisdom of Christ, For he is the Fountain of Wisdom, and Wisdom it self never can receive Folly; he is also Justice it self which can never admit of Injustice and the Reason and Word it self, which can never become Irrational; he is also the Light it self, and it is certain that Darkneß cannot comprehend this Light, nor insinuate it self with it. In like manner the Nature of the Holy Ghost, is such as can never receive Pollution, it being Substantially and Essentially Holy. But whatsoever other Nature is Holy, it is only such in way of Participation and by the Inspiration of this Holy Spirit; so that Holiness is not its very Nature and Essence, but only an Accident to it, and whatsoever is but Accidental may fail. All Created Beings therefore having but Accidental Goodness and Wisdom, may Degenerate and fall into Evil and Folly. Which of *Origen's* is all one as if he should have said, there is no such *Rank* of *Beings* as *Autogathotetes*, *Essential Goodnesses*, there being only one Being *Essentially Good*, or *Goodness* it self. Nor no such *Particular Created Beings* existing in *Nature*, as the *Platonists* call *Noes* neither, that is, *Minds* or *Intellects* *Immovable*, *Perfectly* and *Essentially Wise*, or *Wisdom* it self, whose *ἔστις* is their *ἔσσεσθαι*, whose *Essence* is their *Operation*, and who consequently have no *Flux* at all in them, nor *Successive Action*; (only the *Eternal Word* and *Wisdom* of God being such) who also are absolutely *Ununitable* to any *Bodies*. It is true that *Origen* did sometimes make mention of *Næs*, *Minds* or *Intellects*, but it was in another sence, he calling all *Souls*, as first *Created* by God, and before their *Lapse*, by that name: which*

was

Paris Archib.
L. 1. c. 8.
p. 485.

was as much as if he should have said, though some of the Platonists talk much of their *Noes*, yet is there nothing answerable to that name, according to their Notion of them, but the only *Noes* really existing in Nature, are, *Unfallen* but *Peccable Souls*; he often concluding, that the Highest Rank of Created Beings, are indeed no better than those which the Platonists commonly call $\psi\chi\epsilon\iota$, or *Souls*. By which *souls* he understood first of all, Beings in their own nature *Self-moveable*, and *Active*; whereas the *Noes* of the Platonists are altogether *Immoveable* and *above Action*. And then again, such Beings or *Spirits Incorporeal*, as exist not *Abstractly* and Separately from all Matter, as the *Noes* of the Platonists were supposed to do, but are *Vitally Unitable to Bodies*, so as together with those Bodies, to compound and make up *One Animal*. Thus, I say, *Origen* conceived even of the *Highest Angelical*, and *Arch-Angelical Orders*, that they were call of them $\psi\chi\epsilon\iota$, *Souls* United to Bodies, but such as were *Pure*, *Subtil* and *Ethereal*: however he supposed it not Impossible for them to sink down into Bodies, more *Gross* and *Feculent*. And it is certain that many of the Ancient Christian Writers concurred with *Origen* herein, that the *Highest Created Spirits* were no *Naked* and *Abstract Minds*, but *Souls* clothed with some *Corporeal Indument*. Lastly, *Origen's* Souls were also supposed to be all of them, endowed with *Liberum Arbitrium* or *Free-Will*, and consequently to be *Self-improvable* and *Self-impairable*; and no Particular Created Spirits to be absolutely in their own Nature *Impeccable*, but *Lapsible into Vicious Habits*: Whereas the *Platonick Noes*, are supposed to be such Beings, as could never *Fall* nor *Degenerate*. And the Generality of the Christian Writers seem'd to have consented or conspir'd with *Origen* in this also, they supposing him who is now the *Prince of Devils*, to have been once an *Angel of the Highest Order*. Thus does *St. Jerome* determine; *Solum Deus est, in quem Peccatum non cadit; cetera cum sint Liberi Arbitrii, possunt in utramque partem suam flexere voluntatem*: God is the only Being, that is absolutely incapable of sin, but all other Beings, having *Free Will* in them, may possibly turn their *Will* to either way, that is, to *Evil* as well as to *Good*. It is certain, that God in a sense of Perfection, is the most *Free Agent* of all, neither is *Contingent Liberty* Universally denied to him; but here it is made the only Privilege of God, that is, of the *Holy Trinity*, to be devoid of *Liberum Arbitrium*, namely as it implieth Imperfection, that is, *Peccability* and *Lapsibility*, in it.

It is true that some of the *Platonick Philosophers*, suppose that even in that Rank of Beings called by them *Souls*, though they be not *Essentially Immutable* but all *Self-moveable*, and *Active*, yet there are some of them of so high a Pitch and Elevation, as that they can never *Degenerate*, nor sink down into *Vicious Habits*. Thus *Simplicius* for one; $\alpha\lambda\lambda\alpha\ \alpha\iota\ \mu\epsilon\gamma\iota\sigma\tau\epsilon\varsigma\ \eta\psi\chi\alpha\iota$, $\alpha\pi\epsilon\ \pi\epsilon\sigma\sigma\iota\gamma\alpha\varsigma\ \iota\pi\omicron\tau\ \alpha\upsilon\tau\alpha\tau\alpha\ \iota\sigma\theta\iota\varsigma\ \pi\epsilon\sigma\sigma\chi\omicron\upsilon\sigma\alpha\iota$, $\kappa\alpha\iota\ \epsilon\chi\epsilon\iota\ \tau\iota\ \pi\epsilon\varsigma\ \sigma\alpha\iota\alpha\ \upsilon\phi\epsilon\iota\mu\epsilon\lambda\omicron\upsilon\sigma\alpha\iota$, $\delta\iota\alpha\ \tau\omicron\ \mu\eta\ \epsilon\iota\sigma\iota\ \alpha\gamma\alpha\theta\omicron\tau\eta\tau\eta\varsigma$, $\alpha\lambda\lambda\alpha\ \delta\epsilon\lambda\epsilon\gamma\omega\sigma\alpha\iota\ \tau\omicron\ \alpha\gamma\alpha\theta\omicron$, $\pi\lambda\eta\nu\ \omega\varsigma\ \epsilon\upsilon\gamma\eta\gamma\iota\varsigma\ \pi\epsilon\varsigma\ \alpha\upsilon\tau\omicron$, $\sigma\upsilon\mu\phi\omega\delta\epsilon\varsigma\ \tau\omicron\ \alpha\upsilon\tau\omicron\ \kappa\alpha\iota\ \alpha\iota\alpha\pi\omicron\sigma\tau\omicron\upsilon\varsigma\ \delta\epsilon\lambda\epsilon\gamma\omega\sigma\alpha\iota$, $\kappa\alpha\iota\ \tau\eta\upsilon\ \alpha\iota\epsilon\iota\omega\upsilon\ \mu\epsilon\tau\epsilon\theta\iota\delta\epsilon\varsigma\ \pi\epsilon\varsigma\ \sigma\alpha\iota\omicron\ \tau\iota\tau\omicron\ \mu\epsilon\lambda\lambda\omega\ \epsilon\chi\epsilon\iota$, $\upsilon\delta\iota\ \pi\alpha\upsilon\iota\ \alpha\pi\omega\lambda\iota\sigma\tau\alpha\iota\ \pi\epsilon\varsigma\ \tau\omicron\ \chi\epsilon\iota\epsilon\tau$ $\kappa\alpha\iota\ \epsilon\pi\iota\tau\epsilon\ \eta\ \pi\alpha\sigma\alpha\iota\sigma\iota\varsigma\ \alpha\upsilon\tau\omicron\ \alpha\lambda\lambda\alpha\ \tau\iota\delta\epsilon\ \iota\sigma\tau\epsilon\ \alpha\iota\epsilon\iota\sigma\iota\varsigma$, $\tau\alpha\chi\epsilon\ \delta\iota\alpha\ \alpha\iota\ \epsilon\iota\mu\ \pi\alpha\sigma\alpha\iota\sigma\iota\varsigma\ \sigma\alpha\iota\epsilon\iota\sigma\iota\varsigma$; $\epsilon\iota\ \mu\epsilon\tau\iota\varsigma\ \alpha\upsilon\tau\omega\ \pi\alpha\sigma\alpha\iota\sigma\iota\varsigma$

In Epiſt.
p. 12, 13.

ἀς τὰ πρῶτα ἀγαθὰ αἰσαρχέω καλοῖ· But the First and Highest of Souls which were Immediately produced from what are Essentially Good, although they have some abatement in them, they being not Goodnesses Essentially, but desirous of Good; nevertheless are they so near a kin to that Highest Good of all, as that they do Naturally and Individually cleave to the same, and have their Volitions always uniformly directed towards it, they never declining to the worse. Inasmuch that if Proæresis, be taken for the Choosing of one thing before another, perhaps there is no such thing as Proæresis to be imputed to them, unless one should call the choosing of the First Goods, Proæresis. By these higher Souls, Simplicius must needs understand, either the Souls of the Sun, Moon and Stars, or else those of the Superiour Orders of Demoniack or Angelick Beings. Where though he make a Question, Whether Proæresis or De-liberation belong to them, yet does he plainly imply that they have none at all of that *Lubricous Liberum Arbitrium* or Free-will belonging to them, which would make them capable of Vice and Immorality as well as Virtue.

But whatever is to be said of this, there seems to be no necessity at all, for admitting that Assertion of *Origen's*, that all Rational Souls whatsoever, even those of Men and those of the highest Angelical Orders are Universally of one and the same Nature, and have no Fundamental or Essential Difference in their Constitution; and consequently that all the difference that is now betwixt them, did arise only from the Difference of their Demeanour, or Use of that Power and Liberty, which they all alike once had. So that *Thrones*, and *Dominions*, and *Principalities*, and *Powers*, were all made such by their Merits; and Humane Souls though now sunk so low, yet are not absolutely Uncapable of *Commencing Angels*, or ascending to those highest Altitudes: as it is not impossible, according to him neither, but that the Highest Angels also, the Seraphim and Cherubim, might in length of time, not only Degenerate into Devils, but also sink down into Humane Bodies. His reason for which Monstrous Paradox is only this, that the Divine Justice cannot otherwise well be saved, but God must needs be a *προσωπώτης*, an Acceptor of Persons, should he have Arbitrarily made such vast Differences amongst Intellectual Beings. Which Ground he also extendeth so far, as to the Humane Soul of our Saviour Christ himself, as being not Partially appointed to that transcendent Dignity, of its *Hypostatick Union*, but by reason of its most faithful adherence to the Divine Word and Wisdom, in a Pre-existent State, beyond all others Souls, which he endeavours thus to prove from the Scripture, *Quid dilectionis Persecutio, & affectus sinceritatis, ei inseparabilem cum Deo feceris Unitatem, ita ut non fortuita fuerit, aut cum Personæ acceptione, Anima ejus assumptio, sed Virtutum suarum sibi merito delata; audi ad eum Propbetam dicentem, Dilexisti Justitiam & odisti iniquitatem, propterea unxit te Deus, Deus tuus, oleo letitiæ præ participibus tuis: Dilectionis ergo merito ungitur Oleo letitiæ Anima Christi, id est, cum Verbo Dei Unum efficitur. Unde namque oleo letitiæ, non aliud intelligitur quam Spiritu Sancto repleti. Præ Participibus autem dixit; quia non Gratia Spiritus sicut Propheetæ ei data est, sed ipse Verbi Dei in ea Substantialis inerat Plenitudo.* That

the Perfection of Love and Sincerity of Divine Affection, procured to this Soul its Inseparable Union with the Godhead, so that the Assumption of it was neither Fortuitous nor Partial, or with Prosopolepsie (the Accaption of Persons) but bestowed upon it justly for the Merit of its Virtues; hear (saith he) the Prophet thus declaring to him; Thou hast loved Righteousness and hated Iniquity, therefore hath God, even thy God, anointed thee with the oil of Gladness above thy Fellows. The Soul of Christ therefore was anointed with the oil of Gladness or made one with the Word of God, for the Merits of Love and faithful adherence to God; and no otherwise. For to be anointed with the oil of Gladness, here properly signifies nothing else, but to be replenish'd with the Holy Ghost. But when it is said, that he was thus anointed above his Fellows, this intimateth, that he had not the Holy Ghost bestowed upon him, only as the Prophets and other Holy men had, but that the Substantial Fulness of the Word of God dwelt in him. But this Reason of Origen's seems to be very weak, because if there be a Rank of Souls below Humane, specifically differing from the same, as Origen himself must needs confess (he not allowing the Souls of Brutes to have been Humane Souls Lapsed, as some Pythagoreans and Platonists conceived, but renouncing and disclaiming that Opinion as monstrously Absurd and Irrational) there can be no reason given, why there might not be as well other Ranks and Orders of Souls Superiour to those of Men, without the Injustice of Prosopolepsie, as besides *Simplicius*, *Plinius* and the Generality of other Platonists conceived.

But least of all can we assent to Origen, when from this Principle, that Souls as such, are Essentially endowed with *Libertum Arbitrium* or Free Will and therefore never in their own Nature Impeccable, he infers those Endless Circuits of Souls Upwards and Downwards, and so makes them to be never at rest, denying them any Fixed State of Holiness and Happiness by Divine Grace; such as wherein they might be free from the Fear and Danger of ever losing the same. Of whom *St. Austin* therefore thus, *Illum & propter alia nonnulla, & maxime propter alternantes sine cessatione beatitudines & miseras, & statim seculorum intervallis ab istis ad illas, atque ab illis ad istas Itus ac Reditus Interminabiles; non immerito reprobavit Ecclesia: quia & hoc quod Misericors videbatur, amisit, faciendo sanctis Veras Miseras, quibus penas luerent, & Falsas Beatitudines, in quibus verum ac securum, hoc est, sine Timore certum, sempiterni boni gaudium, non haberent.* The Church hath deservedly rejected Origen, both for certain other opinions of his, and especially for those his Alternate Beatitudes and Miseries without end, and for his infinite Circuits, Ascents and Descents of Souls from one to the other, in restless Vicissitudes and after Periods of Time. Forasmuch as hereby he hath quite lost, that very Title of Pitiful or Merciful, which otherwise he seemed to have deserved, by making so many True Miseries for the best of Saints, in which they should successively undergo Punishment and Smart; and none but False Happinesses for them, such as wherein they could never have any True or Secure Joy, free from the Fear of losing that Good which they possess. For this Origenical Hypothesis, seems directly contrary to the whole Tenour of the Gospel, promising Eternal and Everlasting Life, to those, who believe in Christ, and Per-

Perseveringly obey him ; 1 *Job*. 2. *This is the Promise that he hath Promised us, even Eternal Life :* and *Titus* 1. 2. *In hope of Eternal Life, which God that cannot Lye hath promised.* And, *God so loved the World, that he gave his only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have Everlasting Life :* and lest all this should be taken for a Periodical Eternity only, *John* 3. 26. *He that believeth in me shall never die.* And possibly this might be the Meaning of *St. Paul*, 2 *Tim.* 1. 10. when he affirmeth of our Saviour Christ, *That he hath abolished Death, and brought Life and Immortality to Light thorough the Gospel ;* not because he was the First who had discovered and published to the World, the Souls Immortality, which was believed before, not only by all the *Pharisaick Jews*, but also by the Generality of *Pagans* too ; but because these for the most part held their *Endless Circuits and Transmigrations of Souls ;* therefore was he the First who brought *Everlasting Life to Light*, and gave the World assurance, in the Faith of the Gospel, of a *Fixed and Permanent State of Happiness*, and a never fading Crown of Glory to be obtained, *Him that overcometh, will I make a Pillar in the Temple of my God, and he shall go no more out,* *Apoc.* 3. 12.

Now the Reason why we mention'd *Origen* here, was because he was a Person, not only thoroughly skilled in all the *Platonick Learning*, but also one who was sufficiently addicted to those *Dogmata*, he being commonly conceived to have had too great a kindness for them ; and therefore had there been any Solidity of Reason, for either those *Particular Henades*, or *Noes* of theirs, Created Beings above the Rank of Souls, and consequently according to the *Platonick Hypothesis*, Superiour to the *Universal Psyche* also, (which was the *Third Hypostasis* in their *Trinity*, and seems to answer to the *Holy Ghost* in the *Christian* :) *Origen* was as likely to have been favourable thereunto, as any other. But it is indeed manifestly repugnant to Reason, that there should be any such *Particular*, that is, *Created Henades*, and *αὐταρχήτις* *Essential Goodnesses*, Superiour to the *Platonick First Mind* ; or any such *Noes*, and *σωτηρία*, *Essential Wisdoms*, Superiour to their *Universal Psyche*, it being all one, as if in the *Christian Trinity* ; besides the First Person or the *Father*, one should suppose a Multitude of *Particular Paternities* Superiour to the *Second*, and also besides that *Second Person*, the *Son* or *Word*, a Multitude of *Particular Sons* or *Words*, all Superiour to the *Third Person* the *Holy Ghost*. For this is plainly to make a Breach upon the Deity ; to confound the Creator and Creature together ; and to suppose a company of such *Creaturely-Gods*, as imply a manifest contradiction in the very Notion of them.

Wherefore we shall here observe, that this was not the *Catholic Doctrine* of the *Platonick School*, that there were such *Henades* and *Noes*, but only a *private Opinion* of some Doctors amongst them, and that of the latter sort too. For First, as for those *Henades*, as there are not the least Footsteps of them to be found any where in *Plato's Writings*, so may it be plainly gather'd from them, that he supposed no such thing. Forasmuch as in his *Second Epistle*,
where

where he describes his *Trinity*, he doth not say of the First, *ᾧ τὸ πρῶτον τὰ πρῶτα* about the First are the First, as he doth of the Second *δ' ὅτι τὰ δ' ὅτι*, and of the Third *τελευτῶν ᾧ τὰ τελευτῶν*, about the Second are the Second, and about the Third the Third; but of the First he saith, *ᾧ τὸ πᾶντων βασιλῆα πάντ' ὅτι*, *ὃς πάντων ἐνικα πάντα*, *ὃς ἐκείνο πάντων ἀπολλύων ἢ καλῶν*, About the King of all things, are all things; and for his sake are all Things; and he is the cause of all Things that are good: Wherefore here are no Particular Henades and *Antoagathotetes*, Unities and Goodnesses, about the First *τὸ "Εν* and *Τάγαθον*, One and Good; but all Good things are about him, he being both the Efficient and Final Cause of all. Moreover Plotinus throughout all his Works discovers not the Least suspicion neither, of these Henades and *Agathotetes*, this Language being scarcely to be found any where in the Writings of any Platonists, Seniour to Proclus: who also as if he were conscious that this *assumentum* to the Platonick Theology, were not so defensible a thing, doth himself sometime as it were tergiversate and decline it by equivocating in the Word Henades, taking them for the Ideas, or the Intelligible Gods before mentioned. As perhaps Synesius also uses the Word, in his First Hymn, when God is called by him

Ἐνομήτωρ ἑὶς ἀγνὸς,
μονάδων μετὰς τε πρώτῃ.

The First Henad of Henades; and the First Monad of Monades: That is, The First Idea of Good, and Cause of all the Ideas. And as for the Particular Noes, Minds or Intellects, these indeed seem to have crept up somewhat before Plotinus his time, he besides the Passage before cited, elswhere giving some Intimations of them, as *Enn. 6. L. 4. c. 4. P. 847, 8, 8.* *ἀλλὰ πῶς ψυχὰς πολλὰς καὶ νοῖ πολλοὶς* But how can there be many Souls, and many Minds, and not only one, but many Entia? From which and other places of his, Ficinus concluded Plotinus himself really to have asserted, above the Rank of Souls, a Multitude of other Substantial Beings, called *νῆες* or *νοῖ*, Minds or Intellects. Nevertheless Plotinus speaking of them so uncertainly, and making such an Union betwixt all these Noes, and their Particular Respective Souls; it may well be question'd, whether he really took them, for any thing else, but the Heads and Summities of those Souls; he supposing that all Souls, have a Mind in them, the Participation of the First Mind; as also a Unity too, the Participation of the First Unity; whereby they are capable of being conjoyn'd with both: *δ' αὖ τὸν ὅν ἡμῶν ἔστιν, καὶ τὸ ἀρχαῖον, καὶ αἰτῶν, καὶ δεῖν· ὥστε τὸ πάντων ἐφ' ἑαυτῷ ὅτι· ἔχει δὲ καὶ ἑαυτὸν ἢ ὅτι τῆς κοινῆς συμμετοχῆς αὐτῶν· καὶ αἱ γεγενηαὶ τὸ ἰδίον προσφύονται πρὸς τὸτο· τῶν γὰρ τοσούτων ἢ ὅν ἡμῶν ἐκαστὴ μὲν, καὶ συντελεσμένη, καὶ ἀνεπληρούμενη δὲ, οἷον ἀνὴρ συνδεδωμένον ὁμοῦ·* There must needs be a Mind in us, as also the Principle and Cause of Mind, God. Not as if he were divided, but because though remaining in himself, yet he is also considered in Many, as capable to receive him. As the Centre, though it remain in itself, yet is it also in every Line, drawn from the Circumference, each of them, by a certain Point of its own, touching it. And by some such Thing in us, is it, that we are capable of touching God, and of being United

to him, when we direct our Intention towards him. And in the next Chapter he adds, ἔχουσιν τὰ τοιαῦτα καὶ ἀπαραμεινόμενα, ἀλλ' ἀργῶνται ταῖς τοιαύταις ἐνεργείαις τὰ πολλὰ· οἱ δ' ὅσ' ὅλως ἐνεργῶσι· οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν ταῖς ἰαυταῖς ἐνεργείαις αὐτῶν, ὥς ὅτι καὶ πρὸ τοῦ ἐν ἑαυτοῖς, &c. That though we have these things, in us, yet do we not perceive them, being for the most part idle and asleep as to these higher Energies; as some never at all exercise them. However those do always act; Mind, and that which is before Mind, Unity; but every thing which is in our Souls, is not perceived by us unless come to the Whole, when we dispose our selves towards it, &c. Where Plotinus seems to make, the Noes or Minds, to be nothing else, but something in Souls, whereby they partake of the First Mind. And it is said of Porphyrius, who was well acquainted with Plotinus his Philosophy that he quite discard'd and rejected these Noes or Intellects, as Substances really distinct from the First Mind, and separate from Souls. And it is certain at such Minds as these, are no where plainly mentioned by Plato, he speaking only of Minds in Souls, but not of any Abstract and Separate Minds save only one. And though some might think him to have given an Intimation of them in his δῶκεν ὡς τὰ δῶκεν, (before mentioned) his Second about the Second Things, or Second Things about the Second; yet by these may very well be understood, the Ideas; as by the Third Things about the Third, all Created Beings. Wherefore we may conclude, that this Platonick or rather Pseudo-Platonick Trinity, which confounds the Differences betwixt God and the Creature, and that probably in favour of the Pagan Polytheism and Idolatry; is nothing so agreeable to Reason it self, as that Christian Trinity before described, which distinctly declares how far the Deity goes, and where the Creature begins: namely, that the Deity extends so far as to this Whole Trinity of Hypostases; and that all other things whatsoever, this Trinity of Persons only excepted, are truly and properly their Creatures, produced by the joynt concurrence and Influence of them all, they being really but One God,

But it is already manifest, that all the forementioned Depravations and Adulterations of that Divine Cabala of the Trinity, and that Spurious Trinity described, (which because asserted by some Platonists, was called Platonick; in way of distinction from the Christian) cannot be justly charged neither upon Plato himself, nor yet upon all his Followers Universally. But on the contrary we shall now make it appear, that Plato and some of the Platonists, retained much of the Ancient Genuine Cabala, and made a very near approach to the True Christian Trinity; so far as their Three Hypostases, distinguish'd from all their other Gods, seem to have been none of them accounted Creatures, but all other things whatsoever the Creatures of them.

First therefore we affirm, that Plato himself, does in the beginning of his *Timæus*, very carefully distinguish betwixt God and the Creature, he determining the Bounds between them, after this manner: *ἔστιν ὅν καὶ ἡμῖν δόξαν πρῶτον διακρινέον ταῦτα· τί τὸ ἐν μὲν αἰὲν, ἡρότων ὅν καὶ ἔχον· καὶ τί τὸ γενόμενον μὲν; ὅν ὃ ἐθέπτει· τὸ μὲν ὃ νοεῖ μετὰ λόγον αὐτοῦ κινήσει, αἰὲν καὶ ταῦτα ὅν τὸ δ' αὖ δόξαν μετ' αἰσθησας ἀλόγως, δόξαντι, γενόμενον*

γινώμενον ἢ ἀπαλλόμενον ; ὅτις ὁ ὁδὸν ἐν τῷ πᾶσι ὁ αὖ τὸ γινώμενον
 ἢ αὖ αὖτος πῶς ἐξ ἀνάγκης γινώσκαι . We being here to treat, con-
 cerning the Universe, judge it necessary to begin with a Distinction,
 betwixt that which always Is, and hath no Ortus or Generation; and
 that which is Made, but never truly Is. The Former of which, being
 always like it self and the same, is comprehensible by Intellection with
 Reason, or is the Object of Knowledge; the latter of them, that which
 is Made and Perisheth, but never truly Is, is not properly Knowable,
 but Opinable only, or the Object of Opinion together with Irrational
 Sense. Now every thing that is made must of necessity be made by some Cause.
 The reason why Plato being to treat of the Universe, begins here with
 this Distinction, was, as Proclus well observes, because, ὡς ταῖς κοιναῖς
 ἡμῶν ἀνοήτοις ἀπορίαις, τίνα τι αὖ ἐν . It is either one of our Common
 Notions, or a thing Mathematically Demonstrable, that there must be some-
 thing Eternal, or which was never Made, but always was, and had no
 Beginning. And it is evident by Sense and experience that all things
 are not such, but that some things are Made and Perish again, or Gene-
 rated and Corrupted. Now the Latter Platonists, being strongly pos-
 sessed with a Prejudice, of the World's Eternity, or that it had no
 Beginning, have offered strange violence to Plato's Text in this place,
 and wrested his words to quite a different sence from what he in-
 tended; as if by his τὸ γινώμενον That which is Made, he did not
 at all mean, That which had a Beginning, but only, that whose Du-
 ration is, Flowing and Successive or Temporary, which might not-
 withstanding be without Beginnings; and as if he supposed the whole
 Corporeal World to be such, which though it hath a Successive and
 Temporary Duration, yet was without any Beginning. And the Cur-
 rent ran so strong this way, that even Boetius, that Learned Christian
 Philosopher, was himself also carried away with the force thereof, he
 taking it for granted likewise, that Plato held the Eternity of the
 World in this sence, that is, its Being without Beginning, Non rectè qui-
 dam, (saith he) qui cum audiunt visum Platoni, Mundum hunc nec habuisse
 Initium Temporis, nec habiturum esse Defectum; hoc modo Conditore
 Conditum Mundum fieri Coeternum putant. Aliud est enim, per In-
 terminabilem duci vitam, quod Mundo Plato tribuit; aliud Intermina-
 bilis Visæ totam pariter complexum esse præsentiam; quod Divina Men-
 tis proprium esse manifestum est. Neque Deum, Conditis rebus Antiquior
 videri debet, Temporis Quantitate, sed Simplices potius proprietate Natu-
 re. Some when they hear, Plato to have held, that the World had no
 beginning, nor shall never have an end, do not rightly from thence in-
 fer, That Plato therefore made the World Co-Eternal with God, because
 it is One Thing always to Be, and another thing, to possess an Endless
 Life all at once; which is proper to the Divine Mind. Neither ought
 God to be thought Older than the World, in respect of Time, but only
 in Respect of the Simplicity of his Nature. To which purpose he adds
 afterwards, Itaque si dignarebus Nomina velimus imponere, Platonem
 sequentes, Deum quidem Eternum, Mundum verò dicemus esse Perpetuum:
 Therefore, if we would give proper Names to things agreeable to their
 Natures, following Plato, we should say, That God was Eternal; but the
 World only Perpetual. But as this Doctrine of the latter Platonists,
 quite frustrates Plato's Design in this place, which was to prove or
 P P P assert

Confut. Phil;
 L. 1. Tit. 69

assert a *God*, because if the World had no beginning, though its Duration be never so much Successive, yet would it not follow from thence, that therefore it must needs have been made by some other Cause; so is it directly contrary to that Philosopher's own Words; himself there declaring, that by his τὸ γεγόμενον, *Ortum*, or *That which is Made* he did not understand only, *That* whose Duration is Successive, but also τὸ γένεσθαι ἀρχῇ ἔχει, *That which had a beginning of its Generation*, and τὸ ἀπ' ἀρχῆς τινος ἀρξάμενον, *That which begun from a certain Epocha of Time*; or *that which Once was not*, and therefore must needs be brought into being by some other Cause. So that *Plato* there plainly supposed, all *Temporary Beings*, once to have had a Beginning of their Duration, as he declareth in that very *Timæus* of his, that *Time* it self was not *Eternal*, or without Beginning, but *Made together with the Heaven or World*; and from thence does he infer, that there must of necessity be, another *Eternal being*, viz. such as hath both a *Permanent Duration*, and was without Beginning, and was the Cause both of *Time* and the *World*: for as much as nothing can possibly be made without a Cause; that is, nothing which once was not, could of it self come into Being, but must be produced by some other thing; and so at last we must needs come, to something which had no Beginning. Wherefore *Plato*, thus taking it for granted, that whatsoever hath a *Temporary and Flowing Duration*, was not without Beginning; as also that whatsoever was without Beginning, hath a *Permanent Duration* or *Standing Eternity*; does thus state the Difference betwixt *Uncreated* and *Created Beings*, or betwixt *God* and *Creature*: namely, that *Creature* is *That* whose, *Duration* being *Temporary or Successive*, once had a Beginning; and this is his, τὸ γεγόμενον μὲν, ὅν ᾧ ἀέπειτα, *That which is Made, but never truly Is*, and that which ὡς αἰεὶς τινος ἔξ ἀνάγκης γίνεται; *Must of necessity be Produced by some Cause*; but that whatsoever is without Beginning, and hath a *Permanent Duration*, is *Uncreated* or *Divine*; which is his τὸ ὅν μὲν ἀεί, ᾧ δὲ αἰεὶ ἔχει, *That which always Is, and hath no Generation, nor was ever Made*. Accordingly as *God* is styled in the Septuagint Translation, of the *Mosaick Writings*, ὁ ὢν, *He that Truly is*.

Now as for this αἰδίον ὄν or φῶς, *this Eternal Nature*, which always *Is*, and was never *Made*, *Plato* speaks of it, not Singularly only, as we Christians now do, but often in the Paganick way Plurally also; as when in this very *Timæus*, he calls the World, τὸ αἰδίδον θεῶν γεγονὸς ἀγάλμα, a *Made or Created Image, of the Eternal Gods*. By which *Eternal Gods* he there meant doubtless that τὸ πρῶτον, and τὸ δεύτερον, and τὸ τρίτον, *that First, and Second, and Third*; which in his Second Epistle to *Dionysius*, he makes to be the *Principles of All things*; that is, his *Trinity of Divine Hypostases*, by whose Concurrent Efficiency, and according to whose Image and Likeness, the whole World was made; as *Plotinus* also plainly declareth in these words of his before cited, ὅτι μὲν ὁ κόσμος εἰκὼν αἰεὶ ἐκινούμενος, ἰσχυρίζεται μὲν τὸ πρῶτον, καὶ τὸ δεύτερον, καὶ τὸ τρίτον. *This World is an Image always Iconized, or perpetually Renewed (as the Image in a Glass is) of that First, Second, and Third Principle, which are always Standing*; that is, fixed in Eternity, and were never Made. For thus *Eusebius* records,

that

that the Ancient Interpreters of *Plato* expounded this First, Second and Third of his in the forementioned Epistle, of a *Trinity of Gods*; ταῦτα εἰς τὴν Πλάτωνος διασαφὴν πρῶτον, ὅτι τὸν πρῶτον θεὸν αἰώνιον, Pr. Et. Lii; ὅστις τὸ δόκνειν αἰώνιον, καὶ τρίτον τὸν τῷ κόσμῳ ψυχὴν, οὗτον τρίτον καὶ αὐτὸν ὁρίζονται οὕτως. These things do the Interpreters of *Plato* refer, to the First God; and to the Second Cause; and to the Third the Soul of the World; they calling this also the Third God. Wherefore we think there is good reason to conclude, that those *Eternal or Uncreated Gods* of *Plato* in his *Timæus*; whose Image or Statue this whole Generated or Created World is said by him to be, were no other than his *Trinity of Divine Hypostases*, the Makers or Creators thereof. And it was before (as we conceive) rightly guessed, that *Cicero* also was to be understood of the same *Eternal Gods*, as *Platonizing*, when he affirmed; *A Diis omnia à Principio facta*, That all things were at first made by the Gods, and à *Providentiâ Deorum, Mundum & omnes Mundi partes constitutas esse*, That the World and all its Parts were constituted by the Providence of the Gods.

But that the *Second Hypostasis* in *Plato's Trinity*, viz. *Mind or Intellect*, though said to have been Generated, or to have Proceeded by way of Emanation from the First called *Tagathon*, The Good; was notwithstanding unquestionably acknowledged, to have been *Eternal* or without Beginning, might be proved by many express Testimonies of the most Genuine *Platonists*; but we shall here content our selves only with Two, one of *Plotinus* writing thus concerning it, *Enn. 5. L. 1. c. 6.* ἐκπαύειν ἢ ἡμῶν ἔστι γένεσις ἢ αἰὲν χρόνος, τὸ λόγον οὐδὲ γὰρ αἰὲν οὕτως πνευματικόν, &c. Let all Temporal Generation here, be quite banished from our thoughts, whilst we treat of things *Eternal*, or such as alwayes are, we attributing Generation to them only in respect of Causality and Order, but not of Time. And though *Plotinus* there speak particularly of the *Second Hypostasis* or *Nous*, yet does he afterwards extend the same also to the *Third Hypostasis* of that Trinity, called *Psyche*, or the Mundane Soul; which is there said by him likewise to be the Word of the Second, as that Second was the Word of the First, καὶ τὸ γινώσκον ἀπὸ κρείττονος Νῦν, Νῦν ἔστιν, καὶ κρείττον ἀπέναντι Νῦν, ὅτι τ' ἅμα μὲν αὐτῷ, οὗτος καὶ ἡ ψυχὴ λόγος νῦν, καὶ ἐνέργεια τις, ὥστε αὐτὸς οὐκ ἐστίν, That which is Generated from what is better than Mind, can be no other than Mind, because Mind is the Best of all things, and every thing else is after it, and Junior to it, as *Psyche* or Soul, which is in like manner the Word of Mind, and a certain Energy thereof, as Mind is the Word and Energy of the First Good. The other Testimony is of *Porphyrus*, cited by *S. Cyril* out of the Fourth Book of his *Philosophick History*, where he sets down the Doctrine of *Plato* after this manner, ἐπὶ οὗ Πλάτωνος οὐδὲ τῷ Ἀγαθῷ ἔστιν ἀπὸ ἢ τὸτος *S. Cyril. C. 7.* τρέφει πρὸς ἀνθρώπου ἀνεκπαύεται τὸν γινώσκειν τι ὅλον καὶ κατ' ἑαυτὴν ἰσχυρὰν. Fol. L. 1. p. τα, αἰὲν ὅτι τὸ οὐκ ὄντα ὄντα, καὶ ἡ πᾶσι ὅσα τ' ὄντα. ὁ δὲ καὶ πρῶτος καλὸς καὶ αὐτοκαλὸν, καὶ ἑαυτῷ καλλωνὲς ἔχειν τὸ ὄν. περιλάττει καὶ περιαινεῖται ἀπ' αὐτοῦ τὸ διὸς ἐκκεννῶν, αὐτογινώσκει καὶ αὐτοπαύει. ὁ γὰρ αἰώνιος κατεμένος πρὸς γένεσιν τῷ τὸτος ἢ περιλάττει γένεσιν, ἀλλὰ τὸτος περιλάττει αὐτογινώσκον ἐκ διὸς, περιλάττει ὃ καὶ ἀπ' ἀρχῆς πρὸς χρόνον, ἔπειτα πρὸς χρόνον. καὶ ἀλλὰ οὐδὲ χρόνος γινώσκον πρὸς αὐτὸν καὶ πὸς ὁ χρόνος, αἰ.

κεῖνον τὸ αἰὶν καὶ μένος αἰάνων ὁ νῦν. Plato thus declareth concerning the First Good, That from it was Generated a certain Mind Incomprehensible to Mortals; in which subsisting by it self, are contained the things that truly are, and the Essences of all Beings. This is the First Fair, and Pulchritude it self, which proceeded or sprung out of God from all Eternity as its Cause, but notwithstanding after a peculiar manner, as Self-begotten, and as its Own-Parent. For it was not begotten from that as any way moved towards its Generation; but it proceeded from God as it were Self-begottenly. And that not from any Temporal beginning, there being as yet no such thing as Time. Nor when Time was afterwards made, did it any way affect him; for Mind is alwayes Timeless, and alone Eternal. Here besides the Eternity of Mind or Intellect, the Second Divine Hypostasis in the Platonick Trinity, there are other strange and unusual expressions concerning it; for though it be acknowledged to have been Generated from the First Original Deity, yet is it called αὐτοπατὴρ and αὐτογενὴς, Its Own-Parent, and its Own-Ofspring, and said to have sprung out, αὐτογενὴς Self-begottenly.

Eu. 5. L. 1.
c. 6.

Now because this is so great a Riddle or Mystery, it is worth the while to consider its true meaning and the ground thereof; which is thus declared by Porphyrius. Mind though it sprung from the First Good or Supreme Deity from Eternity, yet is it said to be Self-Begotten, because it did not spring from that, as any wayes moved towards its Generation, but as alwayes standing still or quiescent. Which Doctrine was before delivered by Plotinus after this manner, ἡ κατὰ εἶδος φανερὰ γινώσκουσι, ὅτι τὸ κατὰ εἶδος αὐτῷ τι γινώσκω, τελεῖται ἀπ' αἰώνος τὸ γινώσκον μετὰ τῷ κινῶν ἀν γινώσκω, καὶ ὁ δὲ αὐτογενὴς ὁ δὲ ἐν αἰωνίῳ ὅλος, καὶ δὲ αὐτογενὴς μετ' αὐτῷ, ὁ παρὰ γενέσθαι, ὁ δὲ βελονίδης, ὁ δὲ ἕως κατὰ εἶδος, ὁ παρὰ γενέσθαι αὐτῷ. That which was immediately generated from the First, did not proceed from it as any wayes moved towards its Generation, because then it would not have been the Second, but the Third after that Motion. Wherefore if there be any Second after that First Good, it must needs proceed from that First, as remaining Immoveable, and not so much as actively consenting thereto, nor willing it, which would be Motion. Now this in Porphyrius his Language, is paraphrased to be, a Being produced from the First Good or Original Deity, αὐτογενὴς Self Begottenly, or in a way of Self-Generation. But the plain meaning thereof, seems to be no other than this, that though this Second Divine Hypostasis, did indeed proceed from the First God, yet was it not produced thence after a Creaturely, or in a Creating Way, by the arbitrary will and Command thereof, or by a particular Fiat of that Supreme Deity, but by way of Natural and Necessary Emanation. Neither was Porphyrius singular in this Language, we finding the very same expression, of αὐτοπατὴρ and αὐτογενὴς Self-Parent and Self-Begotten, in Iamblichus his Mysteries, where it is likewise by him applied not to the First Principle of all, but to a Second Divine Hypostasis, ἀπὸ τοῦ τοῦ ἐνός τῶν ὁ αὐτογενὴς θεὸς ἐκ τῶν τῶν ἐκ τῶν, διὰ καὶ αὐτοπατὴρ καὶ αὐτογενὴς. From this One, the Self-Sufficient God, made himself to shine forth into light; and therefore is he called Sui-Pater, and Scipio-Genitus, his own Father, and Self begotten. But of this God or Divine Hypostasis in Iamblichus more afterward. We cannot Justifie such kind of Language as this in the Christian Trinity, because

we

aidios. If the Son be Eternal, he was no Creature; and on the contrary, if he be a Creature, he was not Eternal.

Neither is there any force at all in that Testimony of *Macrobius*, which *Petavius* urgeth to the Contrary; wherein the First Cause is said, *De se Mentem Creasse, to have Created Mind from it self*; and again this Mind, *Animam de se Creasse, to have Created from it self Soul*; because it is certain, that these Ancient Pagans, did not then so strictly confine that Word *Create*, (as we Christians now do) to that narrow Sense and Notion, of the *Production of Things in Time*; but used it generally, for all manner of *Production or Efficiency*. But the chief Ground of *Petavius* his mistake herein, besides his Prejudice against Platonism in general, was his not distinguishing betwixt that *Spurious Trinity* of some Platonists, wherein the Third *Hypostasis*, was the *Whole Animated World*, (which gave him occasion to write thus, *Tertius verò Deus manifestè Creatus ab iisdem Platonickis putatur, quem ὁ πῶτα nominant;*) and that other Doctrine of those, who made it not to be the World it self, that is a Creature, but the *Opificer or Creator* thereof.

But we grant, that there may be some more reason to make a Question, whether *Plato* himself held the Eternity of the *Mundane Soul* (commonly said to be the Third *Hypostasis* of his *Trinity*) or no; because in his *Timæus*, though he acknowledged it to be *Senior* to the World; yet does he seem to attribute a *Temporary Generation or Nativity* to it. Nevertheless it is no way probable, that *Plato's Third Principle* of all things, in his Epistle to *Dionysius*, and that *Psyche* or *Soul* of his, which is the only God, that in his Tenth *De Legibus* he goes about to prove against the Atheists; should ever not have been: and therefore it is most reasonable to compound this business, thus, by supposing with *Plotinus* and others, that *Plato* held a *Double Psyche* or *Soul*, one *ἐνυλῆσιμος* or *Mundane*, which is as it were the Concrete Form of this corporeal World; whereby this World is properly made an Animal, and a *Second or Created God*; Another *ὑπερῆσιμος*, *Supra-mundane*, or *Separate*; and which is not so much the *Form*, as the *Artificer of the World*. The First of which Two, *Plotinus* calling it the *Heavenly Venus*, thus describeth; *τῷ ὃ ἀρχὴν λαμβάνειν, ἐκ κέρους τῷ ὄντι καὶ ἀντι, ἀντικειν ψυχὴν διδομένην εἶναι, ἐκδὸς δὲ αὐτῇ ἀκέραιον ἀκέραιον, μακάριον αὐτὴν ὡς μὴ ὃ εἰς τὰ τῶν ἰδίων, μήτε ἐκλήσασθαι, μήτε διαμαρτύνειν, ὅτι ὡ φῶς καὶ χεῖρ τὰ κατὰ φύσιν βελόν. Χωρὶς ὅταν πινὰ ὑπόστασις, ἢ ἀμειψιὸν ἔλκετος αἶσαν· ὅταν αὐτῷ τῷ ἰνέησιν, τῷ ἀμειψιῷ εἶναι ἢ ὃ δὲν ἄντι διαιδίας, ὃ δαίμονα ἔπει, ἀμειψιὸν εἶναι, ἢ κατὰ τὸν ἐφ' ἑαυτῆς, &c. ὅταν δὲ ἂν ἀκέραιον, τῷ ἀκέραιον πολὺ μάλλον, ὃ ἔλκετος ἂν ἔχει δὲ αὐτῷ, ὅταν αὐτῷ ἀντικειν φῶς, εἰς αὐτῷ συνεκτιμῶσι· ἰρεπῶν ὃ τῷ κέρους, ὃ εἰ βῆλὴ τῷ πᾶσι τῷ κέρους ἀρχὴν, ἀνέστησι πὶ κέρους αὐτῷ ἢ ἀντικειν, ἢ ἐκδιδόντα ἑαυτῇ ἐκλήσασθαι. This Heavenly Venus, which they affirm to have been begotten from Saturn, that is from a Perfect Mind or Intellect, must needs be that most Divine Soul (the Third Archical Hypostasis) which being immediatly begotten, pure from that which is pure, always remains above, so that it neither can nor will ever descend down to these lower things, so as to be immersed in them: it being of such*

such a nature, as is not inclinable to sink or lapse downward. A certain Separate substance, which doth not at all partake of Matter, as the fable intimated, when it called it Motherless; and therefore may it well be styled by us, not a Demon but a God. Whence it comes to pass, that this Soul can never fall, is being much more closely united and connected with that Immoveable Mind or Intellect, than that Light which is circumfused about the Sun, is connected with the Sun. This Venus therefore following Chronos, or rather the Father of Chronos Uranus, assing towards it, and being enamoured with it, begat Love. *Χωρεῖσθ' ὃ κατέβη τὸν ψυχῶν λόγον, τὴν πρώτον ἐλάμπυσαν τῶ ἑργῶ, χωρεῖσθ' ὃ τ' ἔργα τῆς τοῦ θεοῦ ματρὸς.* Moreover as we call this Soul it self Separate, so is this Love of it, or begotten by it, a separate Love. After which he speaks of another Soul of the World, which is not separate from it, but closely conjoynd therewith, he calling it, a Lower Venus and Love; namely, that other Venus which in the Fable, is said to have been begotten from Jupiter himself (the Superiour Soul of the World) and Dione, a Watery Nymph. We conclude therefore, that though this Lower Mundane Soul, might according to *Plato*, have a Temporary production together with the World, or before it; yet that other Superiour and most Divine Soul, which *Plotinus* calls the Heavenly Venus and Love, the Son of Chronos without a Mother, and which was truly the Third Hypostasis of *Plato's Trinity*, was Eternal, and without Beginning. And thus according to the forementioned Principle of *Athanasius*, none of these Three Hypostases of *Plato's Trinity*, were Creatures, but all of them Divine and Uncreated.

Which to make yet more evident, we shall further observe, First that *Plato* himself in that Second Epistle of his to *Dionysius*, after he had mentioned his First, Second, and Third; that is, his Trinity of Divine Hypostases, immediately Subjoyns these Words, *ἡ δὲ ἀνθρώπου ψυχὴ, ὥς ἐν τῇ ἀντὶ ἐξέλκεται μαθεῖν πᾶσι ἃ ἔχει θεῖ, βάλυσσα ὅς τῃ αὐτῆς συγγενῇ, ἐν ᾧ οὐκ ἰκανὸς ἔχει· τὴ δὲ βασιλείᾳ πύρα, καὶ ἐν ᾧ οὐκ ἔστιν, ἔστιν τοῦτο.* The Mind of man (as Parturient) has always a great desire to know what these things are, and to that end does it look upon things cognate to it, which are all Insufficient, Imperfect and Heterogeneous. But in that King of all things, and in the other, Second, and Third, which I spake of, there is nothing of this kind; that is, nothing like to these Created Things.

Secondly the Three Hypostases of *Plato's Trinity*, are not only all Eternal, but also Necessarily Existent and Absolutely Undestroyable. For the First of them, can no more Exist without the Second, nor the First, and Second, without the Third, than Original Light can Exist without its Splendor, Coruscation, or Effulgency. And *Plotinus* writing against some Gnosticks in his time, who would make more of these Divine Hypostases or Principles, than Three; concludes that there can be neither more of them, nor fewer, in this manner, *ἡ τῶν δὲ ἐν ἑφ' ἑτέρας ἀρχῶν ἵναται, ἀλλὰ τὸ τοῦ περὶ τοῦ πρώτου, ὅτι τὸν μετ' αὐτῶ καὶ τὸν πρῶτον, αὐτὰ ψυχῶν μετὰ τὸν· αὐτὴ γὰρ πᾶσι καὶ φῶς, μέτε πᾶσι τῶν δὲ αὐτῶν, μέτε ἑκάστῳ· ὅτι γὰρ ἐλάττω, ἢ ψυχῶν καὶ τὸν ταυτὸ φέρεται, ἢ τὸν ὅς τὸ πρῶτον, ἀλλ' ἐπὶ ἑτέρας ἀνάγκων, ἐλάττω καὶ πολλὰ καὶ· λεπτὸν δὲ ὅτι καὶ*

En 2. L. 9.
c. 1.

καὶ αὐτῶν

ἵασαι ἐς τὴν πέραντι, ἐπὶ πλεονότων, &c. Wherefore we ought not to entertain any other Principles, but having placed First, the Simple Good; to set Mind or the Supreme Intellect next after it, and then the Universal Soul in the third place. For this is the right order according to Nature, neither to make More Intelligibles (or Universal Principles) nor yet Fewer than these three. For he that will contrail the number, and make fewer of them, must of necessity either suppose Soul and Mind to be the same, or else Mind and the First Good. But that all these three are divers from one another, hath been often demonstrated by us. It remains now to consider, that if there be more than these three Principles, what Natures they should be, &c.

Thirdly, as all these three Platonick Hypostases are Eternal and Necessarily Existent, so are they plainly supposed by them, not to be Particular, but Universal Beings; that is, such as do. ὅλην τὴν οὐρανὴν καὶ τὴν γῆν contain and comprehend the whole World under them, and preside over all things, which is all one as to say, that they are each of them Infinite and Omnipotent. For which reason are they also called by Platonick Writers, ἀρχαὶ and αἰτια, and δημιουργοί, Principles and Causes, and Officers of the whole World. First, as for νῦν Mind or Understanding: Whereas the Old Philosophers before Plato, as Anaxagoras, Archelaws, &c. and Aristotle after him, supposed Mind and Understanding, to be the very First and Highest Principle of all: which also the Magick or Caldec Oracles take notice of as the most Common opinion of mankind,

“Ὁν πρῶτον κληθεῖται ὁνομασθέντα.

Page 30.

That, Mind is generally by all men look'd upon, as the First and Highest God; Plato considering, that Unity was in order of Nature before Number and Multiplicity; and that there must be νῦν before νῦν, an Intelligible before Intellect; so that Knowledge could not be the First; and Lastly, that there is a Good transcending that of Knowledge; made One most Simple Good, the Fountain and Original of all things, and the First Divine Hypostasis; and Mind or Intellect only the Second next to it, but Inseparable from it, and most nearly Cognate with it. For which cause in his *Philebus*, though he agree thus far with those other Ancient Philosophers, ὅτι αὐτὸ τὸ παντὶς νῦν ἀρχὴ καὶ τὴν Mind alwayes rules over the whole Universe, yet does he add afterwards, ὅτι νῦν ἐστὶ γένος τῶ πάντων αἰτίου, that Mind is (not absolutely the First Principle, but) Cognate with the Cause of all things; and that therefore it rules over all things, with, and in a kind of subordination to that First Principle, which is Tagathon or the Highest Good, Where when Plato affirms that Mind or his Second Divine Hypostasis is γένος with the First, it is all one as if he should have said, that it is συγγενὲς, and ὁμοῖός, and ὁμογενὲς, with it; all which words are used by Athanasius, as Synonymous, with ὁμοούσιος Co-Essential or Con-Substantial. So that Plato here plainly and expressly agrees or Symbolizes, not with the Doctrine of Arius; but with that of the Nicene Council and Athanasius; that the Second Hypostasis of the Trinity, whether called Mind, or Word, or Son, is not ἰσχυρότερος,

ἑσόμες, but γινώσκω or ἐσόμενος Co-Essential or Con-Substantial with the First; and therefore not a Creature.

And then, as for the Third Hypostasis, called *Psyche* or the *Superiour Anim. ame Soul*, Plato in his *Cratylus*, bestowing the name of *Zeus*, that is, of the Supreme God upon it, and etymologizing the same from ζῆν, adds these words concerning it, οὐ γὰρ ἕστιν ἡμῖν ἐξ τοῖς ἄλλοις πῦμα, ἐστὶν ἕστιν ἁπλοῦς μᾶλλον τοῦ ζῆν, ἢ ὁ ἀρχὸν τι καὶ βασιλεύς γὰρ πάντων. *There is nothing which is more the Cause of Life to us and all other Animals, than this Prince and King of all things; And that therefore God was called by the Greek; Zeus; because it is by him that all Animals live.* And yet that all this was properly meant by him, of the Third Hypostasis of his Trinity, called *Psyche*, is manifest from those words of his that follow; where he expounds the Poetick Mythology before mentioned, making *Zeus* to be the Son of *Chronos*; ὁ λόγος δὲ, μερόδης πρὸς διανοίας ἕκαστου ἐστὶν ἡ δία, *It is agreeable to reason, that Zeus should be the Progeny or Off-spring of a certain great Mind.* Now ἕκαστος and γινώσκω, are equivalent Terms also; and therefore Plato here makes the Third Hypostasis of his Trinity likewise to be ἐσόμενος, Co-Essential with the Second; as he elsewhere made the Second, Co-Essential with the First.

It is true that by the δημιουργός, or *Opifiser* in Plato, is commonly meant *Nous* or *Intellect*, his Second Hypostasis; (Plotinus affirming as much, δημιουργός ὁ ἔς Πλάτωνα, *The Demiurgus to Plato is Intellect*.) En. 5. L. 1.
Procl. in Tim. Nevertheless, both *Amelius*, and *Plotinus*, and other Platonists, called this Third Hypostasis also δημιουργός, the *Artificer* or *Opifiser* of the whole World: Some of them making him to be the Second from *Mind* or *Intellect*; others the Third from the First Good the Supreme Cause of all things; who was by *Atticus* and *Amelius* styled *Demiurgus* also. Wherefore as was before suggested, according to the Genuine and most ancient Platonick Doctrine, all these Three Hypostases, were the Joint-Creators of the whole World, and of all things besides themselves; As *Ficinus* more than once declares the Tenour thereof, *Hi Tres uno quodam consensu omnia producunt, These Three with one common consent produce all things*; and before him *Proclus*, πάντα ἀνιέρχεται τῷ ἐνὸς διὰ τοῦ μὲν καὶ τοῦ καὶ, *All things depend upon the First One, by Mind and Soul*; and accordingly we shall conclude in the words of *Porphyrus*, That the True and Real Deity according to Plato, extends to Three Divine Hypostases, the last whereof is *Psyche* or *Soul*. in Pla. En. 1.
L. 1.

From all which it appears, that *Arius* did not so much Platonize, as the *Nicene Fathers* and *Athanasius*; who notwithstanding made not Plato, but the Scripture, together with Reason deducing natural Consequences therefrom, their Foundation. And that the Platonick Trinity, was a certain Middle thing also, betwixt the Doctrine of *Sabellius* and that of *Arius*; it being neither a Trinity of Words only, or Logical Notions, or meer Modes; but a Trinity of Hypostases; nor yet a Jumbled Confusion of God and Creature (Things Heterogeneous) together: neither the Second nor Third of them being Creatures,

or *Made in Time*, but all *Eternal, Infinite, and Creators*,

But that it may yet more fully appear, how far the most *Refined Platonick and Parmenidian or Pythagorick Trinity*, doth either *Agree*, or *Disagree* with the *Scripture-Doctrine*, and that of the *Christian Church* in several *Ages*; we shall here further observe *Two Things* concerning it. The First whereof is this, That though the *Genuine Platonists and Pythagoreans*, supposed none of their *Three Archical Hypostases* to be indeed *Creatures*, but all of them *Eternal, Necessarily Existent*, and *Universal or Infinite*, and consequently *Creators* of the whole *World*; yet did they nevertheless, assert an *Essential Dependence* of the *Second Hypostasis* upon the *First*, as also of the *Third* both upon the *First and Second*; together with a *Gradual Subordination* in them. Thus *Plotinus*, writing of the *Generation* of the *Eternal Intellect*, which is the *Second* in the *Platonick Trinity*, and answers to the *Son or Word* in the *Christian*: Τὸ ὃ αἰὶν τέλειον, αἰὶν καὶ αἰδίου γεννᾷ, καὶ ΕΑΑΤΤΟΝ ὃ ἐαυτῷ γεννᾷ. τί οὐ καὶ οὗτοι τῷ πληροτέρῳ λόγῳ; μὲντοι ἀπ' αὐτῷ γεννᾷ, ἢ τῷ μέγιστα μὲν αὐτῷ· μέγιστον ὃ μὲν αὐτῷ νῦν καὶ ἀδύνατον. καὶ ὃ οὐδ' ὁ νῦν ἐκείνου, καὶ δύναιτο αὐτῷ μόνον· ἐκείνου ὃ τὸ τὸν ὅθεν. καὶ τὸ γεννᾷ μὲν ἀπὸ κατέστητο· νῦν, νῦν ἔστιν· καὶ κατέστητο ἀπὸ τῶν ὅθεν, ὅτι τὰλλα μετ' αὐτῶν. οὐκ καὶ ἡ ψυχὴ λόγῳ· νῦν καὶ ἡ ἐκείνου καὶ τῆς. *That which is always perfect, Generates what is Eternal, and that which it Generates, is always Less than it self. What shall we therefore say of the most Absolutely Perfect Being of all? Does that produce nothing from it self? or rather does it not produce the Greatest of all things after it? Now the Greatest of all things after the most Absolutely Perfect Being, is Mind or Intellect; and this is Second to it. For Mind beholdeth this as its Father, and standeth in need of nothing else besides it: whereas that First Principle standeth in need of no Mind or Intellect. What is Generated from that which is Better than Mind, must needs be Mind or Intellect; because Mind is better than all other things, they being all in order of Nature After it and Junious to it; as Psyche it self or the First Soul; for this is also the Word or Energy of Mind, as that is the Word and Energy of the First Good. Again the same is more particularly declared by him, concerning that Third Hypostasis called Psyche, that as it Essentially Dependeth upon the Second, so is it Gradually Subordinate or some way Inferiour to it. καὶ τὸ ὃ γεννᾷ νῦν, νῦν ἐν τέλειον. καὶ ὃ τέλειον οὐκ, γεννᾷ ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ, καὶ μὴ δύναται ἔσθαι τοῦ αὐτοῦ λόγῳ ἔστιν· κατέστητο ὃ ἐκ οὐκ οὐκ ἔστιν, ὅτι αὐτῷ οὐκ τὸ γεννᾷ μὲν, ἀλλ' ΕΑΑΤΤΟΝ ὅν, ἐκείνου ἔστιν αὐτῷ· Perfect Intellect Generates Soul; and its Being Perfect, must needs Generate, for so great a Power could not remain Sterile. But that which is here Begotten also, cannot be greater than its Begetter; but must needs be Inferiour to it, as being the Image thereof. Elsewhere the same Philosopher, calling the First Hypostasis of this Trinity, *Uranus*, the Second, *Chronos*, and the Third, *Zeus*, (as *Plato* had done before) and handsomely Allegorizing that Fable, concludes in this manner concerning *Chronos* or the Second of these, μεταξὺ ἐν πᾶσι, ὅτι ἀμεινῶς, καὶ ἡσσῶν καὶ κατώτερος, That he is in a Middle state or degree, betwixt his Father, who is Greater, and his Son, who is Less and Inferiour. Again, the same thing is by that Philosopher thus asserted in general, ἐν τοῖς γεννημένοις,*

Em. 5. L. 1.
c. 6.

P. 489.

P. 554.

P. 513.

ὅτι

ὅτι ἐκ πρὸς τὸ αἰῶν, ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὸ χρόνον γενέσθαι. *In the things Generated from Eternity, or Produced by way of natural Emanation, there is no Progress upwards, but all Downwards, and still a Gradual Descent into Greater Multiplicity.* We shall cite but only one passage more out of this Philosopher, which containeth something of Argumentation in it also; ὅτι τὸ αὐτὸ τὸ ἕκαστος ἐκείνου, εἰ ἢ μὴ τὸ αὐτὸ, ἔστιν ἄλλο. *That which is Generated or Emaneth, immediately from the First and Higheſt Being, is not the very ſame thing with it, as if it were nothing but that Repeated again and Ingeminated; and as it is not the ſame, ſo nei, ther can it be Better than it.* From whence it follows, that it muſt needs be Gradually Subordinate and Inferiour to it. In. 1. 3. 4. 5.

Which Gradual Subordination and Eſſential Dependence, of the Second and Third Hypoſtaſes upon the Firſt, is by theſe Platonicks illuſtrated ſeveral ways. *Ficinus* reſembles it to the *Circulations of Water*, when ſome Heavy Body falling into it, its Superficies is depreſſed, and from thence every way Circularly Wrinkled. *Almus* (ſaith he) ſic ſeruit proſuit ex alio, ſicut in aqua Circulus dependet à Circulo; One of theſe Divine Hypoſtaſes, doth in a manner ſo depend upon another, as one Circulation of water depends upon another. Where it is obſervable alſo, that the Wider the Circulating Wave grows, ſtill hath it the more Subſidence and Detumeſcence, together with an Abatement of Celerity; till at laſt all becomes plain and ſmooth again. But by the Pagan Platonicks themſelves, each Following Hypoſtaſis, is many times ſaid to be, ἑκτύπη, ἢ ὑπότυπος, a Print, ſtamp or Impreſſion, made by the Former; like the Signature of a Seal upon Wax. Again it is often called by them, εἰκὼν, and εἰδωλον, and μίμημα, an Image, and Representation, and Imitation; which if conſidered in Audibles, then will the Second Hypoſtaſis be look'd upon, as the *Eccho* of an Original Voice; and the Third as the Repeated *Eccho*, or *Eccho* of that *Eccho*; as if both the Second and Third Hypoſtaſes were but certain Replications of the Firſt Original Deity with Abatement; which though not Accidental or Evanid ones, but Subſtantial, yet have a like Dependence one upon another, and a Gradual Subordination. Or if it be conſidered in Viſibles, then will the Second Hypoſtaſis, be reſembled to the Image of a Face in a Glaſs, and the Third to the Image of that Image Reſlected in another Glaſs, which depend upon the Original Face, and have a Gradual Abatement of the vigour thereof. Or elſe the Second and Third, may be conceived as Two Parelit, or as a Second and Third Sun. For thus does *Plotinus* call the Univerſal Psyche or Third Hypoſtaſis, εἰκὼν ἢ ἀντιφάσις τῆς φῶς ἐκείνης, The Image of Mind (which is the Second) retaining much of the Splendour thereof. Which Similitudes of theirs notwithstanding, they would not have to be Squeezed or Preſſed hard; becauſe they acknowledge that there is ſomething of Diſſimilitude in them alſo, which then would be forced out of them. Their meaning amounts to no more than this, that as an Image in a Glaſs, is ſaid ἵκεν ἐκείνῃ, Eſſentially to belong to ſomething elſe, and to depend upon it; ſo each following Hypoſtaſis, doth Eſſentially Depend upon the Former or Firſt, and hath a Subordination to it. But we meet with no expreſſion in any of theſe Pagan Platonicks, ſo Unhandſom and Offeſſive, as that of *Philo's*, in his

Second Book of Allegories, *οὐκία ὁ θεὸς ὁ λόγος αὐτῷ ἔστιν, ὃ καὶ διὰ τοῦ ἐργάτου προσηχομένης οὐκασίας, The World is the Shadow of God, which he made use of, as an Instrument, in the making of the World.* Notwithstanding which, the same Writer doth call him elsewhere, more honourably, a *Second God* and *The Son of the First God*. As in the same place he doth also declare, that this *Shadow* and *Image of God*, is it self the *Archetype* of other things, αὐτὴ ὁ οὐκία, καὶ ὡσαύτως ἀπεικόνισμα, ἔτερον ἔστιν ἀρχέτυπον, ὡς καὶ ὁ θεὸς ἀρχέτυπον ἑαυτοῦ, ἢ οὐκία τοῦ κελύμενου, ὅπως ἡ εἰκὼς ἄλλο γινέσθαι ἀρχέτυπον. *This Shadow and as it were Image (of the First God) is it self the Archetype and Pattern of other things below it. As God is the Pattern of this Image (which we call his Shadow;) So is this Image it self another Pattern or Paradigm also.* But this *Dependence* and *Subordination* of the *Divine Hypostases*, is most frequently illustrated in *Platonick Writings*, by the *υπελαμψις* or *ἀπαύρασμα*, the *Effulgency* or *Out-shining of Light* and *Splendour* from the *Sun*, and other *Luminous Bodies*; the *Νοῦς* or *Second Hypostasis*, being resembled to that *Radiant Effulgency*, which immediately encompassing them, is beheld together with them, and as the *Astronomers* tell us, augments their apparent *Diameter*, and makes it bigger than the *True*, when they are beheld through *Telescopes*, cutting off those *luxuriant* and *Circumambient Rayes*. And the *Third Hypostasis* is resembled to the *Remoter* and more *Distant Splendour*, which circling still *Gradually* decreaseth. Thus *Plotinus*, πᾶς ἐν τῷ τὸ δὲ τοῦτο καὶ ἐν αὐτῷ μόνον, καὶ ἡλαμψιν ἐν αὐτῷ μόνον, ἐν αὐτῷ ὁ μόνος, οὗτο ἡλίου τὸ καὶ αὐτὸ λαμπρὸν, ὡς καὶ ἐν αὐτῷ, ἐν αὐτῷ αὐτὸ γινώσκον μόνον. *How should we consider this Second Hypostasis otherwise than as the Circumscribed Splendour, which encompasseth the Body of the Sun; and from that always remaining, is perpetually Generated a new.*

P. 487.

But this *Essential Dependence*, and *Gradual Subordination* of *Hypostases*, in the *Platonick Trinity*, will yet more fully appear, from those *Particular Distinctive Characters*, which are given to each of them. For the *First* of these, is often said to be "ἐν πρὶ πάντων, *One before all things* 3 a *Simple Unity*, which *Vertually* containeth all things. And as *Plotinus* writes, ὅπως ἔχει πάντα ὡς μὴ διακαυεῖν, καὶ ὡς δὲ πᾶσι διὰ τοῦ λόγου. *This so containeth all things, as not being yet secrete and distinct; whereas in the Second they are discerned and distinguished by Reason; that is, they are Actually distinguished in their Ideas; whereas the First is the Simple and Fecund Power of all things.* Wherefore the *Second* was called by *Parmenides*, "ἐν πάντων, *One actually all things* 3 that is, in their *Distinct Ideas*. And the *Third* according to the same *Philosopher*, as *Plotinus* tells us, was "ἐν τῷ πάντων, *One and all things* 3 as having still more *Multiplicity* and *Alterity* in it. *One Effectively all things.* That which doth *Actually Display*, and *Produce* into *Being*, what was *Vertually* or *Potentially* contained in the *First* 3 and *Ideally* or *Exemplarily* in the *Second*. Accordingly, the *First* of these is sometimes said to be *πάντα νοεῖν*, *All things Intellectually*, and the *Third* *πάντα ψυχῶν*, *All things Animally* 3 that is, *Self-movably, Actually* and *Productively*. Again the *First* of these is commonly styled *ἡ πρώτη*, *The*

P. 513.

The

The Good, or Goodness it self, above Mind and Understanding, and also *ὑπερῶντος*, above Essence, Ineffable and Incomprehensible. And sometimes also *φῶς ἀπλὸν*, a Simple Light; The Second, *Νῦς, λόγος, σοφία*, Unity and Goodness only by Participation, or *Ἀγαθοειδὴς*, Boniform, but Essentially and Formally; Mind or Understanding, Reason and Wisdom, All-Comprehending or Infinite Knowledge. The Third, *Ψυχὴ*, Self-movable Soul; Goodness and Wisdom by Participation; but Essentially and Formally, Infinite Self-Activity, or Effectiveness; Infinite, Active, Perceptive and Animadversive Power. Sometimes it is styled also *Ἀφροδίτη* and *Ἔρως*, Venus and Love; but differently from that of the First Good, which is Love too; but a Love of Redundancy, or Overflowing Fulness and Fecundity; *ὃν γὰρ τὸ πλεον, τὸ μὴ δι᾽ ἑαυτῶν, μὴ δὲ ἔχειν, μὴ δὲ δέχασθαι, οὐκ ὑπερέρχον, καὶ τὸ ὑπερπλεῖς αὐτῷ πεποιτα πάντα*, That which being Absolutely Perfect, and seeking or wanting nothing; as it were Overflowed; and by its Exuberant Redundancy, Produced Allthings. Whereas this Latter is a Love of Infinite Activity. Of the First, it is said by Plotinus, that it is *ἀνυπερβόλος*, above all manner of Añion, for which Cause the Making of the World, is not properly ascribed to him, though he be the Original Fountain of all: According to that of Numenius, *καὶ γὰρ ὅτι θεοῦ ἀρχὴν ἔχει καὶ τὸ πρῶτον, καὶ τὸ δὲ δημιουργῶντος θεοῦ (τὸ γὰρ οὐκ) καὶ οὐκ ἐκείνου πεποιτα τὸ πρῶτον θεοῦ*. Neither is it fit to attribute, the Architecture of the World to the First God, but rather to account him the Father of that God, who is the Artificer. Who again speaks further to the same purpose thus; *τὸν μὲν πρῶτον οὐδὲν ἀργεῖν ὄναι ἔργων συμπαρόντα καὶ βασιλεύοντα*. It is to be acknowledged, that the First God is void of all manner of work or Añion, he being the King of all things. Of the Second, to whom the Energy of Intellection is attributed, it is said notwithstanding, that his *ἐκεία* is his *ἐκεία*, his Essence his Operation; and that he is *ἀκίνητος ἐκεία*, though a Multiform, yet an Immoveable Nature. He therefore is properly called the *Demiurgus*, as the Contriving Architect or Artificer, in whom the Archetypal World is contained; and the First Paradigm or Pattern of the whole Universe. But the Third is a kind of Movable Deity, *τὸ ὡς εἰς τὸν νενομισμένον* (as Plotinus speaks) *καὶ ὡς φῶς, καὶ ἔχον ἐξερτημῶν ἐκεία*. That which moveth about Mind or Intellect, the Light or Effulgency thereof, and its Print or Signature, which always dependeth upon it, and añeth according to it. This is that which reduces both the Fecundity of the First Simple Good, and also the Immoveable Wisdom and Architectonical Contrivance of the Second into Act and Energy. This is the Immediate, and as it were Mannary Officer of the whole World, and *τὸ ἐν γαμῶν τὸ πάντες*, that which añually Governs, Rules and Presideth over all. Amelius in that Passage of his before cited out of Proclus, calling these Three Divine Hypostases Three Minds, and Three Kings; styles the First of them, *τὸν οὐκ*, Him that is: The Second *τὸν ἐχέοντα*, Him that Hath; and the Third *τὸν ὁρῶντα*, Him that Beholds. In which Expressions, though Peculiar to himself, he denotes an Essential Dependence, and Gradual Subordination, in them.

Now that which is most liable to exception, in this Platonick Scale of Gradation of the Deity, seems to be the Difference betwixt the First

First and the *Second*. For whereas the *Essential Character* of the *Second*, is made to be, *Understanding, Reason and Wisdom*; it seems to follow from hence, that either the *First* and the *Second*, are really nothing else but two different Names or Inadequate Conceptions of One and the same thing, or else if they be distinct *Hypotheses* or *Persons*, that the *First* of them, must needs be *ἄνους* and *ἀλογος*, devoid of *Mind, Reason and Wisdom*; which would be very absurd. To which all the reply we can make is as follows. First, that this is indeed, one *Peculiar Arcanum* of the *Platonick* and *Pythagorick Theology* (which yet seems to have been first derived from *Orphens* and the *Egyptians*, or rather from the *Hebrews* themselves) that whereas the *Pagan Theologers* generally concluded, τὸν πρῶτον περγενέσθαι, *That Mind and Understanding properly so called, was the Oldest of all things*; the *Highest Principle* and *First Original* of the *World*; those others placed something above it, and consequently made it to be not the *First* but the *Second*. Which they did chiefly upon these *Three* following Grounds. First, Because *Understanding, Reason, Knowledge and Wisdom*, cannot be conceived by us mortals otherwise, than so as to contain something of *Multiplicity* in them; whereas it seems most reasonable to make the *First Principle* of all, not to be *Number* or *Multitude*, but a perfect *Monad* or *Unity*. Thus *Plotinus*, ἀρεσκον μὲν ὡς ἂν ὅτις, ὁρῶμεν ὅτι ὑπὸ τοῦ πρώτου διὰ καὶ ἑρῶν ὡς ἂν ἀορίστου διὰ αὐτοῦ καὶ τοῦ ἐνός τοι ἑνὸς καὶ οἱ ἀεὶ μὲν οἱ τὸ τοῦ πρώτου διὰ ὅτις διὰ ὅτις ἀπλῶς, ἀλλὰ πολλὰ, &c. *Intellection as well as Vision, is in its own nature an Indefinite thing, and is determined by the Intelligible: therefore it is said, that Ideas as Numbers, are begotten from Infinite Duality, and Unity; And such is Intellect; which consequently is not Simple, but Many, it contemplating Many Ideas; and being compounded of Two, That which is Understood, and that which Understands. And again elsewhere,* τὸ πρὸ τοῦ λόγου πρῶτον, ὅτι τὸς ὅτις λόγος πρῶτος, ἀπλῶς ἐστι δὲ ὅτις ἐὰν πολλὰ πολλὰ, ἀλλὰ τὸ πρῶτον τὸ ἐξ ὅτις πολλὰ, &c. *The Principle of every thing, is more Simple than the thing it self. Wherefore the Sensible World was made from Intellect or the Intelligible; and before this, must there needs be something more Simple still. For Many did not proceed from Many, but this Multiform thing Intellect, proceeded from that which is not Multiform, but Simple; as Number from Unity. To this purpose does he argue also in these words,* εἰ τὸ πρῶτον τὸ πλῆθος, δὲ αὐτὸ τὸ μὴ πλῆθος τὸ πρῶτον μὴ εἶναι. ἢ ὅτι τὸ πρῶτον ὡς τοῖς ὅτις ἐστὶν ἑνὸς αὐτὸ τὸ πρῶτον, καὶ τὸς ὅτις. *If that which understands be Many, or contain Multitude in it, then that which contains no Multitude, does not properly understand; and this is the First thing; but Intellection and Knowledge properly so called are to be placed among things which follow after it and are Second. And he often concludes, ὡς τῇ δὲ ἀπλῶς φωνῇ εἶναι τὸ γινώσκον. That Knowledge (properly so called by reason of its Multiplicity) belongs to the Second Rank of Being; and not the First. Another Ground or Reason is, Because in order of Nature, there must be *Nous* before *Nous*, something *Intelligible*, before *Intellect*; and from hence does *Plotinus* conclude, τὸ πρῶτον ὅτις πρῶτον, ὅτις τὸς εἶναι, ὅτι τὸς ἴσμεν εἶναι. ἀλλὰ δὲ ἀπλῶς, καὶ γινώσκον, ἐπὶ δὲ ὑπὸ τὸ ἀγαθόν. καὶ γινώσκον αἰσῶσις πρὸς αὐτὸ, &c. *That to Understand is not the First; neither in Essence nor in Dignity; but the Second; a thing in order of Nature, after the First Good,**

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and springing up from thence, as that which is moved with desire towards it. Their Third and last Ground or Reason is; Because *Intellection and Knowledge*, are not the *Highest Good*; that therefore there is some Substantial thing in order of Nature *Superiour to Intellect*. Which Consideration *Plato* much insisteth upon, in his sixth Book *De Republica*. Now upon these several Accounts do the *Platonicks* confidently conclude, ἐν δὲ δὲς κρείττων λόγος ἐστὶν ἢ τὸ αἰσθητικόν, *Plat. p. 512.*
 ὡς αὐτὰ ταῦτα ἐκ αὐτῆς ἐστὶν ταῦτα. That the Supreme Deity is more Excellent and Better than the λόγος (Reason or the Word) Intellect and Sense, he affording these things; but not being these himself. And τὸ ἡμεῖς μὲν ἐκ αὐτῆς λόγος πολὺς ἐστὶν, πᾶς δὲ τὸ ἐν διανοίᾳ ἢ λόγος πᾶς P. 514.
 ἐστὶν ἐκ αὐτῆς λόγος λόγος, ἐστὶν πᾶς τὸ ἀγαθόν ἐκ αὐτοῦ. That which was Generated from the First Principle, was Logos (Word or Reason) Manifest; But the First Principle it self was not Word: If you demand therefore, How Word or Reason, should proceed from that which is not Word or Reason? we answer, as that which is Boniform, from Goodness it self. With which *Platonick & Pythagorick Doctrine* exactly agreeth *Philo the Jew* also, ὁ πρὸ τοῦ θεοῦ λόγος, κρείττων ἐστὶν ἢ πᾶσα λογικὴ φύσις, τῷ δὲ ὑπὲρ τῆς πᾶντων ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ καὶ τῇ ἐξουσίᾳ καθέστηκεν ἰδιότης, ἔστιν ὁ θεὸς ὃν γέννηται ἡ κοίτη αὐτοῦ. That God which is before the Word or Reason, is better and more excellent than all the Rational Nature; neither is it fit that any thing which is Generated should be perfectly like, to that which is Originally from it self, and above all. And indeed, we should not have so much insisted upon this, had it not been by reason of a Devout Veneration that we have for all the Scripture-mysteries; which Scripture seems to give no small Countenance to this Doctrine, when it makes in like manner, an *Eternal Word and Wisdom*, to be the *Second Hypostasis* of the *Divine Triad*; and the *First-begotten Son* or *Off-spring of God the Father*. And *Athanasius*, as was before observed, very much complieth here also with the *Platonick Notion*; when he denies that there was any λόγος or σοφία, any Reason or Wisdom, before that Word and Son of God, which is the *Second Hypostasis* of the *Holy Trinity*. What then? Shall we say that the *First Hypostasis* or *Person*, in the *Platonick Trinity*, (if not the *Christian* also) is *αἶψα* and *ἄλογος*, Senseless and Irrational, and altogether devoid of *Mind and Understanding*? Or would not this be to introduce a certain kind of *Mysterious Atheism*; and under pretence of Magnifying and Advancing the Supreme Deity, Monstrously to Degrade the same? For why might not Senseless Matter, as well be supposed, to be the *First Original* of all things, as a *Senseless Incorporeal Being*? *Plotinus* therefore, who rigidly and superstitiously adheres to *Plato's* Text here, which makes the *First and Highest Principle* of all, to be such a Being as by reason of its *Absolute and Transcendent Perfection*, is not only above *Understanding, Knowledge, and Reason*, but also above *Essence* it self, (which therefore he can find no other names for, but only *Unity and Goodness Substantial*) and consequently, *Knowledge and Wisdom*, to be but a *Second or Post Nate Thing*, though *Eternal*; but notwithstanding does seem to labour under this *Metaphysical Profundity*; he sometimes endeavours, to solve the difficulty thereof after this manner, by distinguishing of a *Double Light*; the *One Simple and Uniform*, the other *Multiform or Manifest*;

fold; and attributing the Former of these, to the *Supreme Deity* only, (whose *Simple Original Light* he resembles to the *Luminous Body* of the *Sun* it self;) The latter of them to the *Second Hypostasis*, as being the *ἐκλαμψις* or *ἀπαύραγμα*, the *Circumambient Fulgor*, or *Outshining Splendour* of that *Sun*. Thus *Enn. 5. L. 6. c. 4.* τὸ παρὶχαι τοῦ τοῦ φῶς, φῶς ἔστι ἀπλὸν, That from which this *Multiform Light* of *Nēs* or *Intellect* (the *Second Hypostasis*) is derived, is φῶς ἀπλὸν, Another most *Simple Light*. As he elsewhere accordingly writeth of the *First Principle*, or *Supreme Deity*, that it is, ὡς νοεῖ ἐνέργας ἢ ἔχῃ τὴν τὴν νόον, in *Knowledge* or *Understanding*, but of different kind from that *Understanding* of the *Second Hypostasis*, called *Intellect*. Sometimes again, this *Philosopher* subtilly distinguisheth, betwixt νόος αὐτῇ, *Intelligence it self*, and τὸ νοεῖν or τὸ ἔχει τὴν νόον, That which doth *Understand*, or which hath *Intelligence* in it; making the *First Principle* to be the *Former* of these *Two*, and the *Second Hypostasis* of their *Trinity* to be the *Latter*: ἵδῃ ἡ νόος νοεῖ, ἀλλὰ τὸ ἔχει τὴν νόον· δύο ὅν τινα αὐτῇ, ὡς τῇ νοεῖν γινώσκου. Τὸ τοῦ δὲ ἵδου δὲ δύο. *Intelligence it self* doth not *understand*, but that which hath *Intelligence*. For in that which doth *understand*, there is a kind of *Duplicity*. But the *First Principle* of all, hath no *Duplicity* in it. Now that *Duplicity*, which he phancies to be, in that which *Hath Intelligence*, is either the *Duplicity* of Him that hath this *Intelligence* and of the *Intelligence* it self, as being not the same; or else of Him and the τὸ νοεῖν, the *Intelligible*, or *Object* of his *Intellection*: *Intellect* supposing an *Intelligible* in order of nature before it. And from this *Subtlety* would he infer, that there is a certain kind of *Imperfection* and *Indigence*, in that which *Doth Understand*, or *Hath Intelligence*, ἵδου τοῦ νοεῖν, ὡς αὐτὸ ἐνέργας, That which *Understandeth* is *Indigent* as that which *Seeth*. But perhaps this *Difficulty* might be more easily solved, and that according to the *Tenour* of the *Platonick Hypothesis* too; by supposing the *Abatement* of their *Second Hypostasis*, to consist only in this, that it is not *Essentially* τὸ ἀγαθὸν *Goodness* it self, but only ἀγαθοειδὲς, *Boniform*, or *Good by Participation*; it being *Essentially* no higher, than *Nēs*, *Λόγος* and *Σοφία*, *Mind*, *Reason*, and *Wisdom*; for which cause it is called by those Names, as the proper *Characteristick* thereof. Not as if the *First* were devoid of *Wisdom*, under Pretence of being *Above* it; but because this *Second* is not *Essentially* any Thing *Higher*. As in like manner, the *Third Hypostasis*, is not *Essentially* *Wisdom* it self, standing or quiescent, and without *Motion* or *Action*; but *Wisdom* as in *Motion*, or *Wisdom Moving* and *Acting*.

The Chief Ground of this *Platonick Doctrine*, of an *Essential Dependence*, and therefore *Gradual Subordination*, in their *Trinity* of *Divine Hypostases*; is from that *Fundamental Principle* of their *Theology*; That there is but *One Original* of all things, and μὴ πρὶν ἢ θεοῦ, only *One Fountain* of the *Godhead*; from whence all other things whatsoever, whether *Temporal* or *Eternal*, *Created* or *Uncreated*, were altogether derived. And therefore this *Second Hypostasis* of their *Trinity*, since it must accordingly *Derive* its whole Being from the *First*, as the ἀπαύραγμα from the φῶς, The *Splendour* from the *Original Light*, must of necessity have also an *Essential Dependence*;

upon the same ; and consequently , a *Gradual Subordination* to it.

For though they commonly affirm their *Second Hypostasis*, to have been *Begotten* from their *First*, and their *Third* from their *Second* ; yet do they by no means understand thereby, any such *Generation*, as that of men ; where the Father, Son and Nephew, when *Adult* at least, have no *Essential Dependence* one upon another, nor *Gradual Subordination* in their Nature, but are all perfectly *Co-equal*, and alike *Absolute*. Because this is but an *Imperfect Generation*, where that which is *Begotten*, doth not receive its whole Being Originally from that which did *Beget*, but from *God and Nature* ; the Begetter being but either a Channel or an Instrument, and having been himself before *Begotten* or *Produced* by some other. Whereas the *First Divine Hypostasis* is altogether *Unbegotten* from any other, he being the *Sole Principle* and *Original* of all things, and therefore must the *Second* needs derive its whole Essence from him, and be *Generated* after another manner, namely in a way of *Natural Emanation*, as Light is from the Sun ; and consequently though *Co-eternal*, have an *Essential Dependence* on him, and *Gradual Subordination* to him.

Moreover, the Platonists would recommend this their *Gradation in the Deity*, or *Trinity* of *Hypostases Subordinate*, from hence ; because by this means, there will not be so vast a *Chasm* and *Hiatus*, betwixt God and the Highest Creatures ; or so Great a *Leap* and *Jump* in the *Creation*, as otherwise there must needs be. Nor will the whole Deity be skrewed up to such a *Disproportionate Height* and *Elevation* ; as would render it altogether *Uncapable*, of having any *Entercourse* or *Commerce* with the lower world ; it being according to this *Hypothesis* of theirs, brought down by certain *Steps* and *Degrees*, nearer and nearer to us. For if the *Whole Deity*, were nothing but *One Simple Monad*, devoid of all manner of *Multiplicity* ; as God is frequently represented to be, then could it not well be conceived by us Mortals, how it should contain the *Distinct Ideas* of all things within it self, and that *Multiform Platform* and *Paradigm* of the Created Universe, commonly called the *Archetypal World*. Again, were the Deity only an *Immovable Mind* ; as *Aristotle's* God, is ἀκίνητος ὁ Θεός, an *Absolutely Immovable Substance*, whose *Essence* and *Operation* are one and the same ; and as other Theologers affirm, that *Whatsoever is in God, is God* ; it would be likewise utterly un-conceivable, not only, How there should be any *Liberty of Will* at all in God (whereas the same Theologers, contradicting themselves, zealously contend notwithstanding, that all the *Actions* of the Deity are not *Necessary*, and but few of them such) but also, How the Deity should have any *Commerce* or *Entercourse* with the Lower world, How it should *Quick*en and *Actuate* the whole, be sensible of all the *Motions* in it, and act *pro re nata* accordingly ; all which the *Instincts* and *Common Notions* of Mankind urge upon them. Neither can they be denied, without raising the very *Foundations* of all Religion, since it would be to no more purpose, for men to make their *Devotional Addresses*, to such an *Immovable, Inflexible, and Unassailable Deity*, than to a

Senseless Adamantine Rock. But these Difficulties (as the Platonists pretend) are all removed by that *Third Hypostasis* in their *Trinity*; which is a kind of *Movable Deity*. And thus are all the *Phænomena* of the *Deity*, or the different Common Notions, in the Minds of men concerning it, though seemingly repugnant and clashing with one another, yet (in their opinion) fairly Reconciled and Salved, by this *Trinity of Divine Hypostases Subordinate*.

Lastly, they pretend also, that according to this *Hypothesis* of theirs, there may be some Reasonable Satisfaction given to the Mind of Man, both why there are so many Divine *Hypostases*, and why there could be no more: whereas according to other ways, it would seem to have been a meer Arbitrary Business; and that there might have been either but *One Solitary Divine Hypostasis*; or but a *Duality* of them; or else they might have been beyond a *Trinity*, *Numberless*.

The Second Thing which we shall observe concerning the most Genuine *Platonical* and *Parmenidian* *Trinity*, is this; That though these Philosophers sometimes called their *Three Divine Hypostases*, not only τρεῖς φύσες, *Three Natures*, and *Three Principles*, and *Three Causes*, and *Three Officers*; but also *Three Gods*; and a *First*, and *Second*, and *Third God*; yet did they often for all that, suppose all these *Three*, to be Really *One εἶναι*, *One Divinity*, or *Numen*. It hath been already proved from *Origen* and others, that the Platonists most commonly called the Animated World, the *Second God*, though some of them, as for example *Numenius*, styled it the *Third God*. Now those of them, who called the World the *Second God*, attributed indeed (not more, but) less Divinity to it, than those who would have it to be the *Third God*. Because these Latter supposed, that *Soul of the World* to be, the *Third Hypostasis* of their *Trinity*; but the other taking all these *Three Divine Hypostases* together, for *One Supreme and First God*, called the World the *Second God*; they supposing the Soul thereof, to be another Soul Inferiour to that *First Psyche*, which was properly their *Third Hypostasis*. Wherefore this was really all one, as if they should have called the Animated World the *Fourth God*: only by that other way of reckoning, when they called it a *Second God*, they intimated, that though those *Three Divine Hypostases*, were frequently called *Three Gods*, yet were they notwithstanding Really, all but *One εἶναι*, *Divinity* or *Numen*; or as *Plotinus* speaks, τὸ αὐτὸ κατὰ τὴν οὐσίαν, *the Divinity which is in the whole World*. Thus when God is so often spoken of in *Plato* Singularly, the word is not always to be understood of the *First Hypostasis* only, or the *Tagathon*, but many times plainly of the *πρῶτον*, and *δευτερον*, and *τεῖτον*, the *First*, and *Second* and *Third* all together; or that whole *Divinity* which consisteth or is made up, of these *Three Hypostases*. And this will further appear from hence, because when the whole World is said in *Plato* to be the *Image of the Eternal Gods*, as also by *Plotinus*, of the *First*, *Second* and *Third*, by whom it is always produced anew, as the *Image in a Glass*; this is not to be understood as if the World being Tripartite, each Third part thereof, was severally produced or Created by one of those *Three*;
nor

not yet can it be conceived, how there could be *Three* Really distinct Creations of One and the same thing. Wherefore the World having but *one* Creation, and being Created by those *Three* Divine Hypostases; it follows, that they are all *Three* Really but *One* Creator and *One* God. Thus when both in *Plato* and *Plotinus*, the Lives and Souls of all Animals, (as Stars, Demons and Men) are attributed to the Third Hypostasis, the First and great *Psyche*, as their Fountain and Cause after a Special Manner; accordingly as in our Creed, the Holy Ghost is styled, *the Lord and Giver of Life*; this is not so to be understood, as if therefore the First and Second Hypostases were to be excluded from having any Causality therein. For the First is styled by *Plato* also, αἰτίος ἀπλῶς τῶν καλῶν, *The Cause of all Good things*, and therefore doubtless chiefly of Souls; and the Second is called by him and others too, αἴτιον and δημιουργός, *The Cause and Artificer of the whole World*. We conclude therefore, that Souls being Created by the *Joint Concurrence and Influence* of these *Three* Hypostases Subordinate, they are all Really but One and the same God. And thus it is expressly affirmed by *Porphyrius* in *St. Cyril*, ἔχει τελὴν ὑποστάσεων τὴν θεὸν περιελθεῖν ὅσων ἴσται ἢ τὸ μὲν ἀνατάτο θεὸν τὸ ἀρχαῖον, μετ' αὐτὸν ἡ εἰς ἄλλους, τὸ δημιουργόν· τελεῖται ἢ ἐν τῷ τῷ κόσμῳ ψυχῶν· ἔχει γὰρ ψυχῆς τῷ θεῷ περιελθεῖν· *That the Essence of the Divinity proceeds or propagates it self (by way of descent downwards) unto Three Hypostases or Subsistences. The Highest God, is the Tagathon or Supreme Good; the Second next after him is the Demiurgus so called, the Architect or Artificer of the World; and the Soul of the World that is the Third: for the Divinity extendeth so far as to this Soul. Here we plainly see, that though Porphyrius calls the Three Divine Hypostases, Three Gods; yet does he at the very same time declare, that ὁ θεὸς ὅστις and θεῖος, the Essence of the Godhead and the Divinity, extends it self to all these Three Hypostases, including the Third and last also, (which they call the Mundane Soul) within the compass of it. And therefore that even according to the *Porphyrian Theology* it self, (which could not be suspected to affect any compliance with Christianity) the Three Hypostases in the *Platonick Trinity*, are ὁμοῦς, Co. 1. both as being each of them God, and as being all One God. And if himself also acknowledging as much; where he writeth thus of the Platonists, τρεῖς ἀρχαῖαι ὑποστάσεις ὑποδιεμέμνηται ἐν ᾧ, ἡ μὲν ἔχει τελὴν ὑποστάσεων τὴν θεὸν τῷ οὐκ ἐκείνῳ· ἡ μετὰ μὲν· *That supposing Three Hypostases which have the Nature of Principles (in the Universe) they extend the Essence of God, to all these three Hypostases.**

¶ Indeed many conceive, that the Platonists making the *Three Hypostases* of Their *Trinity* to be thus Gradually Subordinate one to another, could not for that very Reason, acknowledge them to be *One Divinity*: but the Platonists themselves do upon this very account and no other, declare, all these Three to be *One Divinity*, because they have an *Essential Dependence* and *Gradual Subordination* in them; the Second being but the Image of the First, and the Third the Image both of the First and Second. Whereas were these Three supposed to be Perfectly Co-Equal, and to have no *Essential Dependence* one upon another, they could not by these Platonists be concluded to be

any other than *Three Co-ordinate Gods*, having only a *Generical* or *Specific Identity*; and so no more *One*, than *Three men* are *One man*: a thing which the *Platonick Theology* is utterly abhorrent from, as that which is inconsistent with the *Perfect Monarchy* of the Universe, and highly Derogatory from the honour of the *Supreme God, &c First Cause*. For example, should *Three Suns* appear in the Heaven all at once, with *Co-equal Splendor*, and not only so, but also be concluded, that though at *First* derived (or *Lighted* and *Kindled*) from one, yet they were now all alike *Absolute* and *Independent*; these *Three* could not so well be thought to be *one Sun*; as *Three* that should appear *Gradually* differing in their *Splendor*, Two of them being but the *Parbelit* of the other, and *Essentially* dependent on it: forasmuch as the *Second* would be but the *Reflected Image* of the *First*, and the *Third* but the *Second Refracted*. At least those *Three Coequal Suns*, could not so well be thought, to be *One Thing*; as the *Sun*, and its *First* and *Secondary Splendor* (which can neither be beheld without the *Sun*, nor the *Sun* without them) might be accounted *One* and the *Same Thing*.

The *Platonists* therefore, *First* of all suppose such a close and near *Conjunction* betwixt the *Three Hypostases* of their *Trinity*, as is no where else to be found in the whole World. To this purpose *Plotinus*, *En. 5. L. 1. c. 6.* *ἀεὶ ὃ αὐτὸ, ὃ καλεῖται, ἀλλ' ὅτι μετ' αὐτὸ καὶ μεταξὺ ὧν· ὡς ὅταν ψυχὴ καὶ ψῆ· ποῦν ὃ πᾶν τὸ γεννητὸν καὶ τὸ αὐτὸ ἀγαθόν, καὶ μάλιστα ὅταν ἂν μόνον, τὸ γεννητὸν καὶ τὸ γεγεννημένον· ὅταν ὃ καὶ τὸ ἄρσεν ἢ τὸ γυνήκειον, ἢ ἀνάγκη συνῇ αὐτὰ, ὡς τῇ ἐννοεῖν μόνον καλεῖται·* *Intellect* is said to behold the *First Good*; not as if it were *Separated* from it, but only because it is *After* it, but so as that there is nothing between them: as neither is there betwixt *Intellect* and *Soul*. Every thing which is *Begotten*, *Desires* and *Loves* that which *Begat* it; especially when these *Two* (that which *Begat* and that which is *Begotten*) are alone, and nothing besides them. Moreover when that which *Begat*, is absolutely the *Best* thing, that which is *Immediately Begotten* from it, must needs *Cohere* intimately with it, and so as to be separated from it only by *Alterity*. Which is all one as if he should have said, that these *Three Divine Hypostases*, are so intimately conjoynd together, and united with one another, as that they are *Tantum non*, *Only Not*, the *Very* self same. Again the *Platonists* further declare that these *Three Hypostases* of their *Trinity*, are *ἀδιαιρέτοι*, *Absolutely Indivisible* and *Inseparable*, as the *ἀνὰ ψαγμα* is *ἀδιαιρέτον* from the *φῶς*, the *Splendor* *Indivisibly conjoynd* with the *Light* or *Sun*. Which *Similitude* also *Athanasius* often makes use of to the same purpose. Thirdly, these *Platonists* seem likewise to attribute to their *Three Divine Hypostases*, just such an *ἐκαστὸν γάρητος*, *Circuminsession*, or *Mutual In-Being*, as *Christians* do. For as their *Second* and *Third Hypostases*, must needs be in the *First*, they being therein virtually contained; so must the *First* likewise, be in the *Second* and *Third*; they being as it were but *Two* other Editions thereof; or it self *Gradually Displayed* and *Expanded*. But to speak Particularly, the *First* must needs be in the *Second*, the *Tagashon* in the *Nous*; and so both of them Really *One* and the same *God*; because the common *Notions* of all Mankind attribute Understand-

ing and Wisdom to the Deity; but according to the Principles of Plato, Plotinus, and others, the Deity does not properly Understand any where but in the *Second Hypostasis*, which is the *Mind* and *Wisdom* of it. And the *Emperichorests* of the Second or Third Hypostasis, was thus intimated by Plato also, Σοφία μὲν ἐστὶ Νῦς ἀνὰ ψυχῆς, ὡς ἐν ποταμῷ Philos. p. 30. *σοφία μὲν ἐστὶ τῇ τῷ αὐτῷ ἐρεῖς φύσιν, βαλνυμένη μὲν ψυχῇ, βαλνυμένη δὲ τῷ ἐκψυγμένῳ* Where having spoken of that Divine Wisdom and Mind which orders all things in the World, he adds; *But Wisdom and Mind can never be without Soul*, (that is, cannot act without it.) *Wherefore in the Nature of Jupiter, is at once contained, both a Kingly Mind and a Kingly Soul.* Here he makes Jupiter to be both the Second and Third Hypostasis of his Trinity, *Nous* and *Psyche*; and consequently those Two, to be but *One God*. Which *Nous* is also said to be *γυνῆς*, i. e. of the same kind, and Co-Essential with the First Cause of all things. To conclude, as that First Platonick Hypostasis, which is it self said to be above *Mind* and *Wisdom*, is properly *Wife* and *Understanding* in the Second; so do both the First and the Second, *Above* and *At* in the Third. Lastly, all these Three Hypostases, *Tagathon*, *Nous*, and *Psyche*, are said by the Platonists, to be *One οὐόν* or *Divinity*; just in the same manner, as the *Centre*, *Immovable Distance*, and *Movable Circumference*, of a Sphere or Globe; are all Essentially one Sphere. Thus Plotinus expressly, writing of the Third Hypostasis or *Psyche*, σημειὸν γὰρ πρὸς τὴν ψυχὴν ἡ τοιαύτη, οἷον κύκλῳ περὶ κέντρον κίρην, διδῶνς μετὰ κέντρον κίρην, διάγραμμα ἀδιάσπαστον· ἔστι γὰρ ἔχει ἵσασιν, εἰ τ' ἀρχαὶν τις ἐστὶ τὸ κέντρον τῆς ψυχῆς, καὶ τὸν αὐτὸν κύκλον ἀκίνητον, ψυχῇ δὲ αὐτὸν κύκλον κινούμενον ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ. P. 409. *For this Psyche or Third Hypostasis, is a Venerable and Adorable thing also; it being the Circle fitted to the Centre, an Indistant Distance, (forasmuch as it is no Corporeal thing.) For these Things are just so as if one should make the Tagathon or First Good, to be the Centre of the Universe; in the next place Mind or Intellect to be the Immovable Circle or Distance; and Lastly Soul to be that which turns round, or the whole Movable Circumference; Affected by Love or Desire. These Three Platonick Hypostases therefore, seem to be Really nothing else, but Infinite Goodness, Infinite Wisdom, and Infinite Active Love and Power, not as meer Qualities or Accidents, but as Substantial things; that have some kind of Subordination one to another; all concurring together to make up One οὐόν, or Divinity, just as the Centre, Immovable Distance, and Movable Circumference, concurrently make up One sphere.*

We have now given a full account of the True and Genuine Platonick and Parmenidian or Pythagorick Trinity; from which it may clearly appear, how far it either Agreeth or Disagreeth with the Christian. First therefore, though some of the Latter Platonists have, partly Misunderstood, and partly Adulterated that ancient Cabala of the Trinity, as was before declared, confounding therein the Differences between God and the Creature, and thereby laying a foundation for Infinite Polytheism; yet did Plato himself and some of his Genuine followers (though living before Christianity) approach so near to the Doctrine thereof, as in some manner to correspond therewith; in those Three Fundamentals before mentioned; First, in

in not making a meer Trinity of *Names and Words*, or of Logical Notions and Inadequate Conceptions, of One and the Same thing; but a Trinity of *Hypostases* or *Subsistences*, or *Persons*. Secondly, in making none of their *Three Hypostases*, to be Creatures, but all *Eternal*, *Necessarily Existent*, and *Universal*; *Infinite*, *Omnipotent*; and *Creators* of the whole World; which is all one in the sense of the ancients, as if they should have affirmed them to be *Homoousian*. Lastly, in supposing these *Three Divine Hypostases*, however sometimes Paganically called *Three Gods*, to be *Essentially, One Divinity*. From whence it may be concluded, that as *Arianism* is commonly supposed to approach nearer to the Truth of Christianity than *Photinianism*, so is *Platonism* undoubtedly more agreeable thereunto than *Arianism*; it being a certain Middle thing betwixt *That* and *Sabellianism*, which in general was that Mark that the Nicene Council also aimed at.

Notwithstanding which, there is a manifest *Disagreement* also, betwixt the Platonick Trinity as declared, and the Now-received Doctrine in the Christian Church; consisting in a different Explication of the Two latter Points mentioned. First, because the Platonists dream'd of no such thing at all, as *One and the Same Numerical Essence* or Substance, of the *Three Divine Hypostases*. And Secondly, because though they acknowledged none of those *Hypostases* to be Creatures, but all God; yet did they assert an *Essential Dependence* of the *Second* and *Third* upon the *First*, together with a certain *Gradual Subordination*; and therefore no *Absolute Co-equality*. And this is the true reason, why so many late Writers, have affirmed *Platonism* to *Symbolize* with *Arianism*, and the *Latter* to have been indeed nothing else but the *Spawn* of the *Former*; merely because the Platonists did not acknowledge *One* and the *Same Numerical Essence* or Substance of all their *Three Hypostases*; and asserted a *Gradual Subordination* of them; but chiefly for this *Latter Ground*. Upon which account some of the ancients also, have done the like, as Particularly *S. Cyril* (*Contra Jul. Lib. 1.*) he writing thus concerning *Plato*, *Τὸ θεῶν καὶ μὴ ἐν ἑκ ἑνὶς ἀποσταῖν, ἀλλὰ τὴν τὰ ἁγία παρὰ ἑαυτὸν, ἐκ τοῦ πατρὸς, καὶ υἱοῦ γενεῖν, ὑποκαταστάρας τὴν ἀλλήλων τὴν ὑπόστασιν ἐν ἑαυτῷ.* *Plato did not thoroughly perceive the whole Truth of the Trinity, but in like manner with those who follow Arius, divided the Deity, or made a Gradation in it, and Introduced Subordinate Hypostases.* As elsewhere the same Pious Father, also taxes the Platonists, for not declaring the *Three Hypostases* of their *Trinity*, to be, in his sense, *Homoousian*; that is, *Absolutely Co-equal*. But though we have already proved, that *Platonism* can by no means be confounded with *Arianism*; because it directly confronted the same in its main Essentials, which were *Erat quando non Erat*, or the *Second Hypostasis* being made *ἐκ τοῦ ὄντος*, together with its being *Mutable* and *Lapsible*; since according to *Platonism*, the *Now* is *Essentially* both *Eternal* and *Immutable*: yet that the most Refined *Platonism*, differed from the Now-received Doctrine of the Christian Church, in respect of its *Gradual Subordination*, is a thing so Unquestionably Evident, as that it can by no means be Dissembled, Palliated, or Excused.

Over

Over and besides which, it cannot be denied but the best of *Plato's* Followers, were sometimes also further extravagant in their Doctrine of the Trinity, and spake at random concerning it, and Inconsistently with their own Principles; especially where they make such a *Vast and Disproportionate Distance* betwixt the *Second and Third Hypostasis* thereof; they not Descending *Gradually and Orderly*, but as it were *Tumbling down*, from the Former of them to the Latter. Thus *Plotinus* himself, when having spoken magnificently of that *Soul of the World*, which is his *Third Hypostasis*, he subjoyns immediately, *ἡμεῖς δὲ ὅτι ἡμῶντος, ὅτι ἕνα αὐτὸ τῆς πρῶτης οὐσίας οὐσίας, λαβὼν καὶ καθ' αὐτὴν, ἀπὸ τοῦ αὐτοῦ πνεύματος ὅτι ἡν ψυχῇ.* That this *Soul of ours*, is also *Uniform* (or of the same Species) with that *Mundane Soul*; For if any one (saith he) will consider it as in it self, *Pure and Naked*, or strip from all things adventitious to it, he shall find it to be in like manner venerable. Agreeably whereunto doth this same Philosopher elsewhere call that *Mundane Soul*, *πρῶτη οὐσία* ὡς ἀδελφὴ, that is, but the *Elder Sister of our Humane Souls*. Which as it rankly favours of Philosophick Pride and Arrogancy, thus to think so magnificently of themselves, and to equalize in a manner their own Souls, with that *Mundane Soul*; so was it a *Monstrous Degradation*, of that *Third Hypostasis* of their Trinity, and little other than an *Absolute Creaturizing* of the same. For if our *Humane Soul* be *ἡμεῖς δὲ*, of the same Kind or Species, with the *Third Hypostasis* of the Trinity, then is it not only *ἡμεῖς δὲ*, of like Honour and Dignity, but also in the Language of the Christian Church, *ἡμεῖς δὲ*, Co-Essential with our *Humane Souls*, (as our Saviour Christ according to the Arlans in *Athanasius*, is said to be, *ἡμεῖς δὲ ἡμῶντος τῆς ἀνθρώπων*, Co-Essential with us men.) From whence it will follow, That either, That must be a Creature, or else our *Humane Souls* Divine. Wherefore unless these Platonists would confine the Deity wholly to their *First Hypostasis*; which would be monstrously absurd for them, to suppose that *First Eternal Mind and Wisdom*, by which the World was Made, to be a Creature; they must of necessity make a *Vast Leap or Jump*, betwixt the *Second and Third* of their *Hypostases*; the Former of them, being that *Perfect Wisdom* which was the Architect or Demiurgus of the World, whilst the Latter is only, the *Elder Sister of all Humane Souls*. Moreover these Platonists by their thus bringing down the *Third Hypostasis* of their Trinity so low, and Immersing it so deeply into the Corporeal World, as if it were the *Informing Soul* thereof, and making it to be but the *Elder Sister* of our *Created Souls*, did doubtless therein designedly lay a foundation for their *Polytheism and Creature-Worship* (now Vulgarly called *Idolatry*) that is, for their *Cosmo-Latry, Astro-Latry, and Demonio-Latry*. For thus much is plainly intimated in this following Passage of *Plotinus*, *διὰ ταῦτα ἡ οὐσία ὅτι θεός ἐστι ὅτι ἡ ψυχῇ θεός ἐστι ἡ ψυχῇ, ὅτι τὰ ἀνὰ ἑσέα, This whole Corporeal World is made a God by the Soul thereof. And the Sun is also a God, because Animated; as likewise are all the Stars therefore Gods.* Where he afterwards adds, *τὸ ὅτι θεός αὐτῶν τῶν θεῶν ἐστίν, ἀνάγκη πρῶτον εἶναι αὐτῶν θεῶν.* That which is to these Gods or Goddesses, the Cause of their being Gods, must needs it self, be the *Elder God or Goddess*. So that this

this *Third Hypostasis* of the *Platonick Trinity*, called the *Mundane Soul*, is but a kind of *Sister-Goddeſs*, with the *Souls* of the *Sun*, *Moon* and *Stars*, though elder indeed than they; they being all made *Goddeſſes by her*. Where there is a confuſed Jumble of things Contradictious together; That *Soul* of the *World* being at once ſuppoſed to be a *Siſter* to other *Souls*, and yet notwithstanding to *Deiſie* them; whereas this *Siſterly Relation* and *Conſanguinity* betwixt them, would of the *Two*, rather *Degrade* and *Creaturize* that *Mundane Soul*, which is their *Third God* or *Divine Hypoſtaſis*, than *Advance* and *Deiſie* thoſe *Particular Created Souls*. Here therefore we ſee the *Inconvenience* of theſe *Platonick παῖδοι*, *Stories*, *Stairs*, and *Gradations* in the *Deity*, that it is a thing liable to be much abuſed to *Creature*, *worſhip* and *Idolatri*, when the *Diſtances* are made ſo *Wide*, and the *Lowelt* of the *Deity* is ſuppoſed to differ but *Gradually* only, from the *Higheſt* of *Created Beings*. And becauſe *Porphyrius* trode in *Plotinus* his *Footſteps* here as elſewhere, this was in all probability the true reaſon why the *Arians* (as *Socrates* recordeth) were by *Conſtantine* called *Porphyrianiſts*, not becauſe their *Trinities* were exactly the ſame, but becauſe *Arius* and *Porphyrius* did both of them alike (though upon different *Grounds*) make their *Trinity* a *Foundation* for *Creature-Worſhip* and *Idolatri*. But nevertheleſs, all This (as many other things) was but heedleſly and inadvertently written by *Plotinus*; he as it were drouſily nodding all the while, as it was alſo but ſupinely taken up by *Porphyrius* after him; it being Plainly *Inconſiſtent* with the *Genuine Tenour* of both their *Hypotheſes*, thus to *Level* the *Third Hypoſtaſis* of the *Trinity*, with *Particular Created Souls*, and thereby to make ſo *Diſproportionate* a *Diſtance*, and ſo *Vaſt* a *Chafm* betwixt *It* and the *Second*. For *Plotinus* himſelf, when in a more ſober mood, declares, that *Third Hypoſtaſis*, not to be the *Immediate Informing Soul* of the *Corporeal World*; but a *Higher Separate Soul*, or *Superiour Venna*, which alſo was the *Demiurgus*, the *Maker* both of other *Souls* and of the whole *World*. As *Plato* had before expreſly affirmed him to be the *Inſpirer* of all *Life*, and *Creator* of *Souls*, or the *Lord* and *Giver* of *Life*. And likewiſe declared, that amongſt all thoſe things, which are *ἀδικοῦντες ὁμοῦς οὐχ ὅτι, Congenious and Cognate with our Humane Souls*, there is *οὐδὲν τούτων, nothing any where to be found* at all like unto it. So that *Plato*, though he were alſo a *Star-worſhipper* and *Idolater*, upon other grounds; yet in all probability would he not at all have approved of *Plotinus* his *ἐκτετατὴς τῆς ψυχῆς, our Souls being of the ſame Species with that Third Hypoſtaſis* of the *Divine Triad*; but rather have ſaid, in the *Language* of the *Pſalmiſt*, *It is he that hath made us, and not we our ſelves, we are his People and the Sheep of his Paſture*.

Notwithstanding all which, a *Chriſtian Platonist* or *Platonick Chriſtian*, would in all probability, Apologize for *Plato* himſelf, and the ancient and moſt Genuine *Platonists* and *Pythagoreans* after this manner. Firſt, That ſince they had no *Scriptures*, *Councils*, nor *Creds*, to direct their ſteps in the *Darkneſs* of this *Mystery*, and to confine their *Language* to a *Regular Uniformity*; but *Theologized* all *Freely* and *Boldly*, and without any *Scrupuloſity*, every one according

cording to his own private apprehensions, it is no wonder at all if they did not only speak many times unadvisedly, and inconsistently with their own Principles, but also plainly wander out of the *Right Path*. And that it ought much rather to be wondered at, that living so long before Christianity, as some of them did, they should in so *Abstruse a Point*, and *Dark a Mystery*, make so near an approach to the *Christian Truth* afterwards revealed, than that they should any where fumble or fall short of the Accuracy thereof. They not only extending the True and Real Deity to *Three Hypostases*, but also calling the Second of them, *Νόον, Reason or Word too*, (as well as *νῦν, Mind or Intellect*) and likewise the *Son of the First Hypostasis*, the *Father*; and affirming him to be the *ἄρχηγός* and *ἀκμή*, the *Artificer and Cause of the whole World*; and Lastly describing him as the Scripture doth, to be the *Image*, the *Figure or Character*, and the *Splendour or Brightness of the First*. This, I say, our *Christian Platonist*, supposes to be much more wonderful, that this so Great and *Abstruse a Mystery*, of *Three Eternal Hypostases in the Deity*, should thus by Pagan Philosophers, so long before Christianity, have been asserted, as the Principle and Original of the whole World; it being more indeed than was acknowledged by the Nicene Fathers themselves; they then not so much as determining, that the *Holy Ghost* was an *Hypostasis*, much less that he was *God*.

But Particularly as to their *Gradual Subordination of the Second Hypostasis to the First*, and of the *Third to the First and Second*, our *Platonick Christian*, doubtless would therefore plead them the more excusable, because the Generality of *Christian Doctors*, for the First Three Hundred years after the Apostles times, plainly asserted the same; as *Justin Martyr, Athenagoras, Tatianus, Irenaeus*, the Author of the *Recognitions*, *Tertullian*, *Clement Alexandrinus, Origen, Gregorius Thaumaturgus, Dionysius of Alexandria, Lactantius*, and many others. All whose Testimonies, because it would be too tedious to set down here, we shall content our selves only with one of the last mentioned; *Et, Pater & Filius Deus est: Sed Ille quasi exuberans Fons, hic tanquam defluens ex eo Rivus: Ille tanquam Sol, hic tanquam Radius à Sole porrectus: Both the Father and the Son is God: But he as it were an Exuberant Fountain, this as a Stream derived from him: He like to the Sun, This like to a Ray extended from the Sun.* And though it be true, that *Athanasius* writing against the Arians, does appeal to the Tradition of the Ancient Church, and amongst others cites *Origen's* Testimony too; yet was this only for the *Eternity and Divinity of the Son of God*, but not at all for such an *Absolute Co-equality* of him with the *Father*, as would exclude all *Dependence, Subordination and Inferiority*; those Ancients so Unanimously agreeing therein, that they are by *Petavius* therefore taxed for *Platonism*, and having by that means corrupted the Purity of the Christian Faith, in this Article of the *Trinity*. Which how it can be reconciled with those other Opinions, of Ecclesiastick Tradition being a Rule of Faith, and the Impossibility of the Visible Churches Erring in any *Fundamental Point*, cannot easily be understood. However this *General Tradition or Consent of the Christian Church*, for Three Hundred years together after the Apo-

stles Times, though it cannot Justifie the Platonists, in any thing discrepant from the Scripture, yet may it in some measure doubtless plead their excuse, who had no Scripture Revelation at all, to guide them herein ; and so at least make their Error more Tolerable or Pardenable.

Moreover the *Platonick Christian* would further Apologize for these Pagan Platonists after this manner. That their Intention in thus *Subordinating* the *Hypostases* of their *Trinity*, was plainly no other, than to exclude thereby a *Plurality of Co-ordinate and Independent Gods*, which they supposed an absolute Co-equality of them would infer. And that they made only so much *Subordination* of them, as was both necessary to this purpose, and unavoidable ; the Juncture of them being in their Opinion so close, that there was, *μὴν μεσάζειν, Nothing Intermediary*, or that could possibly be *Thrust in between them*. But now again on the otherhand, whereas the only ground of the *Co-equality* of the Persons in the Holy Trinity, is because it cannot well be conceived, how they should otherwise all be *God* ; since the *Essence of the Godhead*, being Absolute Perfection, can admit of no degrees ; these Platonists do on the contrary contend, that notwithstanding that Dependence and Subordination which they commonly suppose in these *Hypostases*, there is none of them for all that, to be accounted *Creatures*, but that the *General Essence of the Godhead*, or the *Uncreated Nature*, truly and properly belongeth to them all : according to that of *Porphyrius* before cited, ἀρχὴ τῶν ὑποστάσεων τῶν θεῶν προελθὼν ἑνίας, *The Essence of the Godhead, proceedeth to Three Hypostases*. Now these Platonists conceive, that the *Essence of the Godhead*, as common to all the *Three Hypostases* of their *Trinity*, consisteth (besides *Perfect Intellectuality*) in these Following things. First, In being *Eternal*, which as we have already showed, was *Plato's Distinctive Character*, betwixt *God* and the *Creature*. That whatsoever was *Eternal*, is therefore *Uncreated* ; and whatsoever was not *Eternal*, is a *Creature*. He by *Eternity* meaning, the having not only no *Beginning*, but also a *Permanent Duration*. Again, In having not a *Contingent* but *Necessary Existence*, and therefore being Absolutely *Undestroyable* ; which perhaps is included also in the Former. Lastly, In being not *Particular* but *Universal*, ἓν καὶ πάντα, *One and all things*, or that which *Comprehends the whole* ; which is all one as to say, in being *Infinite* and *Omnipotent*, and the *Creator of the whole World*. Now say these Platonists, if any thing more were to be added to the General Essence of the Godhead besides this, then must it be *Self-existence*, or to be *Underived* from any other, and the *First Original, Principle, and Cause* of all ; but if this be made so Essential to the Godhead, or *Uncreated Nature*, as that whatsoever is not thus Originally of it Self, is therefore *ipso facto* to be detrued and thrust down into the rank of *Creatures* ; then must both the *Second* and *Third Hypostases*, as well in the Christian as the *Platonick Trinity*, upon this Supposition, needs be *Creatures* and not *God* ; the *Second* deriving its whole Being and *Godship* from the *First*, and the *Third*, both from the *First* and *Second*, and so neither *First* nor *Second* being the *Cause of all things*. But it is unquestionable to these Platonists, that whatsoever is *Eternal* ; *Necessarily Existent*,

Existent; Infinite, and Omnipotent, and the Creator of All things; ought therefore to be Religiously Worshipped and Adored as God, by all Created Beings. Wherefore this Essence of the Godhead, that belongeth alike to all the Three Hypostases, being, as all other Essences; Perfectly Indivisible, it might well be affirmed, according to Platonick Grounds, that all the Three Divine Hypostases (though having some Subordination in them) yet in this sense are Co-Equal, they being all truly and alike God or Uncreated. And the Platonists thus distinguishing, betwixt ὁμοῦς and ὑποστατικός, the Essence of the Godhead; and the Distinct Hypostases or Personalities thereof, and making the First of them to be Common, General and Universal; are without the consent and approbation of the Orthodox Fathers herein; they determining likewise, that in the Deity, Essence or Substance differs from Hypostasis, as τὸ κοινὸν from τὸ καθ' ἑαυτόν, that which is Common and General, differs from that which is Singular and Individual. Thus, besides many others, St. Cyril, ὁ ἵνα διαφεύγῃ τὸ ἥδιον, ἢ ἐσθλόν, ὑπὲρ τὸ ἀπαιεῖν, ταύτῃ ἡ ὁμοία πρὸς τὴν ὑπόστασιν ἵνα. The Essence or Substance of the Deity, differs from the Hypostasis, after the same manner as a Genus or Species differs from an Individuum. So that as well according to these Fathers as the Platonists, that Essence or Substance of the Godhead, which all the Three Persons agree in, is not Singular, but General or Universal; they both supposing, each of the Persons also, to have their own Numerical Essence. Wherefore according to this Distinction, betwixt the Essence or Substance of the Godhead, and the Particular Hypostases, (approved by the Orthodox Fathers) neither Plato, nor any Intelligent Platonist, would scruple to subscribe, that Form of the Nicene Council, that the Son or Word, is ὁμοῦς, Co-Essential or Con-Substantial, and Co-Equal with the Father. And we think it will be proved afterwards, that this was the very Meaning of the Nicene Council it self, that the Son was therefore Co-Essential or Con-Substantial with the Father; merely because he was God and not a Creature.

Besides which the Genuine Platonists would doubtless acknowledge also, all the Three Hypostases of their Trinity to be Homœousian, Co-Essential or Con-Substantial yet in a further sense than this, namely as being all of them *ὁμοῦς* or Divinity. For thus, besides that passage of Porphyrius before cited, may these words also of St. Cyril be understood concerning them, μέγα τὸ εἶναι ὑποστατικῶς τὴν ὁμοίαν τῷ ὁμοῦς. That according to them the Essence of God, extendeth to Three Hypostases, or comprehendeth Three Hypostases in it; that is, not only so as that each of these Three is God; but also that they are not so many Separate and Divided Gods, but all of them together One God or Divinity. For though the Platonists as Pagans, being not so scrupulous in their Language as we Christians are; do often call them Three Gods, and a First, Second, and Third God; yet notwithstanding as Philosophers, did they declare them to be One *ὁμοῦς* or Divinity; and that as it seems upon these several accounts following. First, Because they are Indivisibly conjoyned together, as the Splendour is Indivisible from the Sun. And then, Because they are Mutually Inexistent in each other, the First being in the Second, and both First and Second

in the *Third*. And Lastly, Because the Entireness of the whole *Divinity*, is made up of all these *Three* together, which have all *μὴν ἐνέργειαν* *One* and the same *Energy* or *Action* *ad extra*. And therefore as the Centre, Radius Distance, and Movable Circumference, may be all said to be *Co-Essential* to a *Sphere* ; and the *Root*, *Stock*, and *Bows* or *Branches*, *Co-Essential* to an entire *Tree* ; so, but in much a more perfect sence, are the *Platonick Tagathon*, *Nous* and *Psyche*, *Co-Essential* to that, *ὡς τὸ τῶν δένδρων* *that Divinity in the whole Universe*. Neither was *Athanasius* a stranger to this Notion of the word *ἐκμυστήριον* also, he affirming *τὰ ἀκρίβητος ὁμοῖα καὶ ἀδιαίρετα ὄντα ἃ ἀμύθητα*, *That the Branches are Co-Essential with, and Indivisible from the Vine* ; and Illustrating the *Trinity* by that Similitude. Neither must it be thought, that the Whole *Trinity* is *One*, after the very same manner, that each *Single Person* thereof is in it self *One*, for then should there be a *Trinity* also in each *Person*. Nor that it is so called *Undivided*, as if *Three* were not *Three* in it ; (which were to make the *Mystery Contemptible*) but because all the *Three Hypostases* or *Persons*, are *Indivisibly* and *Inseparably* united to each other, as the *Sun* and the *Splendour* ; and really but *One God*. Wherefore though there be some *Subordination* of *Hypostases* or *Persons* in *Plato's Trinity*, (as it is commonly represented) yet is this only *ad intra*, within the Deity it self, in their Relation to one another, and as compared amongst themselves ; but *ad extra*, *Outwardly*, and to *Us*, are they all *One* and the same *God*, concurring in all the same *Actions* ; and in that respect without any *Inequality*, because in *Identity* there can be no *Inequality*.

Furthermore the *Platonick Christian*, would in favour of these *Platonists*, urge also, that according to the Principles of *Christianity* it self, there must of necessity, be some Dependence and Subordination of the *Persons of the Trinity*, in their Relation to one another ; a *Priority* and *Posteriority*, not only *τῆς αἰτίας*, but also *ἀξιώματός*, of *Dignity* as well as *Order* amongst them. First, because that which is *Originally* of it self, and *Underived* from any other, must needs have some *Superiority* and *Preheminence*, over that which derives its whole *Being* and *Godship* from it ; as the *Second* doth from the *First* alone, and the *Third* from the *First* with the *Second*. Again though all those *Three Hypostases* or *Persons* be alike *Omnipotent ad Extra*, or *Outwards*, yet *ad Intra*, *Inwards*, or within the Deity it self, are they not so : the *Son* being not able to beget the *Father*, nor the *Holy Ghost* to Produce either *Father* or *Son* ; and therefore neither of these two Latter, is absolutely the *Cause* of all things, but only the *First*. And upon this account was that *First* of these *Three Hypostases* (who is the Original Fountain of all) by *Macrobius* styled, *Omnipotentissimus Deus*, *The Most Omnipotent God* : he therein implying the *Second* and *Third Hypostases*, *Nous* and *Psyche*, to be *Omnipotent* too, but not in a perfect Equality with him, as within the Deity they are compared together ; however *ad Extra*, or *Outwardly*, and to *Us*, they being all *One*, are *Equally Omnipotent*. And *Plotinus* writeth also to the same purpose, *ἐὶ πλεονὸν ἔστι τὸ πρῶτον, καὶ δυνάμει ἢ πρῶτον, ἢ πλείονος ἢ ὅλων δυνατάων ὄντα*, &c. *If the First be absolutely Perfect, and the First Power, then must it needs be the Most Powerful of all Beings ; other Powers only*

De Sent. Dio-
nys. p. 556.

P. 517.

only imitating and partaking thereof. And accordingly hereunto would the Platonick Christian further pretend, that there are sundry places in the Scripture which do not a little favour, some Subordination and Priority both of Order and Dignity, in the Persons of the Holy Trinity; of which none is more obvious, than that of our Saviour Christ, *My Father is greater than I*: which to understand of his Humanity only, seemeth to be less reasonable; because this was no news at all, that the *Eternal God*, the Creator of the whole World, should be Greater than a Mortal Man, born of a woman. And thus do divers of the *Orthodox Fathers*; as *Athanasius* himself, *St. Basil*, *St. Gregory Nazianzen* and *St. Chrysostome*, with several others of the Latins, interpret the same to have been spoken, not of the *Humanity*, but the *Divinity* of our Saviour Christ. Inasmuch that *Petavius* himself, expounding the *Athanasian Creed*, writeth in this manner, *Pater Major Filio, ritè & catholicè pronuntiatum est à plerisque Veterum; & Origine Prior sine reprehensione dici solet*; The Father is in a right Catholick manner, affirmed by most of the ancients, to be Greater than the Son: and he is commonly said also, without reprehension, to be Before him in respect of Original. Whereupon he concludeth the true meaning of that Creed to be this, that no Person of the Trinity, is Greater or Less than other in respect of the *Essence of the Godhead* common to them all, *Quia Vera Deitas in nullo esse aut Minor aut Major potest, because the true Godhead can be no where Greater or Less*; but that notwithstanding, there may be some Inequality in them, as they are *Hic Deus*, and *Hæc Persona*, *This God* and *That Person*. It is true indeed that many of those ancient Fathers do restrain and limit this Inequality, only to the Relation of the Persons one to another, as the Father's Begetting, and the Son's being Begotten by the Father, and the Holy Ghost Proceeding from both; they seeming to affirm, that there is otherwise a perfect Equality amongst them. Nevertheless several of them do extend this Difference further also, as for example, *St. Hilary* a zealous Opposer of the Arians; he in his Book of Synods writing thus; *Siquis Unum dicens Deum, Christum autem Deum, ante secula Filium Dei, Obsecutum Patri in Creatione omnium, non confitetur, Anathema sit. And again, Non exæquamus vel conformamus Filium Patri, sed Subjectum intelligimus. And Athanasius* himself, who is commonly accounted the very Rule of Orthodoxy in this Point, when he doth so often resemble the Father to the *ἥλιος*, or to the *φῶς*, the Sun, or the Original Light; and the Son to the *ἀπαύλασμα*, the Splendour or Brightness of it; (as likewise doth the Nicene Council and the Scripture it self) he seems hereby to imply some Dependence of the Second upon the First, and Subordination to it. Especially when he declareth, that the *Three Persons of the Trinity*, are not to be look'd upon as *Three Principles*, nor to be resembled to *Three Suns*, but to the Sun, and its Splendour, and its Derivative Light, *ὅθεν ὡς τὸς ἀρχὴς ἀπαύλας, καὶ μὴτε τρεῖς ἴδιον ὑποκείμενα τῷ εὐδία, ἀλλὰ ἕνα καὶ ἀπαύλασμα, καὶ ἐν τῷ ἐξ ἑνὸς αὐτὸ τὸ ἀπαύλασμα φῶς ὅτι μίαν ἀρχὴν οὐκ ἔχουσιν*. For it appears from the similitude used by us, that we do not introduce *Three Principles* (as the Marcionists and Manicheans did) we not comparing the Trinity to *Three Suns*, but only to the Sun and its Splendour: so that we acknowledge only one Principle. As also where

De Trin. p. 363

Cont. Ar. Or.
4. p. 467.

P. 165.

he approves, of this of *Dionysius of Alexandria*, ὁ δὲ γὰρ οὗτος αἰώνιον ἔστι φῶς, ἔτι ἀξάμενος, ἔτι ληξόντι ποτε. θεὸν αἰώνιον περιεσφύεται καὶ σὺν αὐτῷ τὸ ἀπαύραγμα, ἀναρχὸν καὶ ἀέκλινον περισφαιρούμενος αὐτῷ. *God is an Eternal Light, which never began, and shall never cease to be; wherefore there is an Eternal Splendour also coexistent with him, which had no beginning neither, but was Always Generated by him, shining out before him.* For if the Son of God, be as the Splendour of the Sun ἀεὶ γὰρ, *Always Generated*, then must he needs have an *Essential Dependence* upon the Father and *Subordination* to him. And this same thing further appears from those other resemblances, which the same *Dionysius* maketh, of the Father and the Son; approved in like manner also by *Athanasius*; viz. to the *Fountain* and the *River*; to the *Root* and the *Branch*; to the *Water* and the *Vapour*; for so it ought to be read ὡς ὕδωρ, and not πνεῦμα, as appeareth from his Book of the *Nicene Synod*, where he affirmeth the Son to have been begotten of the *Essence* or *Substance* of the Father, ὡς τῷ φωτὶ ἀπαύραγμα, ὡς ὕδατι ἀτμός, *as the Splendour of the Light, and as the Vapour of the Water*; adding, ἔτι γὰρ τὸ ἀπαύραγμα, ἔτι ἡ ἀτμός, αὐτὸ τὸ ὕδωρ ἔστιν, ἢ αὐτὸς ὁ ὕδωρ. ἔτι ἀνέτερον, ἀλλὰ ἀπρόβιον τὸ τῷ πατρὶ ἐκείνῳ. *For neither the Splendour nor the Vapour, is the very Sun, and the very Water; nor yet is it Aliene from it, or a stranger to its nature; but they are both Effluxes from the Essence or Substance of them; as the Son is an Efflux from the Substance of the Father, yet so as that he is no way diminished or lessened thereby.* Now all these similitudes of the *Fountain* and the *River*, the *Root* and the *Branch*, the *Water* and the *Vapour*, (as well as that of the *Sun* and the *Splendour*) seem plainly to imply some *Dependence* and *Subordination*. And *Dionysius* doubtless intended them to that purpose, he asserting as *Photinus* informeth us, an *Inferiority* of *Power* and *Glory* in the *Second*, as likewise did *Origen* before him: both whose Testimonies notwithstanding, *Athanasius* maketh use of, without any censure or reprehension of them. Wherefore when *Athanasius* and the other *Orthodox Fathers*, writing against *Arius*, do so frequently assert the *Equality* of all the *Three Persons*, this is to be understood in way of opposition to *Arius* only, who made the Son to be *Unequal* to the Father as ἑτερόν, *of a different Essence from him, One being God and the other a Creature*; they affirming on the contrary, that he was *Equal* to the Father, as ὁμοῖος, *of the same Essence with him*; that is, as *God* and not a *Creature*. Notwithstanding which *Equality*, there might be some *Subordination* in them, as *Hic Deus* and *Hæc Persona* (to use *Petavius* his Language) *This God and that Person.*

And thus does there seem not to be so great a *Difference*, betwixt the more *Genuine Platonists*, and the ancient *Orthodox Fathers*, in their Doctrine concerning the *Trinity*, as is by many conceived. However our *Platonick Christian* would further add; that there is no necessity at all from the Principles of *Platonism* it self, why the *Platonists* should make any other or more *Subordination* in their *Trinity*, than the most severely *Orthodox Fathers* themselves. For according to the *Common Hypothesis* of the *Platonists*, when the *Character* of the *First Hypothesis* is supposed by them, to be *Infinite Goodness*; of the *Second*, *Infinite Wisdom*; and of the *Third*, *Infinite Active Love and Power*,
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(these not as *Accidents* and *Qualities*, but as all *Substantial*) it is more easie to conceive, that all these are really but *One* and the same *God*, than how there should be any considerable *Inferiority* in them. But besides this, there is another *Platonick Hypothesis* (which *St. Austin* hinteth from *Porphyrius*, though he professeth he did not well understand it) wherein the *Third Hypostasis* is made to be, a certain *Middle* betwixt the *First* and *Second*. And this does *Proclus* also sometimes follow, calling the *Third* in like manner, *μεστω δύναμις*, *a Middle Power*, and *ἡμεσις ἀμφοῖν*, the *Relation of both the First and Second to one another*. Which agreeth exactly with that apprehension of some *Christians*, that the *Third Hypostasis* is as it were the *Nexus* betwixt the *First* and the *Second*, and that *Love* whereby the *Father* and *Son* Love each other. Now according to this *Latter Platonick Hypothesis*, there would seem to be not so much a *Gradation* or *Descent*, as a kind of *Circulation* in the *Trinity*. Upon all which Considerations, the *Platonick Christian* will conclude, That though some *Junior Platonists* have adulterated the Notion of the *Trinity*, yet either there is no such great difference betwixt the *Genuine Platonick Trinity*, rightly understood, and the *Christian*; or else that as the same might be modell'd and rectified, there need not to be.

D. Co. D. L.
104. 23. Cum
hinc Medium,
non Possunt,
sed Interponit.

But though the *Genuine Platonists*, do thus suppose the *Three Hypostases* of their *Trinity*, to be all of them, not only *God*, but also *One God*, or *μία θεός*, *One Entire Divinity*; upon which *Latter* accompt the *Whole* may be said also by them, to have *One Singular* or *Numerical Essence*; yet notwithstanding must it be acknowledged, that they no where suppose, each of these *Three Hypostases*, to be *Numerically* the very same, or to have no *Distinct Singular Essences* of their own: this being in their apprehensions, directly contradictory to their very *Hypothesis* it self, and all one as if they should affirm them, indeed not to be *Three Hypostases*, but only *One*. Nevertheless, the *Christian Platonist* would here also apologize for them after this manner. That the ancient *Orthodox Fathers* of the *Christian Church*, were Generally of no other persuasion than this, that that *Essence* or *Substance* of the *Godhead*, which all the *Three Persons* or *Hypostases* agree in, as each of them is *God*, was not *One Singular* and *Individual*, but only *One Common* and *Universal Essence* or *Substance*: that word *Substance*, being used by them as *Synonymous* with *Essence*, and applied to *Universals* likewise, as it is by the *Peripateticks*, when they call *A Man*, or *Animal* in General, *Substantiam Secundam*, *A Second Substance*. Now this is Evident from hence, because these *Orthodox Fathers*, did commonly distinguish in this Controversie of the *Trinity*, betwixt *οὐσία*, and *ὑπόστασις*, the *Essence* or *Substance* of the *Godhead*, and the *Hypostases* or *Persons* themselves, after this manner; namely, that the *Hypostasis* or *Person* was *Singular* and *Individual*; but the *Essence* or *Substance* *Common* and *Universal*. Thus does *Theodoret* pronounce of these *Fathers* in general, κατὰ τὴν αὐτῶν περὶ τὴν οὐσίαν διδασκαλίαν, ὡς ἐν ἑκῇ διαφορᾷ τὸ κοινὸν ὑπὲρ τὸ ἴδιον, ἢ τὸ ὅλον ὑπὲρ τοῦ ἑαυτοῦ, ἢ τὸ ἅπαν, τὰὐτὸν ἑκὴν ἢ οὐρεῖα πρὸς τὴν ὑπόστασιν. According to the Doctrine of the Fathers; as that which is Common differs from that which is Proper, and the Genus from the Species or Individuum, so doth

Dist. 1. ad
Hav.

doth *Essence* or *Substance*, differ from *Hypostases*, that is to say, that *Essence* or *Substance* of the Godhead, which is Common to all the *Three Hypostases*, or whereby each of them is *God*, was concluded by the Fathers, not to be *One Singular* or *Individual*, but *One General* or *Universal Essence* and *Substance*. *Theodore* notwithstanding there acknowledging, that no such Distinction was observed by other Greek Writers, betwixt those two words *ὕλη* and *ὑπόστασις*, *Essence* or *Substance* and *Hypostasis*; as that the Former of them should be restrained to *Universals* only, *Generical* or *Specific Essence* or *Substances*; but that this was peculiar to the Christian Fathers, in their doctrine concerning the Trinity. They in the mean time not denying, but that each *Hypostasis*, *Prosoπον*, or *Person*, in the Trinity, might be said in another sense, and in way of Opposition to *Sabellius*, to have its own *Singular*, *Individual* or *Existent Essence* also; and that there are thus, *τρεῖς ὁμοῖαι*, *Three Singular Existent Essences* in the Deity, as well as *τρεῖς ὑποστάσεις*, *Three Hypostases*; an *Hypostasis* being nothing else to them, but an *Existent Essence*: however for distinctions sake, they here thought fit thus to limit and appropriate the signification of these Two words; that a *Singular* and *Existent Essence*, should not be called *Essence*, but *Hypostasis*; and by *ὁμία* *Essence* or *Substance*, should be meant, that *General* or *Universal Nature* of the Godhead only, which is Common to all those *Three Singular Hypostases* or *Persons*, or in which they all agree. We might here heap up many more Testimonies for a further Confirmation of this; as that of *St. Basil*; *ὅτι ἔχει λόγον τὸ κοινὸν πρὸς τὸ ἰδίον, τὸ αὐτὸν ἔχει ἡ ὁμία πρὸς τὴν ὑπόστασιν*, *What Common is to Proper, the same is Essence or Substance (in the Trinity) to the Hypostases*. But we shall content our selves only, with this full acknowledgment of *D. Petavius*, *In hoc Uno Græcorum præsertim omnium iudicia concordant, ὁμία, id est, Essentiam sive Substantiam, aut Naturam (quæm φύσιν vocant) Generale esse aliquid & Commune, ac minime definitum, ὑπόστασιν verò Proprium, Singulare, & Circumscriptum, quod ex illo Communi, & Peculiaribus quibusdam Notis ac Proprietatibus veluti componitur. In this One Thing, do the Judgments and Opinions of all the Greeks especially agree, that *Ὑμία* *Essence* or *Substance*, and *Nature*, which they call *Physis* (in the Trinity) is something General, Common and Undetermined; but *Hypostasis* is that which is Proper, Singular and Circumscribed; and which is as it were compounded and made up of that Common *Essence* or *Substance*, and certain Peculiar Notes and Properties, or Individuating Circumstances.*

But besides this, it is further certain, that not a few of those Ancient Fathers, who were therefore reputed Orthodox, because they zealously opposed *Arianism*, did entertain this opinion also, That the *Three Hypostases* or *Persons* of the Trinity, had not only one General and Universal *Essence* of the Godhead, belonging to them all, they being all *God*; but were also *Three Individuals*, under *One and the same Ultimate Species*, or *Specifick Essence* and *Substance* of the Godhead; just as *Three Individual men*, (*Thomas*, *Peter* and *John*) under that *Ultimate Species* of *Man*; or that *Specifick Essence* of *Humani-ty*, which have only a Numerical Difference from one another.

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Greg. Nyssen.
Adv. Eunom.
L. 12.

Ep. 369.

D. Trin. L. 4.
c. 7.

Wherefore an *Hypostasis* or *Person* (in the Trinity) was accordingly thus defined, by some of these Fathers, (*viz.* *Anastasius* and *Cyril*) to be, *Essentia cum suis quibusdam Proprietatibus, ab iis que sunt ejusdem Speciei, Numero differens* 3 an *Essence* or *Substance*, with its *Certain Properties* (or *Individuating Circumstances*) differing only *Numerically* from those of the same *Species* with it. This Doctrine was plainly asserted and Indultriously pursued (besides several others both of the Greeks and Latins) especially by *Gregory Nyssen*, *Cyril of Alexandria*, *Maximus the Martyr*, and *Damasceus*; whose words because *Petavius* hath set them down at large, we shall not here insert. Now these were they who principally insisted, upon the *Absolute Co-Equality* and *Independent Co-Ordination*, of the *Three Hypostases* or *Persons* in the Trinity, as compared with one another. Because, as *Three Men*, though one of them were a Father, Another a Son, and the Third a Nephew; yet have no *Essential Dependence* one upon another, but are *Naturally Co-Equal* and *Unsubordinate*, there being only a *Numerical Difference* betwixt them: so did they in like manner conclude, that the *Three Hypostases* or *Persons* of the Deity (the Father, Son and Holy Ghost) being likewise but *Three Individuals*, under the same *Ultimate Species* or *Specifick Essence* of the Godhead, and differing only *Numerically* from one another, were *Absolutely Co-Equal*, *Unsubordinate* and *Independent*; and this was that which was Commonly called by them, their *ὁμοουσιότης*, their *Co-Essentiality* or *Con-Substantiality*. Wherefore it is observable, that *St. Cyril* one of these Theologers, finds no other fault at all with the *Platonick Trinity*, but only this, that such an *Homouniotes*, such a *Co-Essentiality* or *Consubstantiality* as this, was not acknowledged therein, ἐλδομένη δ' ἂν περὶ τὴν αὐτοῦ ἐξουσίαν, εἰ τὸ ὁμοουσιότητι λόγον ἔφαρμεν ἡδὲν ὑποτάσσοντος τοῦ πατρὸς τῷ υἱῷ, ὡς καὶ μία τοῦτο τὸ θεῖον φύσις, τὸ τελεχθεὶς ἐκ ἑκκοῦ πρὸς ἐκτελεστικῆς φύσεως, καὶ τὸ γὰρ δι' αὐτὴν ἀνδρῶν ἐκ μέλων ἐξείσθαι ὑποτάσσας. *There would have been nothing at all wanting to the Platonick Trinity, for an Absolute agreement of it with the Christian, had they but accommodated the right Notion of Co-Essentiality or Con-Substantiality to their Three Hypostases; so that their might have been but one Specifick Nature or Essence of the Godhead, not further distinguishable by any Natural Diversity, but Numerically only, and so no one Hypostasis any way Inferiour or Subordinate to another.* That is, had these Platonists complied with that Hypothesis of *St. Cyril* and others, that the *Three Persons* of the Trinity, were but *Three Independent* and *Co-Ordinate Individuals*, under the same *Ultimate Species* or *Specifick Essence* of the Godhead, as *Peter*, *Paul* and *John*, under that *Species* or *Common Nature* of *Humanity*, and so taken in this *Co-Essentiality* or *Con-Substantiality* of theirs, then had they been completely *Orthodox*. Though we have already shewed, that this *Platonick Trinity*, was in another sense *Homounian*, and perhaps it will appear afterwards, that it was so also in the very sense of the *Nicene Fathers* and of *Athanasius*. Again these Theologers supposed, the *Three Persons* of their Trinity, to have really no other than a *Specifick Unity* or *Identity*; and because it seems plainly to follow from hence, that therefore they must needs be as much *Three Gods* as *Three Men* are *Three Men*; these learned Fathers endeavoured with their

Logick to prove, That *Three Men*, are but Abusively and Improperly so called *Three*; they being really & truly but One, because there is but *One & the same Specifick Essence or Substance of Humane Nature* in them all; and seriously perswaded men to lay aside that kind of Language. By which same Logick of theirs, they might as well prove also, that all the men in the world are but *One Man*, and that all *Epicurus* his Gods were but one God neither. But not to urge here, that according to this *Hypothesis*, there cannot possibly be any reason given, why there should be so many as *Three* such Individuals in the *Species of God*; which differ only Numerically from one another, they being but the very same thing thrice repeated; and yet that there should be no more than *Three* such neither, and not *Three Hundred*, or *Three Thousand*, or as many as there are individuals in the *Species of Man*; we say, not to urge this, it seems plain that this *Trinity*, is no other than a kind of *Tritheism*, and that of Gods *Independent* and *Co-Ordinate* too. And therefore some would think, that the *Ancient and Genuine Platonick Trinity*, taken with all its faults, is to be preferred before this *Trinity* of *St. Cyril* and *St. Gregory Nyssen*, and several other reputed *Orthodox Fathers*; and more agreeable to the Principles both of *Christianity* and of *Reason*. However it is evident from hence, that these *Reputed Orthodox Fathers*, who were not a few, were far from thinking the *Three Hypostases* of the *Trinity*, to have the same *Singular Existent Essence*; they supposing them to have no otherwise, one and the same *Essence of the Godhead* in them, nor to be *One God*, than *Three Individual Men*, have one *Common Specifick Essence of Manhood* in them, and are all *One Man*. But as this *Trinity* came afterwards to be decried, for *Tritheistick*; so in the room thereof, started there up, that other *Trinity of Persons* Numerically the Same, or having all One and the same *Singular Existent Essence*; a Doctrine which seemeth not to have been owned by any publick Authority in the *Christian Church*, save that of the *Lateran Council* only.

And that no such thing was ever entertained by the *Nicene Fathers* and those *First opposers of Arianism*, might be rendered probable in the *First place* from the free *Confession* and *Acknowledgement* of *D. Petavius*, (a Person, well acquainted with *Ecclesiastick Antiquity*) and for this reason especially, because many are much led, by such new Names and Authorities; *In eo præcipuam vim collocasse Patres, ut Aequalem Patri Naturâ, Excellentiâque Filium esse defenderent, citra expressam SINGULARITATIS mentionem, licet ex eo conicere. Etenim Nicæni isti Præsules, quibus nemo melius Ariane Secreta arcana cognovit, nemo quare opprimenda maxime foret, acius judicare potuit, nihil in Professionis suæ formulâ spectarunt aliud, nisi ut Equalitatem illam Essentiæ, Dignitatis, Aternitatis astruerent. Testatur hoc ipsoque vox ipsa, quæ arx quedam fuit Catholici Dogmatis. Hæc enim Equalitatem potius Essentiæ, quam SINGULARITATEM significat, ut Capite Quinto docui. Deinde cetera ejusdem modi sunt in illo Decreto, ut, &c.* The chief force which the *Ancient Fathers* opposed against the *Arian Hereticks*, was in asserting only the *Equality* of the *Son* with the *Father* as to *Nature or Essence*, without any express mention

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c. 13.

of

of the SINGULARITY of the same. For those Nicene Bishops themselves, who did understand best of any, the secrets of the Arian Falsion, and which way it should especially be oppugned, aimed at nothing else in their Confession of Faith, but only to establish that Equality of Essence, Dignity and Eternity between them. This does the word Homoeousios it self declare, it signifying rather Equality, than SINGULARITY of Essence, as we have before showed. And the like do those other Passages in the same Decree; as, That there was no time when the Son was not, and That he was not made of nothing, Nor of a different Hypostasis or Essence. - Thus does Petavius clearly confess, that this Same Singularity of Numerical Essence was not asserted by the Nicene Council nor the most Ancient Fathers, but only an Equality or Sameness of General Essence; or else that the Father and Son, agreed only in One Common Essence or Substance of the Godhead, that is, the Eternal and Uncreated Nature.

But the truth of this, will more fully appear, from these following Particulars. First because these Orthodox, Anti-Arian Fathers, did all of zealously condemn Sabellianism; the Doctrine whereof is no other than this, that there was but one Hypostasis or Singular Individual Essence, of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and consequently that they were indeed but Three several Names, or Notions, or Modes, of one and the self same thing. From whence such Absurdities as these would follow; That the Father's Begetting the Son, was nothing but one Name, Notion, or Mode of the Deities Begetting another; or else the same Deity under one Notion, Begetting it self under another Notion. And when again the Son or Word, and not the Father, is said to have been Incarnated, and to have suffered death for us upon the Cross; that it was nothing but a meer Logical Notion or Mode of the Deity, that was Incarnate and Suffered, or else the whole Deity under one particular Notion or Mode only. But should it be averred notwithstanding, that this Trinity which we now speak of, was not a Trinity of meer Names and Notions, as that of the Sabellians, but of distinct Hypostases or Persons; then must it needs follow (since every Singular Essence is an Hypostasis, according to the sense of the Ancient Fathers) that there was not a Trinity only, but a Quaternity of Hypostases, in the Deity. Which is a thing that none of those Fathers ever dream'd of.

Again the word Homoeousios, as was before intimated by Petavius, was never used by Greek writers otherwise, than to signify the Agreement of things, Numerically differing from one another, in some Common Nature, or Universal Essence; or their having a General Unity or Identity, of which sundry Instances might be given. Nor indeed is it likely, that the Greek Tongue should have any name for that, which neither is a thing in Nature, nor falls under Humane Conception, viz. Several Things having one and the same Singular Essence. And accordingly St. Basil interprets the force of this word thus, ἀνὰ τὴν αὐτὴν οὐσίαν καὶ ἁπλοῦς ὁ θεὸς ὡς ὁ πατὴρ καὶ ὁ υἱός, καὶ ὁ ἅγιος πνεῦμα. That it plainly takes away the Sameness of Hypostasis, that is, of Singular Numerical Essence (this being that

nor ἀποθεῖσθαι, but ὁμοῖος τῷ πατρὶ, *Coeſſential or Conſubſtantial*
with the Father; that is, not a *Creature*, but *God*; or agreeing with
 the Father in that *Common Nature or Eſſence of the Godhead*. So
 that this is that ὁμία, *Eſſence or Subſtance* of the ancient Fathers,
 which is ſaid to be the Same in all the *Three Hypoſtaſes* of the Tri-
 nity as they are called *God*; not a *Singular Exiſtent Eſſence*, but the
Common, General, or Univerſal Eſſence of the Godhead, or of the
Uncreated Nature, called by S. Hilary, *Natura Una, non Unitate Per-* *De Synodi*
ſona, ſed Generis; *One Nature, not by Unity of Perſon, but of Kind*.
 Which *Unity of the Common or General Eſſence of the Godhead*, is
 the ſame thing alſo with that *Equality*, which ſome of the Ancient
 Fathers ſo much inſiſt upon againſt *Arius*, namely *An Equality of Na-*
ture, as the Son and Father are both of them alike *God*, that *Eſ-*
ſence of the Godhead (which is *Common to all the Three Perſons*) being
 as all other *Eſſences*, ſuppoſed to be *Indivisible*. From which *E-*
quality it ſelf alſo does it appear, that they acknowledged no
Identity of Singular Eſſence, it being abſurd to ſay, that *One* and the
 ſelf ſame thing, is *Equal to it ſelf*. And with this *Equality of Eſſence*,
 did ſome of the Orthodox Fathers themſelves imply, that a certain
Inequality of the Hypoſtaſes or Perſons alſo, in their mutual Relation to
 one another, might be conſiſtent. As for example, St. Auſtin writing *Cont. Sermon*
 thus againſt the Arians, *Patris, ergo & Filii, & Spiritus Sancti, etiamſi* *Arian. c. 12.*
diſparem cogitant Poteltatem, Naturam ſaltem conſiteantur Aequalem;
Though they conceive the Power of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghoſt, to
be Unequal, yet let them for all that, confeſs their Nature at leaſt to be
Equal. And St. Baſil likewiſe, *Though the Son be in Order Second to*
the Father, becauſe produced by him, and in Dignity alſo, (foraſmuch *3. Cont. Eumenes*
as the Father is the Cauſe and Principle of his being) yet is he not for
all that, Second in Nature, becauſe there is One Divinity in them both.
 And that this was indeed the meaning, both of the *Nicene Fathers*,
 and of *Athanaſius*, in their *Homouſioſes*, their *Coeſſentiality* or *Con-*
ſubſtantiality, and *Coequality of the Son with the Father*; namely,
 their having both the ſame *Common Eſſence of the Godhead*; or that
 the Son was *No Creature*, as *Arius* contended, but truly *God* or *Un-*
created likewiſe, will appear undeniably, from many paſſages in *A-*
thanaſius, of which we ſhall here mention only ſome few. In his *P. 151*
 Epistle concerning the *Nicene Council*, he tells us, how the *Eufe-*
bian Faction ſubſcribed the *Form* of that Council, though afterward
 they recanted it, *πρότερον τὸ ὑπογράψαντες ὑπέγραψαν καὶ οἱ εὐσεβῆς τούτους*
τοὺς λόγους ὡς αἰτιῶναι τὸν ὅτι· λέγω δὲ τὸ ὅτι ὁ πατήρ, καὶ τὸ ὁμοούσιος, καὶ ὅτι
μία ὑπόστασις ἡ ποιούμενα, μὴτε τῷ ὄντι ὁ τῷ οὐκ ὡς· ἀλλὰ ὁμοῖος καὶ
τῷ πατρὶ ὡς ὁ λόγος· All the reſt ſubſcribing, the Eufebianiſts them-
ſelves ſubſcribed alſo to theſe very words, which they now find fault with;
I mean Of the Eſſence or Subſtance, and Coeſſential or Conſubſtantial,
and that the Son is no Creature or Faſture or any of the Things Made,
but the Genuine Off-ſpring of the Eſſence or Subſtance of the Father. Af-
terwards he declareth, how the Nicene Council at firſt, intended to
have made uſe only of Scripture Words and Phraſes, againſt the Arians,
τὸ σπύδον βυβαλιμῆς τοῖς μὲν τῷ Ἀθανασίῳ τὸ ἀσπεῖας λέξας ἀνελὼν· τοῖς δὲ *P. 167,*
τῷ γεγραμῶν ὁμολογημάτων φωνὰς γεγραμῶν, ὅτι τὸ ὡς ὅτι καὶ ὡς ὅτι ὅτι,
ἀλλ' ὡς τὸ οὐκ, καὶ λόγος ὅτι καὶ σπείρα, ἀλλ' ὡς ὑπόστασις ὅτι ποιούμενα, ἰδίῳ δὲ
ὡς

ὅτι τὸ πᾶντες ἡμεῖς. As that Christ was the Son of God, and not from nothing, but from God, the Word and Wisdom of God, and consequently no Creature or thing Made. But when they perceived that the Eusebian Faction would evade all these Expressions by Equivocation, ἡναγκαζόμενοι λοιπὸν λαλῶμεν ἐπὶ τὸ ὅτι τὸ οὐκ ἔστι· καὶ γεγενῆαι ὅτι τὸ οὐκ ἔστι καὶ τὸ ὅτι, ὑπὲρ τῆς μὴ τὸ ὅτι τὸ οὐκ ἔστι κοινὸν ἔστι, τὴν πρὸς τὸν ἡμεῖς τοῖς οὐκ ἔστι· They conceived themselves necessitated, more plainly to declare what they meant by being From God, or Out of him; and therefore added, that the Son was Out of the Substance of God, thereby to distinguish him from all Created Beings. Again a little after in the same Epistle he adds, ἡ συνὸς τὸ τοῦ πατρὸς, κατὰ ὁμοούσιον ἔγεν·ηεν, ἢ αὐτὸς ὁ αὐτοῦ καὶ καὶ οὐκ ἄλλου· καὶ διέφα·ν ἄλλοι ὅτι τὸν ἡμεῖς τὸ λέγου· καὶ τὸ τὸ γεγενῆαις ὁμοῦς ἡμεῖς· τὰς δὲ λέγοντας ἐξ οὐ οὐκ ἔστι καὶ τὸν τὸ οὐκ ἔστι, ἢ ὡς οὐκ ἔστι· ἢ πᾶν· ἢ ἐξ ἑτέρας οὐσίας, τὸς ἀναθεματίζει ἢ ἄλλα καὶ καὶ· ἢ· ἢ· The Synod perceiving this, rightly declared, that the Son was Homoeousion with the Father; both to cut off the Subterfuges of Hereticks, and to show him to be different from the Creatures. For after they had decreed this, they added immediately, They who say that the Son of God, was from things that are not, or Made, or Mutable, or a Creature, or of another Substance or Essence; all such does the Holy and Catholick Church Anathematize. Whereby they made it Evident, that these Words, Of the Father, and Coessential or Consubstantial with the Father, were opposed to the Impiety of those expressions of the Arians; that the Son was a Creature, or thing Made, and Mutable, and that he was not before he was Made, which he that affirmeth contradicted the Synod, but whosoever dissents from Arius, must needs consent to these Words of the Synod. In this same Epistle, to cite but one passage more out of it, χρυσός, ἀργύριον καὶ χαλκός, &c. ὅτι ἐν τοῖς καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἀλλήλοις· εἰ μὲν ἐν τῷ οὐκ ἔστι ὅτι, ἔστι καὶ τὸ καὶ ὅτι καὶ, καὶ ἢ ὁμοῦς, εἰ δὲ ὅτι ὅτι λέγας, σίδηρος, ὅτι τὸ καὶ, ἀπὸ τοῦ καὶ, ἐκ τῶν καὶ ὁμοῦς ἢ ἐν· Brass and Gold, Silver and Tin are alike in their shining and colour, nevertheless in their Essence and Nature, are they very different from one another. If therefore the Son be such, then let him be a Creature as we are, and not Coessential (or Consubstantial) but if he be a Son, the Word, Wisdom, Image of the Father, and his Splendour, then of right should he be accounted Coessential and Consubstantial. Thus in his Epistle concerning Dionysius, we have ὅτι τὸν καὶ τὸν καὶ τὸν καὶ τὸν, and μὴ ὁμοῦς καὶ τὸν καὶ τὸν, The Son's being one of the Creatures, and his not being Coessential or Consubstantial with the Father put for synonymous expressions, which signifie one and the samething.

Wherefore it seemeth to be unquestionably evident, that when the Ancient Orthodox Fathers of the Christian Church, maintained against Arius, the Son to be Homoeousion, Coessential or Consubstantial with the Father, though that word be thus interpreted, Of the same Essence or Substance, yet they Universally understood thereby, not a Sameness of Singular and Numerical, but of Common or Universal Essence only; that is, the Generical or Specific Essence of the Godhead; that the Son was no Creature, but truly and properly God. But if it were needful, there might be yet more Testimonies cited out of

Athanafius to this purpose. As from his Epistle De Synodis Arimini &c. 919.
seleucia, where he writeth thus, concerning the Difference betwixt
those Two words ὁμοούσιον, of Like Substance, and ὁμοῖον, Of the
same Substantie. οὐδαμῶς γὰρ καὶ ἡμεῖς ἐπὶ τῷ θεῷ ὡς ἐπὶ ἀνθρώπῳ· ὅτι ὁ πατήρ, ἄλλ' ὅτι
χρημάτω καὶ ποιότητι λέγεται ἕκαστος. Ὅτι γὰρ καὶ πάλιν εἰς ὁμοιότητος, ἀλλὰ
ταυτοῦτες ἀν' αὐτῆς· ἀνθρώπων γὰρ ἀνθρώπων ὁμοῖον· λέγεται καὶ καὶ τὸ ὅσον—
τῇ δὲ ἐξ ὧν ὁμοφυεῖς εἰσὶ καὶ ἄλλα ἀνθρώπων καὶ ἐκείνου λέγεται ἄλλ' ἐπι-
φορῆς οὐκ ἂν τὸ ὁμοφυεῖς καὶ ὁμοῖος, τὸ δὲ ἐτεροφυεῖς καὶ ἐτερόεικος. For even your
selfes know that Similitude is not Predicated of Essences or Substances,
but of Figures and Qualities only. But of Essences or Substances, Identity
or Sameness is affirmed and not Similitude. For a man is not said
to be Like to a man, in respect of the Essence or Substance of Humanity,
but only as to Figure or Form : they being said as to their Essence to be
Congenerous, of the same Nature or Kind with one another. Nor is a
man properly said, to be Unlike to a Dog, but of a Different Nature or
Kind from him. Wherefore that which is Congenerous, of the same Na-
ture, Kind, or Species, is also Homouosion, Coessential or Consubstantial
(of the same Essence or Substance) and that which is of a different Nature,
Kind, or Species, is Heterouosion, (of a different Essence or Substance.)
Again Athanasius in that Fragment of his Against the Hypocrisie of
Meletius, &c. concerning Consubstantiality writeth in this manner ;
ὁ τίνα ἀνθρώπων τὸ εἶναι τὴν ὁμοῖον τοῦ πατρὸς, λέγων ὅτι ὅμοιον, ἀπαρεῖ-
τὸ εἶναι οὐδὲν. Ὁμοῖος γάρ καὶ ἐξ ἑτεροφύτου· τὸ ὁμοῖος, ὥς ὅμοιον τῇ φύσει.
ἐτεροφύτου ὅσον λέγει, οὗτος ὁ ὁμοουσίως· καὶ τίνα εἶναι τὸ ὅσον καὶ ὅσον εἶναι
προσώπου λέγει μὴ φρονῶν ὁμοῖος, ὥς ἀνθρώπος ὃς καὶ ἀνθρώπος ὅσας· εἰ δὲ μὴ
ὡς ἀνθρώπος· ἐξ ἀνθρώπων καὶ ἐξ ὧν, ὃς οὗτος ὁ υἱός, ἄλλ' ὥς ἐκ προσώπου κα-
ταβολῇ ἀνθρώπου· ἢ ὥς ἀνθρώπος οὗτος, ὅθεν εἶναι ὁ τοιοῦτος ὁμοῖος
μὴ λέγων, ὁμοῖος ὅς ἐστι φρονῶν. Οὐ γὰρ καὶ τὸ τὴν σπουδαίαν βελόνην τὸ ὁμοῖον
ἀνθρώπου, ὅσον εἶναι, ὅσον μᾶλλον καὶ καὶ αὐτὸς ὅσον· ἀλλὰ ὅσον τὴν σπουδαίαν
καὶ ἵνα διαφέρῃ ταύτην, ἐλλογιζόμενος εἶναι εἰρηκεῖα τὸ ὁμοῖον εἶναι τὸ ἐ-
λλογιζόμενος εἶναι τὸν εἶναι ἐτεροφύτον ὅσον τὴν αὐτὴν φύσιν καὶ εἶναι, &c.
Hethat denies the Son to be Homouosion, Consubstantial with the Fa-
ther, affirming him only to be like to him, denies him to be God. In
like manner, he who retaining the word Homouosion or Consubstantial,
interprets it notwithstanding only of Similitude or Likeness in Substance,
affirmeth the Son to be of Another Different Substance from the Father,
and therefore not God ; but like to God only. Neither doth such a one
rightly understand those words, Of the Substance of the Father, he
not thinking the Son to be so Consubstantial, or of the Essence and Sub-
stance of the Father, as one man is Consubstantial, or Of the Essence or
Substance of another who begat him. For he who affirmeth that the Son
is not so Of God, as a man is Of a man, according to Essence or Sub-
stance ; but that he is Like him only, as a Statue is like a Man or as a
Man may be Like to God, it is manifest that such a one, though he use
the word Homouosios,, yet he doth not really mean it. For he will not
understand it according to the customary signification thereof, for that,
which hath One and the same Essence or Substance ; this word
being used by Greeks and Pagans in no other sence, than to signifie that
which hath the same Nature ; as we ought to believe concerning the
Father Son and Holy Ghost. Where we see plainly, that though the
word Homouosios, be interpreted, That which hath One and the same
Essence

Essence or Substance, yet is this understood of the Same Common Nature, and as one man is of the same Essence or Substance with another. We might here also add to this, the concurrent testimonies of the other Orthodox Fathers, but to avoid tediousness we shall omit them, and only insert some passages out of St. *Austin* to the same purpose. For he in his First Book *Contra Maxim*. Chap. the 15. writeth thus, *Duo veri Homines, etsi nullus eorum Filius sit Alterius, Unius tamen & Eiusdem sunt Substantiæ. Homo autem alterius Hominis Verus filius nullo modo potest nisi Eiusdem cum Patre esse Substantiæ, etiam si non sit per omnia Similis Patri. Quocirca Verus Dei Filius, & Unius cum Patre Substantiæ est, quia Verus Filius est; & per omnia est Patri similis, quia est Dei Filius.* Two True men, though neither of them be Son to the other, yet are they both of One and the Same Substance. But a man who is the true Son of another man, can by no means be of a Different Substance from his Father, although he be not in all respects like unto him. Wherefore the true Son of God, is both of one Substance with the Father, because he is a true Son, and he is also in all respects like to him, because he is the Son of God. Where Christ or the Son of God, is said to be no otherwise, of One Substance with God the Father, than here amongst men, the Son is of the same Substance with his Father, or any one man with another. Again the same S. *Austin* in his *Respons. ad Sermonem Ariatorum*, expresseth himself thus: *Ariani nos vocitant Homoeousianos, quia contra eorum errorem, Græco vocabulo ἐὺσύνον descendimus, Patrem, Filium; & Spiritum Sanctum; id est, Unius Eiusdemque Substantiæ, vel ut expressius dicamus Essentiæ (quæ & Græcè appellatur) quod planius dicitur Unius Eiusdemque Naturæ. Et tamen signis istorum qui nos Homoeousianos vocant, Filium suum non cuius ipse esset, sed Diversa diceret esse Naturæ, Exhæredari ab ipso mallet Filium, quam hoc putari. Quanta igitur impietate isti cacantur, qui cum constentur Unicum Dei Filium, nolunt Eiusdem Naturæ cuius Pater est considerari; sed diversa atque impari, & multis modis rebusque dissimilis, tanquam non de Deo Naturæ, sed ab illo de Nihilo sit Creaturæ; Gratia Filius, non Naturæ.* The Ariani call us Homoeousians, because in opposition to their Error we defend the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, to be in the Language of the Greek Homoeousious, that is of One and the Same Substance; or to speak more clearly Essence, this being in Greek called *Utiab*, which is yet more plainly thus expressed, of One and the Same Nature. And yet there is none of their own Sons, who thus call us Homoeousians, who would not as willingly be disinherited, as be accounted of a Different Nature from his Father. How great impiety therefore are they blinded with, who though they acknowledge that there is One only Son of God; yet will not confess him, to be of the same Nature with his Father, but different and unequal and many ways unlike him, as if he were not Born of God, but Created out of Nothing by him, himself being a Creature; and so a Son, not by Nature but Grace only. Lastly (to name no more places) in his First Book *De Trinitate*, he hath these words. *Si Filius Creatura non est, eiusdem cum Patre Substantiæ est. Omnis enim Substantiæ quæ Deus non est Creatura est: & quæ Creatura non est, Deus est. Et si non est Filius eiusdem Substantiæ cuius est Pater, ergo Facta Substantiæ est.* If the Son be not a Creature, then is he of the same

To the same purpose is that in his Second Book ch. 6. *Diversi quidem Substantiæ est Deus Pater, & Homo Mater: unus tamen diversa Substantiæ est Deus Pater & Deus Filius: si enim non est diversa Substantiæ, Homo Mater, & Homo Filius.*

same Substance with the Father; for whatever Substance is not God, is Creature, and whatever is not Creature is God.. And therefore if the Son be not of the same Substance with the Father, he must needs be a Made and Created Substance, and not truly God.

Lastly, that the ancient Orthodox Fathers, who used the word *Homoousios* against *Arius*, intended not therein to assert the Son to have One and the same Singular or Individual Essence with the Father, appeareth plainly from their disclaiming and disowning those two words *ταυτοουσιον* and *μονοουσιον*. Concerning the Former of which, *Epiphanius* thus; *καὶ ὁ λόγος ταυτοουσιον, ἵνα μὴ ἡ λέξις παρὰ τὴν ἁ- Har. 76 N 7. ρωμῆν, Σαβελλίον ἀπαρσῇ. ταυτὸν ὁ λόγος τῇ θεότητι, καὶ τῇ οὐσίᾳ, καὶ τῇ δύναμει. We affirm not the Son to be Tautoousion: (One and the same Substance with the Father) lest this should be taken in way of compliance with Sabellius, nevertheless do we assert him to be, the same, in Godhead, and in Essence, and in Power. Where it is plain, that when *Epiphanius* affirmed the Son to be the same with the Father in Godhead and Essence, he understood this only, of a Generical or Specifical, and not of a Singular or Individual Sameness; namely, that the Son is no Creature, but God also as the Father is; and this he intimates to be the true and genuine sense of the word *Homoousios*: he therefore rejecting that other word *Tautoousios*, because it would be liable to misinterpretation, and to be taken in the Sabellian sense, for that which hath One and the same Singular and Individual Essence, which the word *Homoousios* could not be obnoxious to. And as concerning that other word *Monoousios*, *Athanasius* himself, in his P. 141. Exposition of Faith, thus expressly condemns it, *ὅτι γὰρ ὑπαρτὶς φρο- νῆδος, ὡς οἱ Σαβελλίται μονοουσιον καὶ ὁχ' οὐμοουσιον, We do not think the Son to be really One and the same with the Father, as the Sabellians do, and to be Monoousios and not Homoousios; they thereby destroying the very being of the Son. Where *Ussa*, Essence or Substance, in that Fictitious word *Monoousios*, is taken for Singular or Existent Essence, the whole Deity being thus said by *Sabellius*, to have only One Singular Essence or Hypostasis in it: whereas in the word *Homoousios*, is understood a Common or Universal, Generical or Specific Essence; the Son being thus said to agree with the Father, in the Common Essence of the Godhead, as not being a Creature. Wherefore *Athanasius* here disclaimeth a Monoousian Trinity, as *Epiphanius* did before, a Tautoousian; both of them a Trinity of meer Names, and Notions, or Inadequate Conceptions of One and the same Singular Essence or Hypostasis; they alike distinguishing them, from the Homoousian Trinity, as a Trinity of Real Hypostases or Persons, that have severally their own Singular Essence, but agree in one Common and Universal Essence of the Godhead, they being none of them Creatures but all Uncreated or Creators. From whence it is plain, that the ancient Orthodox Fathers, asserted no such thing, as One and the same Singular or Numerical Essence, of the several Persons of the Trinity; this according to them, being not a Real Trinity, but a Trinity of meer Names, Notions, and Inadequate Conceptions only; which is thus disclaimed and declared against by *Athanasius*, *τείας δὲ ἑν ὁχ' ἕως ὁμοῦ μὴτα, καὶ παρὰ τὰς λέξεις, ἀλλὰ ἀλλοῦ καὶ ἑτέροις τείας, The Trinity;***

time approach so near hereunto, that he lays no small stress upon this Homogeneity, this Coessentiality, and Common Nature of the Godhead, to all the Three Persons, in order to their being One God. For thus, in that Book entitled, *Concerning the Common Essence of the Three Persons*, and the Chapter inscribed, *ὅτι ἓν ἐστὶ τὸ θεῶν θεῶν*, That there are not Three Gods; doth Athanasius lay his Foundation here. When to that question proposed, *How it can be said, that the Father is God, the Son God, and the Holy Ghost God, and yet that there are not Three Gods;* the first Reply which he makes is this, *ὅτι κοινὰ τὰ ἴα φύσεις, κοινὸν καὶ ὄνομα ἴα ἁγίας· οὐκ ὁ θεὸς τὰ ἑς πλὴν διχημύρια ἀπὸ μὲν φύσεως, ἐν ὁνόματι καλῶν καὶ ἐν ἐργίζεσθαι τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, ἡ πᾶσι ἀνθρώπων τῇ ἐργῇ ὑποκείμενον, ἓν ἀνθρώπων καλῶν καὶ ἐν διαλλάσσεται τὰ κόσμῳ, ὡς ἐν ἀνθρώπων διαλλάσσεται· Where there is a Communion of Nature, there is also one Common Name of Dignity bestowed. And thus doth God himself, call things divided into Multitudes from one Common Nature, by One Singular Name.. For both when he is angry with men, doth he call all those who are the objects of his anger, by the name of One Man: and when he is reconciled to the world, is he reconciled thereto as to One Man. The first Instances which he gives hereof, are in Gen. the 6. the 3. and 7. Verses; *My Spirit shall not always strive with Man, and I will destroy Man whom I have created;* Upon which Athanasius makes this Reflexion; καὶ τοῖς θεῶν ἓν, ἀλλὰ μετὰ μὲν ἀπὸ τοῦ ὁνόματι ἴα φύσεως, ἡ πᾶσι ἀνθρώπων ἓν ἐκάλειον ἀνθρώπων διὰ τὸ κοινὸν ἴα ἁγίας, Though there was not then only one man, but Infinite Myriads of men, nevertheless by the name of One Nature, doth the Scripture call all those men, One Man, by reason of their Community of Essence or Substance. Again he commenteth in like manner upon that other Scripture-passage, Exodus the 15. 1. *The Horse and his Rider hath he thrown into the Sea,* ὅτι ἐβλήθη φερόν καὶ τὴν ὀρέον, πῶς μετὰ μνησὶν ἀνθρώπων ὡς τῇ ὀρέον, καὶ ἔσαν πολλοὶ ἀνθρώποι εἰ βυθισθῆναι μετὰ ὀρέον, καὶ ἴπποι πολλοὶ· ὁ δὲ μετὰ εἰδὸς, ὅτι πᾶσι τῶν βυθισθῆναι μία ὄρεον ἡ φύσις, καὶ ὁ δὲ τῶν ἴππων καὶ ὁ δὲ ὀρέον λέγει, ἴππων καὶ ἀνθρώπων ἐβλήθη εἰς ὀρέον· τὰ πλὴν τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἐκάλειον ἓν ἀνθρώπων, καὶ τὰ πλὴν τῶν ἴππων ἐκάλειον ἴππων ἓν, διὰ τὴν κοινότητα ἴα φύσεως. When Pharaoh went out to the Red Sea, and fell with Infinite Chariots in the same; and there were many men that were drowned together with him, and many Horses; yet Moses knowing that there was but one Common Nature of all those that were drowned, speaketh thus both of the Men and Horses; The Lord hath thrown both the Horse and the Rider into the Sea; he calling such a Multitude of Men, but One Singular Man, and such a Multitude of Horses but One Horse. Whereupon Athanasius thus concludeth, εἰ ἓν ὡς τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, ὅτι συλλέγεσθαι τὰ ἴα φύσεως· ὅτι διάφορα τὰ ἴα μετὰ καὶ δυνάμει καὶ βουλῇ· ὁ γὰρ ὅτι γὰρ ἓν ἓν, ὅτι μετὰ, ὅτι ἰσχύς καὶ διάφορα γλῶσσαι, διὰ καὶ ἀνθρώπων μετὰ λέγεσθαι· ἀλλὰ διὰ τὸ κοινὸν ἴα φύσεως πᾶσι ἡ εἰς ἀνθρώπων ἐκάλειον· ὅτι ὁ ἀνθρώπος ἡ ἁγία, μία βασιλεία, μία δυνάμει, καὶ βουλῇ, καὶ ἀνθρώπων, ἰδιόμορφα τὴν τελευτὰ ἀπὸ ἴα κλίσεως, ἓν λέγει ὁ θεός· If therefore amongst men, where the things of Nature are confounded, and where there are differences of Form, Power and Will (all men not having the same disposition of Mind, nor Form, nor Strength) as also different Languages, (from whence men are called by the Poets Metopes) nevertheless by reason of the Community of Nature, the whole world is called.*

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One Man; might not that Trinity of Persons, where there is an Undivided Dignity, One Kingdom, One Power, One Will, and One Energy be much rather called One God? But though it be true, that *Athanasius* in this place (if at least this were a Genuine *Fatus* of *Athanasius*) may justly be thought to attribute too much to this *καὶνὸν ὁ φῶς καὶ ὁ λόγος*, This Common Nature, Essence, or Substance, of all the Three Persons, as to the making of them to be truly and properly One God; and that those Scripture-passages are but weakly urged to this purpose; yet is it plain, that he did not acquiesce in this only, but addeth other things to it also, as their having not only One Will, but also One Energy or Action, of which more afterwards. Moreover *Athanasius*, elsewhere plainly implieth, that this Common Essence or Nature of the Godhead, is not sufficient alone, to make all the Three Hypostases, One God. As in his Fourth Oration against the Arians, where he tells us, that his Trinity of Divine Hypostases cannot therefore be accounted Three Gods nor Three Principles, because they are not resembled by him, to Three Original Suns, but only to the Sun, and its Splendour, and the Light from both. Now Three Suns, according to the Language of *Athanasius*, have *κοινὸν ὁ φῶς καὶ ὁ λόγος*, a Common Nature, Essence, and Substance, and therefore are Coessential or Consubstantial; and since they cannot be accounted one Sun, it is manifest, that according to *Athanasius*, this Specifick Identity or Unity, is not sufficient to make the Three Divine Hypostases One God. Again the same *Athanasius*, in his Exposition of Faith, writeth thus, *ὅτι τρεῖς ὑποστάσεις μεμελεσμέναι καὶ ἑαυτὰς, ὡς αὐτοφύως ἐν ἀρεσέῃ ἔστι λογισαί, ἵνα μὴ πολυθεῖαν ἐς τὸ ἰὸν φερόμεναι.* Neither do we acknowledge Three Hypostases, Divided or Separate by themselves (as it is to be seen corporeally in men) that we may not comply with the Pagan Polytheism. From whence it is Evident, that neither Three Separate Men, though Coessential to *Athanasius*, were accounted by him to be One Man, nor yet the Community of the Specifick Nature and Essence of the Godhead, can alone by it self, exclude Polytheism from the Trinity. Wherefore the true reason, why *Athanasius* laid so great a stress upon this Homoonstotes, or Coessentiality of the Trinity, in order to the Unity of the Godhead in them, was not because this alone was sufficient to make them One God, but because, they could not be so without it. This *Athanasius* often urges against the Arians, as in his Fourth Oration, where he tells them, *πολλὰς ἀν ἐσάρας [ἑνός] διὰ τὸ ἑτερογένους αὐτῶν.* That they must needs introduce a Plurality of Gods, because of the Heterogeneity of their Trinity. And again afterwards determining, that there is *ὁ ὁμολογούμενος ὁ θεὸς ὁ ὁμοούσιος*, one Species of the Godhead, in Father, Son and Spirit, he adds; *ἐπεὶ καὶ ἵνα διὰ τὸ τελέειν ὁμολογούμενον ἔσται ὁ θεός. καὶ πολλὸν μάλλον διακρίσας ἐν λόγῳ καὶ πολυθεῖας τῶν αἱρετικῶν ὁμοούσιος, ὅτι τὴν μίαν ἐν τελέειν διακρίσας φερόμενον. ὁ γὰρ μὴ ἔσας ἔχει, ἀλλ' ἔχει ὅλον πῆμα καὶ ὁλόκληρον ὁ λόγος. ἀνάγκη λέγειν αὐτὸς ὁ θεός, ἵνα μὴ ὡς, τὸ ἑτερογένους.* And thus do we acknowledge one only God in the Trinity; and maintain it more Religiously than those Hereticks do; who introduce a Multiform Deity, consisting of divers Species; we supposing only One Universal Godhead in the whole. For if it be not thus, but the Son be a Creature, made out of nothing, however called God by these Arians, then

ther Sameness or Unity, as will be hereafter expressed. Lastly, when the Three *Hypostases*, are somewhere said by him, to be *μία ὕλη*, *One Essence or Substance*, this is not to be understood nei- in that place, as if they had *all Three* the same *Singular Essence*, in some of those other Sences before mentioned.

But though *Athanasius* no where declare, the Three *Hypostases* of the Trinity, to have only *One and the same Singular Essence*, but on the contrary, denies them to be *Monoousian*; and though he lay a great stress upon their *αἰδιον ὕμνος*, their *Specifick or Generick Unity*, and *Coeffentiality*, in order to their being *One God*; for as much as without this, they could not be *God* at all; yet doth he not rely wholly upon this, as alone sufficient to that purpose, but addeth certain other considerations thereunto, to make it out; in manner as followeth. First, that this *Trinity*, is not a *Trinity of Principles*, but that there is only *One Principle or Fountain of the Godhead* in it, from which the other are derived. Thus does he write in his Fifth Oration, *μία ἀρχὴ, καὶ ἓν τὸ πρῶτον θεός*, *There is but One Principle, and accordingly but One God*. Again in his Book against the Sabellianists, *ὅτι ἐστὶ δύο θεοί, ἓν μὲν διὰ τὴν φύσιν, καὶ ἓν διὰ τὴν οὐσίαν*, *ὁ ἡγεμὼν καὶ ὁ πατρὶς*, *There are not Two Gods, both because there are not Two Fathers, and because that which is Begotten is not of a different Essence from that which Begat*. For be that introduceth *Two Principles*, *Preacheth Two Gods*; which was the *Impiety* of *Marcion*. Accordingly the same *Athanasius* declareth, *τὴν ἐκ τῆς ἀρχῆς καὶ ἐκ τῆς οὐσίας τῆς υἱοῦ*, *That the Essence or Substance of the Father, is the Principle and Root and Fountain of the Son*. And in like manner doth he approve of this Doctrine of *Dionysius*, *ὅτι πατρὶς καὶ ἀπαρχὴ ἀνάλογον ἔστι ὁ θεός, πῶτα μὲν καὶ ἓν αὐτῷ περὶ τοῦ αἰῶνος*, *That God (the Father) is the First Fountain of all Good things, but the Son a River poured out from him*. To the same purpose is it also, when he compareth the Father and the Son, to the *Water* and the *Vapour* arising from it; to the *Light* and the *Splendour*; to the *Prototype* and the *Image*. And he concludeth the *Unity of the Godhead* from hence, in this manner; *τὴν θείαν τελευτὴν ἐς τὴν ἀσπὶς ἐς κορυφὴν μια, καὶ διὸν καὶ ἰδὼν καὶ παλάμη- τας ἄλλα, συγκαταλαμβάνεται καὶ συνάγεται πᾶσα ἀνάγκη*. *The Divine Trinity must needs be collected and gathered up together, under that omnipotent God of the whole World, as under One Head*. But the chief force of this Consideration, is only to exclude the *Doctrine of the Marcionists*, who made *More Independent and Self-existent Principles and Gods*. Notwithstanding which, it might still be objected, that the *Christian Trinity*, is a *Trinity of Distinct Subordinate Gods*, in opposition whereunto, this argument seems only to prepare the way to what follows; namely of the close *Conjunction of these Three Hypostases into One God*; forasmuch, as were they *Three Independent Principles*, there could not be any *Coalescence of them into One*.

In the next place therefore, *Athanasius* further addeth, that these Three *Divine Hypostases*, are not *μεμελεσμέναι* and *καταλεσμέναι*, *Separate and Disjoyned Beings*, but *ἀδιαλείπτῳ*, *Indivisibly United to*
one

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De Syn. c. 1.
S. p. 920.De Syn. Nic.
p. 175.

one another. Thus in his Fifth Oration; πατέρ ἐστι ὁ υἱὸς ἐν ὅλῃς τῇ θεότητι, καὶ τοῖς ἐξ αὐτοῦ, ἀμέλειται, καὶ ἀδιαλείπειν καὶ ἀχώριστα εἶναι τὸ λόγον ἀπὸ τοῦ πατρὸς. *The Father and the Son are both one thing in the Godhead, and in that the Word, being begotten from Him, is Indivisibly and Inseparably conjoined with him.* Where when he affirmeth, the Father and the Son, to be One in the Godhead, it is plain that he doth not mean them to have One and the same Singular Essence, but only General and Universal; because in the following words, he supposes them to be Two, but Indivisibly and Inseparably United together. Again in his Book *De sent. Dionys.* ἐν ἀδιαλείπτῃ τῇ πατρὶς ἐστὶν ὡς ἐν τῷ ἀπαυρασμαῷ πρὸς τὸ φῶς, *The Son is Indivisible from the Father, as the Splendour is from the Light.* And afterwards in the same Book he insisteth further upon this Point, according to the sense of *Dionysius*, after this manner, ὁ ὃ ἰδοὺ καὶ ἀδιαλείπειν ὃ τῷ πατρὶς ὅλος τὸ υἱὸν εἶναι διδάσκει, ὡς ἐν ὃ λόγῳ πρὸς τὸ νῦν καὶ πᾶσι πρὸς τὸ πᾶν· εἰ μὲν ἐν διαφάνει καὶ ἀπείρῳ τὸ λόγον καὶ τὸ νῦν τις δύναται, ἢ τὸ ποταμὸν καὶ τὴν πηγὴν μερίσαι καὶ τήχιστας διελῶν, ἢ τὸ ἀπαυρασμαῖ ἀμὰ διελῶν ἀπὸ τοῦ φωτός, &c. *Dionysius teacheth, that the Son is Cognate with the Father, and Indivisible from him, as Reason is from the Mind, and the River from the Fountain. Who is there therefore, that would go about to alienate Reason from the Mind? and to separate the River from the Fountain, making up a wall between them? or to cut off the Splendour from the Light? Thus also in his Epistle to Serapion, that the Holy Ghost is not a Creature,* P. 194. ἢ διελίπεται πρῶτον αὐτοῦ τῷ ἀπαυρασμαῷ τὸ φῶς, ἢ τὴν σοφίαν τὸ σοφόν, ἢ μὴ ἀποτίπται, πῶς ὅτι ταῦτα. *Let these men first divide the Splendour from the Light, or Wisdom from him that is Wise, or else let them wonder no more how these things can be.* Elsewhere *Athanasius* calls the whole Trinity, τοῦ αὐτοῦ ἀδιαλείπτου καὶ ἡνωμένου πρὸς ἑαυτοῦ, *A Trinity Undivided and United to it self.* Which *Athanasian Indivisibility* of the Trinity, is not so to be understood as if Three were not Three in it, but first of all that neither of these could be without the other, as the Original Light or Sun could not be without the Splendour, nor the Splendour without the Original Light, and neither one nor t'other of them without a Diffused Derivative Light. Wherefore God the Father being an *Eternal Sun*, must needs have also an *Eternal Splendour*, and an *Eternal Light.* And Secondly, that these are so Nearly and Intimately Conjoined together, that there is a kind of συνέχουα Continuity betwixt them; which yet is not to be understood in the way of Corporeal Things, but so as is agreeable to the Nature of things Incorporeal.

Thirdly, *Athanasius* ascendeth yet higher, affirming the Hypostases of the Trinity, not only to be Indivisibly Conjoined with one another, but also to have a Mutual Inexistence in each other, which Latter Greek Fathers have called ἐκχώρησιν, their Circuminfession. To this purpose does he cite the Words of *Dionysius*, ἀπὸ καρδίας καὶ ἀπὸ λόγου, καὶ ἀπὸ καρδίας διὰ στόματος ἐκχετάσθαι, ἑκτὸς ἑαυτοῦ καὶ ἐν καρδίᾳ λόγου· καὶ ὅπως ὅτι ἐκαστὸς ἐν ἑαυτῷ, ἑκτὸς ἐν ἑαυτῷ, καὶ ἐν ὅντι ὅτις δύο· ὅτι καὶ ὁ πατήρ καὶ ὁ λόγος ἐν, καὶ ἐν ἀλλήλοις ἐκχέουσιν ὅνα· *For Reason is the Efflux of the Mind, which in men is derived from the Heart into the Tongue; where it is become another Reason*

ὅ γὰρ ὡς ὁκεῖνοι νομίζουσιν, ἀπέμειψαν ὁμοῦ εἰς ἀλλήλους εἶναι, ὡς ποτὶ ἐν ἀγίοις
 κείνοις ἐξ ἀλλήλων πληρεμέλεις, ὥστε ἢ μὲν ὡς πληρετὸ τὸ κοῖλον τῶ πατρὸς,
 ἢ ὡς πατέρων πληρετὸ τὸ κοῖλον τῶ υἱοῦ, καὶ ἐκείνους αὐτοὺς μὴ εἶναι πλήρη καὶ τέλειον.
For the Father and Son are not, as they suppose, Transvased and
Poured out, one into another, as into an Empty Vessel: as if the Son
filled up the Concavity of the Father, and again the Father that of the
Son; and neither of them were full or perfect in themselves. For all
this is proper to Bodies; wherefore though the Father be in some sence,
Greater than the Son, yet notwithstanding may be in him after an In-
corporeal manner. And he replieth to their Last Cavil thus, That the
Son is not so in the Father, as we our selves are said to Live and Move
and Be in God; ὡς ποτὶ ὡς ὁ κεῖνος τῶ πατρὸς ὡς ἐν ζωῇ, ἐν ᾧ τὰ πάντα
ζωογονεῖται καὶ συνέσκειν, ὅ γὰρ ἐν ζωῇ ἐν ζωῇ ἔσθαι, &c. For he himself from the
Fountain of the Father, is that Life in whom all things are quickned and
conssist: neither does he who is the Life live in another Life, which were
to suppose him not to be the Life it self. Nor (saith he) must it be con-
ceived, that the Father is no otherwise in the Son, than he is in holy men
Corroborating of them; for the Son himself is the Power and Wisdom of
God, and all Created Beings are sanctified by a Participation of him in
the Spirit. Wherefore this Perichoresis or Mutual In-being of the Fa-
ther and the Son, is to be understood after a Peculiar manner, so as
that they are Really thereby One; and what the Son and Holy
Ghoſt doth, the Father doth in them, accordig to that of Athanasius,
ὅ τῷ υἱοῦ θεότης τῷ πατρὸς θεότης ὡς ἐν ἑαυτῷ τῷ πᾶσι πάντων
πρόνοια πᾶσι, The Godhead of the Son is the Godhead of the Father,
and so the Father exercises a Providence over all things in the Son.

Lastly, the same *Athanasius* in sundry places still further supposes
 those *Three Divine Hypostases*, to make up one *Entire Divinity* after
 the same manner, as the *Fountain* and the *Stream* make up one *Entire*
River; or the *Root* and the *Stock* and the *Branches*, one *Entire Tree*.
 And in this sence also, is the *whole Trinity* said by him, to be *μία*
θεότης, and *μία φύσις*, and *μία ὑπόστασις*, and ὡς εἶδες, *One Divinity*, and
One Nature, and *One Essence*, and *One God*. And accordingly the
 word *Homouſios* seems here to be taken by *Athanasius*, in a further
 sence, besides that before mentioned; not only for things Agreeing
 in one Common and General Essence, as *Three Individual men* are
Coeffential with one another; but also for such as concurrently to-
 gether, make up *One Entire Thing*; and are therefore Joyntly Essen-
 tial thereunto. For when he affirmeth, τὸ φυτὸν εἶναι ἐκείνης ὁμοφυῆς,
 and τὰ κλάμματα ὁμοῦσα τῇ ἀμπελῇ, *That the Tree is Congenerous or Ho-*
mogenial with the Root, and the Branches Coessential with the Vine; his
 meaning is, that the *Root*, *Stock*, and *Branches*, are not only of *One*
Kind, but also all together make up, the *Entire Essence of One Plant or*
Tree. In like manner, those *Three Hypostases*, the *Father*, *Son* and
Holy Ghoſt, are not only *Congenerous* and *Coessential*, as having all
 the *Essence of the Godhead* alike in them, but also as *Concurrently*
Making up one Entire Divinity. Accordingly whereunto, *Athanasius*
 further concludes, that these *Three Divine Hypostases* have not a *Con-*
sent of Will only, but *Essentially one* and the *Self Same Will*, and that
 they do also joyntly produce *ad extra*, *μὴν ἐνέργειαν*, *One and the*
Self-

Ep. ad Scrap. Self-same Energy, Operation or Aſion; nothing being Peculiar to the

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Son as ſuch, but only the Oeconomy of the Incarnation: ὁμοία ἐ-
 αυτῇ ἡ ἀδιαλείψις ὅτι τῇ φύσιν ἡ τελευτῶν καὶ μία ταύτης ἡ ἐνέργεια· ὁ γὰρ
 πατὴρ διὰ τοῦ λόγου, ἐν τοῦ πνεύματι τοῦ ἁγίου τὰ πάντα ποιῶν καὶ ὅπως ἡ ἐ-
 νότης τῆς ἁγίας Τριάδος· συνζῶν καὶ ὅπως ἕως οὗτος ἐν τῇ ἑκκλησίᾳ κηρύσσεται
 ὁ ὅτι πᾶσι, καὶ διὰ πάντων, καὶ ἐν πάντι· ὅτι πᾶσι μὲν ὡς πατὴρ, ὡς
 ἄρχη καὶ πηγὴ· διὰ πάντων ἢ διὰ τοῦ λόγου· ἐν πᾶσι δὲ, ἐν τοῦ πνεύματι τοῦ
 ἁγίου· *The Trinity is like it ſelf, and by Nature Indivisible, and there is*
One Energy or Aſion of it; for the Father By the Word, In the Holy Ghoſt,
doth all things. And thus is the Unity of the Holy Trinity conſerved,
and One God preached in the Church: Namely, ſuch as is Above all, and
By or Through all, and In all. Above all, as the Father, the Principle,
and Fountain; Through all, by the Word; and In all, by the Holy Spirit.
 And elſewhere he writeth often to the ſame purpoſe. Thus have
 we given a true and full account, how according to *Athanaſius*, the
Three Divine Hypoſtaſes, though not *Monouſions* but *Homouſions* only,
 are Really but *One God* or *Divinity*. In all which doctrine of
 his, there is nothing but what a True and Genuine Platonick
 would readily ſubſcribe to. From whence it may be concluded,
 that the right *Platonick Trinity*, differs not ſo much from the Do-
 ctrine of the Ancient Church, as ſome late Writers have ſuppoſed.

Hitherto hath the Platonick Chriſtian endeavoured partly to Reſti-
 fic and Reform the True and Genuine Platonick Trinity, and partly to
 Reconcile it, with the Doctrine of the Ancient Church. Nevertheleſs,
 to prevent all miſtakes, we ſhall here declare, that whereſoever this
 moſt Genuine Platonick Trinity, may be found to differ, not only
 from the Scripture it ſelf (which yet notwithstanding is the ſole Rule
 of Faith) but alſo from the Form of the Nicene and Conſtantinopo-
 litane Councils; and further from the Doctrine of *Athanaſius* too,
 in his Genuine writings, (whether it be in their Inequality, or in any
 thing elſe) iſt here utterly diſclaimed and rejected by us. For as for
 that Creed commonly called *Athanaſian*, which was written a long
 time after, by ſome other hand; ſince at firſt it derived all its autho-
 rity, either from the Name of *Athanaſius* to whom it was Entitled,
 or elſe becauſe it was ſuppoſed to be an Epitome and Abridgement
 of his Doctrine; this (as we conceive) is therefore to be interpreted
 according to the Tenour of that Doctrine, contained in the Genu-
 ine Writings of *Athanaſius*. Of whom we can think no otherwiſe,
 than as a perſon highly Inſtrumental and Serviceable to Divine Pro-
 vidence for the preſerving of the Chriſtian Church, from lapsing by
Arianism, into a kind of *Paganick and Idolatrous Chriſtianity*; in *Religiously*
 Worſhipping of thoſe, which themſelves concluded to be
Creatures; and by means of whom eſpecially, the Doctrine of the
 Trinity, (which before fluctuated in ſome looſe Uncertainty) came
 to be more punctually Stated and Settled.

Now the Reason why we introduced the *Platonick Chriſtian* here
 thus Apologizing, was Firſt; becauſe we conceived it not to be the
 Intereſt of Chriſtianity, that the ancient *Platonick Trinity*, ſhould be
 made more diſcrepant from the *Chriſtian*, than indeed it is. And
 Secondly,

Secondly, because, as we have already proved, the Ancient and Genuine Platonick Trinity, was doubtless *Anti-Arian*, or else the *Arian Trinity Anti-Platonick*; the Second and Third *Hypotheses* in the *Platonick Trinity*, being both *Eternal*, *Infinite* and *Immutable*. And as for those *Platonick Βαθμοί*, or *Gradations*, so much spoken of, these (by St. Cyril's leave) were of a different Kind from the *Arian*, there being not the *Inequality of Creatures* in them to the *Creator*. Wherefore *Socrates* the Ecclesiastick Historian, not without Cause wonders, how those Two Presbyters *Georgius* and *Timotheus*, should adhere to the *Arian Faction*, since they were accounted such great Readers of *Plato* and *Origen* 3 *Σταυροῦσαι ἡν μοι ἔπειτα, πᾶς ὅτι οἱ ἀνδρες, τῇ Ἀρετῇ διακονοῦντες παρέμειναν, ὡς ὁ μὲν Πλάτωνας ἀεί μετὰ χεῖρας ἔχει, ὁ δὲ τὸ Νεγκνῶ ἀνίσταται· ὅθεν καὶ Πλάτων τὸ δόγματι καὶ τῷ ἔργῳ αὐτοῦ, ὡς αὐτὸς ὁμολογεῖν ἔδεικεν, ἀρχὴν ὑποθέτει, ἐπιφέρει αὐτὸ καὶ Νεγκνῶντος συνάδον παῖνα· καὶ ὁμολογεῖ τὸ ὅτι τῷ πατρὶ.* It seems to me wonderful, how those Two Persons should persist in the *Arian Perswasion*; one of them having always *Plato* in his hands; and the other continually breathing *Origen*. Since *Plato* nowhere affirmeth his First and Second Cause (as he was wont to call them) to have had any beginning of their Existence; and *Origen* every where confesseth, the Son to be Coeternal with the Father.

Besides which, Another Reason for this Apology of the Christian Platonist was, because as the *Platonick Pagans* after Christianity, did approve of the *Christian Doctrine* concerning the *Logos*, as that which was exactly agreeable with their own; so did the *Generality* of the *Christian Fathers*, before and after the *Nicene Council*, represent the *Genuine, Platonick Trinity*, as really the same thing with the *Christian*, or as approaching so near to it, that they differed chiefly in Circumstances, or the manner of Expression. The Former of these is Evident from that famous Passage of *Amelius* Contemporary with *Plotinus*, recorded by *Eusebius*, *St. Cyril* and *Theodoret*; καὶ ὅτι ὁ λόγος, καὶ ἐν αὐτῷ ὅλα, καὶ τὰ πάντα ἐγένετο, ὡς ἐν καὶ ὁ Ἡρακλῆτης ἀμείβεσθαι, καὶ τὸ δὲ ὅτι ὁ βάρβαρος ἀξίον αὐτῇ τῇ ἀρχῇ τῷ καὶ ἀξίον καὶ ἀποκρίσθαι, πρὸς τὸ οὐδὲν εἶναι, καὶ οὐδὲν εἶναι· δι' ὃ πάντα ἀπλῶς γενήσθαι· ἐν ᾧ τὸ ζῆλον καὶ ζῶν καὶ ἐν περικταί· καὶ εἰς τὰ σώματα πίπτει καὶ σάρκα ἐκδυσαμένον, φαντάζεσθαι ἀνθρώπου, μετὰ καὶ τῷ τιμωμένῳ εὐφραίνει τὸ φέσας τὸ μεγάλῃ ἀμείβει· καὶ ἀναλυθεῖσα πάλιν ἀπεσπῶσαι, καὶ οὐδὲν εἶναι, οὗτος ὡς πρὸς τῷ εἰς τὸ σῶμα, καὶ τὸ ἀνθρώπου καταχθῆναι· And this was the *Logos* or *Word*, by whom Existing from Eternity according to *Heraclitus*, all things were made: and whom that *Barbarian* also placeth in the rank and dignity of a *Principle*, affirming him to have been with *God*, and to be *God*; and that all things were made by him, and that whatsoever was made, was *Life* and *Being* in him. As also that he descended into a *Body*, and being clothed in *Flesh*, appeared as a *Man*, though not without demonstration of the *Divinity* of his Nature. But that afterwards being Loosed or Separated from the same, he was *Deified*, and became *God* again, such as he was before he came down into a *Mortal Body*. In which words *Amelius* speaks favourably also of the *Incarnation* of that *Eternal Logos*. And the same is further manifest from what *St. Austin* writeth concerning a *Platonist* in his time, *Initium Sancti Evangelii*, cui nomen est secundum *Johannem*, 19.

De C. D.

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nity, the Son or Word of God, though acknowledged by him, not to be *Ἀγέννητος* Unbegotten (he being Begotten of the Father, who is the only *Αγεννητος*) yet is he here said to be *Ἀκτίστῳ* Uncreated; he declaring the Platonists, thus to have affirmed the Second and Third Hypostases of their Trinity, not to be *Creatures*, but *Uncreated*. Which *Signal Testimony* of *Athanasius*, concerning the *Platonick Trinity* is a great Vindication of the same. We might here further add, *St Austin's* Confession also, that *God the Father*, and *God the Son*, were by the Platonists acknowledged in like manner, as by the Christians; though concerning the *Holy Ghost*, he observes some difference, betwixt *Plotinus* and *Porphyrius*, in that the Former did *Postponere Animæ Naturam Paterno Intellectui*, the Latter, *Interponere*; *Plotinus* did *Postpone hîr Psyche* or *Soul* after the *Paternal Intellect*, but *Porphyrius* *Interponed* it, betwixt the *Father* and the *Son*, as a *Middle* between both. It was before observed, that *St. Cyril of Alexandria*, affirmeth nothing to be wanting to the *Platonick Trinity*, but only that *Homoousiotes* of his and some other Fathers in that Age, that they should not only all be *God* or *Uncreated*, but also *Three Coequal Individuals*, under the same *Ultimate Species*; as *Three Individual Men*; he conceiving that *Gradual Subordination* that is in the *Platonick Trinity*, to be a certain tang of *Arianism*. Nevertheless he thus concludeth, *ἡ δὲ οὐκ ἠγνοῦσεν ἀπορρητός τὸ ἀληθές*, That *Plato* notwithstanding was not altogether ignorant of the Truth, but that he had the knowledge of the *Only begotten Son of God*, as likewise of the *Holy Ghost*, called by him *Psyche*; and that he would have every way expressed himself rightly, had he not been afraid of *Anitus* and *Meletus*, and that *Poyson* which *Socrates* drank. Now whether this were a Fault or no, in the Platonists, that they did not suppose their *Hypostases* to be *Three Individuals* under the same *Ultimate Species*, we leave to others to judge. We might here add the *Testimony* of *Chalcidius*, because he is unquestionably concluded to have been a Christian; though his Language indeed be too much Paganical, when he calls the *Three Divine Hypostases*, a *Chief*, a *Second*, and a *Third God*; *Istius rei dispositio talis mente concipienda est*; *Originem quidem rerum esse Summum & Ineffabilem Deum*; post *Providentiam* ejus *Secundum Deum*, *Latorem Legis* utriusque *Vitæ* tam *Æternæ* quam *Temporariæ*; *Tertium esse porro Substantiam* que *Secunda Mens*, *Intellectusque* dicitur, quasi quædam *Custos Legis Æternæ*. *His Subjectas esse Rationabiles Animas*, *Legi Obsequentes*, *Ministras* verò *Potestates*, &c. *Ergo Summus Deus jubet*, *Secundus ordinat*, *Tertius intimat*. *Animæ verò Legem agunt*. This thing is to be conceived after this manner; That the *First Original of Things* is the *Supreme and Ineffable God*; after his *Providence* a *Second God*, the *Establisher* of the *Law of Life* both *Eternal* and *Temporary*; And the *Third* (which is also a *Substance*, and called a *Second Mind* or *Intellect*) is a certain *Keeper* of this *Eternal Law*. Under these *Three*, are *Rational Souls*, *Subjèct* to that *Law*, together with the *Ministerial Powers*, &c. So that the *Sovereign* or *Supreme God* *Commands*, the *Second Orders*, and the *Third executes*. But *Souls* are *Subjèct* to the *Law*. Where *Chalcidius* though seeming indeed rather more a *Platonist*, than a *Christian*; yet acknowledgeth no such Beings as *Henades* and *Noes*; but only *Three Divine Hypostases*, and under them *Rational Souls*. But we shall conclude with the *Testimony*

Testimony of Theodoret in his Book *De Principio*, τὴν πλάττειν διανοίαν ἀναπλάσσειν ὁ πλάττων, καὶ ὁ νομοῦν, τέλει φασὶν αὐτὸν ἀρκέσαι ὑπερχρεῖα καὶ αἰδία, τ' ἀγαθόν, καὶ τὸν, καὶ τὴν παῖς τὴν ψυχὴν. ὃν μὲρ ἡμεῖς πατήρ, καὶ καλὸν, καὶ τὰς διὰ νομοθεσίας, Νῦν δ' ὃν ἡμεῖς λόγον προσπαροξύνοντες, τὴν δ' αὖτε πάντα ἀρχήσαντες καὶ ζωοποιῶσαν δύναμιν, ψυχὴν καλῶμεν, καὶ πνεῦμα ἅγιον οἱ θεοὶ προσπαροξύνοντες λόγοι. καὶ ταῦτα δ', ὅτι τὸ ἑσθλὸν φιλοσοφίας καὶ θεολογίας σπουδαῖται. Plotinus and Numenius explaining Plato's Sense, declare him to have asserted, Three Super-Temporals or Eternals, Good, Mind or Intellect, and the Soul of the Universe; he calling that Tagathon which to us is Father, that Mind or Intellect, which to us is Son or Word, and that Psyche or a Power Animating and Enlivening all things, which our Scriptures call the Holy Ghost. And these things (saith he) were by Plato purloined, from the Philosophy and Theology of the Hebrews.

Wherefore we cannot but take notice here of a Wonderful Providence of Almighty God, that this Doctrine of a Trinity of Divine Hypostases, should find such Admittance and Entertainment in the Pagan World, and be received by the wisest of all their Philosophers, before the times of Christianity; thereby to prepare a more easie way for the Reception of Christianity amongst the Learned Pagans. Which that it proved successful accordingly, is undeniably evident from the Monuments of Antiquity. And the Junior Platonists, who were most opposite and adverse to Christianity, became at length so sensible hereof, that besides their other Adulterations of the Trinity before mentioned, for the countenancing of their Polytheism and Idolatry, they did in all probability for this very reason, quite innovate, change and pervert the whole Cabala, and no longer acknowledge a Trinity, but either a Quaternity or a Quinary, or more of Divine Hypostases. They first of all contending, that before the Trinity, there was another Supreme and Highest Hypostasis, not to be reckoned with the others, but standing alone by himself. And we conceive, the first Innovator in this kind, to have been Jamblichus, who in his Egyptian Mysteries, where he seems to make the Egyptian Theology to agree with his own Hypotheses, writeth in this manner; πρὸ τῆς ὅλης ὄψης, καὶ τῆς ὅλης ἀρχῆς, ἔστι θεὸς ὡς πρῶτος, καὶ τῷ πρῶτῳ θεῷ καὶ βασιλεῖ· ἀκίνητος αὐτὸς μόνῳ τῷ ἑαυτοῦ ἐνέπῳς μόνῳ· ὅτι γὰρ οὐκ αὐτῷ ὑποκρίνεται, ὅτι ἀλλοῦ π. Ὁμοῖον δ' ἰδεῖν αὐτοπάτωρ αὐτοῦ καὶ μοιπάτωρ θεῷ τῷ ὅλῳ ἀγαθῷ· μᾶλλον γὰρ πᾶσι καὶ πρῶτον καὶ πατρὶ τῆς πάντων, καὶ κυδμῶν τῆς νομοθεσίας πρῶτον ἰδεῖν ὄψαν· ἀπὸ δ' τῷ ἐνὸς τότῃ, ὁ αὐτοῦ θεός, ταῦτ' ἐξέλαμψε, διὸ καὶ αὐτοπάτωρ καὶ αὐτοῦτος· ἀρχὴ γὰρ ὅτος καὶ θεὸς διῶν· μόνος ὁ καὶ τῷ ἐνὸς, πρῶτος καὶ ἀρχὴ τῆς ὅλης. Before those things which truly are, and the Principles of all, there is One God Superiour to the First God, and King, Immoveable; and always remaining in the Solitude of his own Unity: there being nothing Intelligible nor any thing else mingled with him; but he being the Paradigm of that God truly Good, which is Self-begotten and his own Parent. For this is greater, and before him, and the Fountain of all things; the foundation of all the first Intelligible Ideas. Wherefore from this one, did that Self-sufficient God, who is Autopator or his own Parent, cause himself to shine forth, for this is also a Principle

Principle, and the God of Gods, a Monad from the first One, before all Essence. Where so far as we can understand, *Jamblicus* his meaning is, that there is a *Simple Unity* in order of *Nature* before that *Tagathon*, or *Monad*, which is the *First of the Three Divine Hypostases*. And this Doctrine was afterward taken up by *Proclus*, he declaring it in this manner, πανταχῶς ὁ πλάτων ἀπὸ τῆς πλειύς ἐπὶ τὰς ἐνάδας ἀνατρέχον ὡσαύτως ὡς καὶ πρὸς τῆς πλείωτος καὶ τὴν τῆς περὶ ἡμῶν τῶν πλείους ἐν αὐτῇ ἐστὶν, καὶ πᾶσα διὰ τῆς ἀπὸ μονάδος ἀρχήσιν· ὅθεν καὶ ὅς ἐκ τεράδος περιέχεται τὸν ἀριθμὸν τὸν δυνάμι, ἀλλὰ πρὸς τῆς τεράδος ἢ μονάδος· ἔστω μὲν οὖν καὶ οἱ διμυρητικοὶ τῶς ἀλλὰ τίς ὁ πρὸς τῆς τεράδος ἐστὶν, ὅθεν καὶ ὅς ἐκ τῆς δυνάμιος ἀρχήσιν· καὶ ἀπὸ τεράδος ἀρχήσιν· ὅθεν ὁ διμυρητικὸν ἀριθμὸν, ἀλλὰ ἀπὸ μονάδος· *Plato every where ascends from multitude to Unity, from whence also the order of the Many proceeds; but before Plato and according to the Natural order of things, One is before Multitude and every Divine order begins from a Monad. Wherefore though the Divine Number proceed in a Trinity, yet before this Trinity must there be a Monad. Let there be Three Demiurgical Hypostases; nevertheless before these must there be One; because none of the Divine orders, begins from Multitude. We conclude, that the Demiurgical Number, does not begin from a Trinity, but from a Monad, standing alone by it self before that Trinity.* Here *Proclus*, though endeavouring to gain some countenance for this doctrine out of *Plato*, yet as fearing lest that should fail him, does he fly to the order of *Nature*, and from thence would infer, that before the *Trinity of Demiurgical Hypostases*, there must be a *Single Monad* or *Henad* standing alone by it self, as the Head theteof. And *St. Cyril of Alexandria*, who was Juntour to *Jamblicus* but Senior to *Proclus*, seems to take notice of this Innovation in the *Platonick Theology*, as a thing then newly crept up, and after the time of *Porphyry*; ἀλλὰ οἱ γὰρ προμνησθέντες καὶ πρὸς τὸ αὐτὸ ἀποδιδόντες, φάσκουσιν μὴ εἶναι τὰς ἀποδιδόντων συναριθμῶν τοῖς ἀπ' αὐτῶν· ἐξηρῶνται γὰρ ἀπὸ πλείους κοινωνίας διὰ τὴν ἀπλάν πέντην καὶ ἀδιάντων τῆς συμβάσεως· Ἀπὸ τῆς ΝΟΥ, (ἀρχὴ γὰρ ἔστω) τὴν τεράδα μίαν σωθῶσαν· *But those before mentioned, contradict this Doctrine (of Porphyry & the ancient Platonists) affirming that the Tagathon ought not to be connumerated or reckoned together, with those which proceed from it, but to be exempted from all Communion, because it is altogether Simple and incapable of any Commixture or Consociation with any other. Wherefore these begin their Trinity with Nous or Intellect, making that the First.* The only difference here is, that *Jamblicus* seems to make the first *Hypostasis* of the *Trinity* after a *Monad*, to be *Tagathon*, but *St. Cyril*, *Nous*. However they both meant the same thing, as also did *Proclus* after them. Wherefore it is evident, that when from the time of the *Nicene Council* and *Atbanasius*, the *Christian Doctrine of the Trinity* came to be punctually stated and settled, and much to be insisted upon by *Christians*, *Jamblicus* and other *Platonists*, who were great Antagonists of the same, perceiving what advantage the *Christians* had from the *Platonick Trinity*, then first of all Innovated this Doctrine, introducing a *Quaternity of Divine Hypostases*, instead of a *Trinity*, the First of them being not *Coordinate* with the other *Three*, nor *Consociated* or *Reckoned* with them: But All of them, though *Subordinate*, yet *Universal*, and such as *Comprehend the whole; that*

In Time.

Lib. 2. p. 93.

c. Jul. L. 8. p.
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that is, *Infinite* and *Omnipotent* ; and therefore none of them *Creatures*. For it is certain, that before this time, or the Age that *Iamblicus* lived in, there was no such thing at all dream'd of by any Platonist, as an *Unity* before and above the *Trinity*, and so a *Quaternity* of *Divine Hypostases* : *Plotinus* positively determining, that there could neither be *More* nor *Fewer* than *Three*; and *Proclus* himself acknowledging the *Ancient Tradition* or *Cabala*, to have run only of *Three Gods* ; and *Numenius* who was Senior to them both, writing thus of *Socrates*, *Falsch. P.E.I.* τρεῖς θεοὶ τινάμεν ἱσχυέστες, That he also (before *Plato*) asserted *Three Gods* ; that is, *Three Divine Hypostases*, and no more, as *Principles* ; therein following the *Pythagoreans*.

Moreover the same *Proclus*, besides his *Henades* and *Noes* before mentioned, added certain other *Phantastick Trinities* of his own also, as this for example, of the *First Essence*, the *First Life*, and the *First Intellect* ; (to omit others) whereby that *Ancient Cabala* and *Σωμειδὸς Θεολογία*, *Theology of Divine Tradition*, of *Three Archæal Hypostases*, and no more, was disguised, perverted, and adulterated.

But besides this Advantage from the ancient Pagan Platonists and Pythagoreans, admitting a *Trinity* into their Theology, in like manner as *Christianity* doth (whereby *Christianity* was the more recommended to the *Philosophick Pagans*) there is another Advantage of the Same extending even to this present time, probably not Unintended also by Divine Providence ; That whereas Bold and Conceited Wits precipitantly condemning the Doctrine of the *Trinity* for *Nonsense*, absolute *Repugnancy* to *Humane Faculties*, and *Impossibility*, have thereupon some of them quite shaken off *Christianity* and all *Revealed Religion*, professing only *Idelism* ; others have frustrated the Design thereof by Paganizing it into *Creature-Worship* or *Idolatry* ; this Ignorant and Conceited Confidence of both, may be returned and confuted from hence, because the most ingenious and acute of all the Pagan Philosophers, the *Platonists* and *Pythagoreans*, who had no byas at all upon them, nor any *Scripture Revelation*, that might seem to impose upon their Faculties, but followed the free *Sentiments* and Dictates of their own Minds, did notwithstanding not only entertain this *Trinity* of *Divine Hypostases Eternal and Uncreated*, but were also fond of the *Hypothesis*, and made it a main Fundamental of their Theology.

It now appears from what we have declared, that as to the Ancient and Genuine *Platonists* and *Pythagoreans*, none of their *Trinity of Gods*, or *Divine Hypostases*, were *Independent*, so neither were they *γυνώσι θεοὶ* *Creature-Gods*, but *Uncreated* ; they being all of them not only *Eternal*, and *Necessarily Existent*, and *Immutable*, but also *Universal*, that is *Infinite* and *Omnipotent* ; *Causes*, *Principles*, and *Creators* of the whole World. From whence it follows that these *Platonists* could not justly be taxed for *Idolatry*, in giving *Religious Worship* to each *Hypostasis* of this their *Trinity*. And we have the rather insisted so long upon this *Platonick Trinity*, because we shall make use of this Doctrine afterwards, in our Defence of *Christianity*. where we are to show ; That one Grand Design of *Christianity*, being to abolish the

Pagan Idolatry, or Creature-Worship, it self cannot justly be charged with the same, from that Religious Worship given to our Saviour Christ, and the *Trinity*, (the *Son* and *Holy Ghost*) they being none of them, according to the true and *Orthodox Christianity*, *Creatures*; however the *Arian Hypothesis* made them such. And this was indeed, the Grand Reason, why the Ancient Fathers, so zealously opposed *Arianism*, because That *Christianity*, which was intended by God Almighty, for a means to extirpate *Pagan Idolatry*, was thereby it self *Paganized* and *Idolatrized*; and made highly guilty of that very thing, which it so much condemned in the *Pagans*, that is *Creature-Worship*. This might be proved by sundry testimonies, of *Athanasius*, *Basil*, *Gregory Nyssen*, *Gregory Nazianzen*, *Epiphanius*, *Chrysostom*, *Hilary*, *Ambrose*, *Austine*, *Faustinus*, and *Cyril of Alexandria*; all of them charging the *Arians*, as guilty of the very same *Idolatry* with the *Gentiles* or *Pagans*, in giving *Religious Worship* even to the *Word* and *Son* of God himself (and consequently to our Saviour Christ) as he was supposed them to be but a *Creature*. But we shall content our selves here, only to cite one remarkable passage out of *Athanasius* in his Fourth Orati-

T. 468, 469.

against the *Arians*, διὰ τί οἱ Ἀρειομανῖται τοιαῦτα λογίζονται καὶ νομίζουσιν, ὡς συναριθμοῦσιν ἑαυτοὺς μετὰ τοῦ Ἑνός, καὶ τὸ κρείσσον ὥσπερ ἔστι τῇ κτίσει λατρεύουσιν παρὰ τὸ κτίσαντα τὰ πάντα Οὐδὲν ——— εἰ δὲ οἱ μὲν Ἕλληες ἐν ἀγκλήτῳ καὶ πολλοῖς θυντοῖς λατρεύουσιν, ἔστι δὲ ἐν θυντοῖς καὶ ἀθύντοισι, ὡς ἔστι διαφέρουσιν ἀλλήλων· ὅ, τι τὸ πλεονάζον αὐτῶν λογίζονται· ὅς θυντοῖς ὡς πολλὰς ὄντι, καὶ οἱ πολλοὶ δὲ πολλὰ τοῦ Ἑνός τὴν αὐτὴν πλὴν ἐν τῷ ὄντι ὡς ἓν ἔχουσιν, καὶ ὥσπερ τὸ κρείσσον κτισματὶ εἰσι· ἄλλοι καὶ πλείον ὅσον ἐλάττωσαν καὶ χειρὸς φερόντες· ἐξέπεισαν τὸ ἄλλοθι καὶ τὴν μὲν ἑσθλὰν προεδίει, ἀνὴρ ἐπὶ ἐκείνῳ ἀρεσκόμενοι τὸ χειρὸς· τοῖς δὲ Ἕλλησι σκυλεύουσιν, κτισματὶ καὶ διαφέρουσιν τοῖς κατεχόμενοις οἱ διατεταγμένοι. *Why therefore do not these Arians, holding this, reckon themselves amongst the Pagans or Gentiles, since they do in like manner worship the Creature, besides the Creator? For though the Pagans worship one Uncreated and many Created Gods, but these Arians only one Uncreated, and one Created; to wit the Son or Word of God; yet will not this make any real difference betwixt them; because the Arians One Created is one of those many Pagan Gods; and those many Gods of the Pagans or Gentiles, have the same nature with this One; they being alike Creatures. Wherefore these wretched Arians are Apostates from the truth of Christianity, they betraying Christ more than the Jews did, and wallowing or tumbling in the Filth of Pagan Idolatry: worshipping Creatures and different kinds of Gods? Where by the way we may take notice, that when Athanasius affirmeth of the Arians, what St Paul doth of the Pagans, that they did τῇ κτίσει λατρεύουσιν ὡς καὶ τὸ κτίσαντα, his meaning could not well be, that they worshipped the Creature More than the Creator; forasmuch as the Arians constantly declared, that they gave less worship to Christ the Son or Word of God, he being by them accounted but a Creature, than they did to the Father the Creator: but either that they worshipped, the Creature Besides the Creator, or the Creature Instead of the Creator, or in the Room of him, who was alone of right to be Religiously Worshipped. Again, when the same Athanasius declareth, that the Greeks, Gentiles, or Pagans, did Universally worship ἐν ἀγκλήτῳ, Only One Uncreated, he seems to imply, that the Platonick Trinity of Hypostases,*

Hypostases, affirmed by him to be all Uncreated, were by them look'd upon, only as *One entire Divinity*.

But the Principal Things, which we shall observe from this Passage of *Athanasius*, and those many other places of the Fathers, where they Parallel the *Arians* with the *Pagans*, making the *Former* guilty of the very same *Idolatry* with the *Latter*, even then when they worshipp'd our *Saviour Christ* himself, or the *Word* and *Son* of *God*, as he was by them supposed to be nothing but a *Creature*, are these following 3 First, That it is here plainly declared by them, that the generality of the *Pagans*, did not worship a *Multitude of Independent Gods*, but that only *One* of their Gods was *Uncreated* or *Self-Existent*, and all their other *Many Gods*, look'd upon by them as his *Creatures*. This as it is expressly affirmed by *Athanasius* here, that the *Greeks* or *Pagans*, did ἐν ἀγνοίᾳ καὶ πολλοῖς θεοῖς λατρεύοντες, *Worship only One Uncreated, and Many Created Gods*, so is it plainly implied, by all those other forementioned Fathers, who charge the *Arians* with the Guilt of *Pagan Idolatry*; because had the *Pagans* worshipp'd *Many Uncreated and Independent Gods*, it would not therefore follow, that the *Arians* were *Idolaters*, if the *Pagans* were. But that this was indeed the sense of the Fathers, both before and after the *Nicene Council*, concerning the *Pagan Polytheism* and *Idolatry*; that it consisted not in worshipping *Many Uncreated and Independent Gods*, but only *One Uncreated* and *Many Created*; hath been already otherwise manifested; and it might be further confirmed by sundry Testimonies of them; as this of *Saint Gregory Nazianzen* in his 37. Oration; τί δ' αὖ ἐγὼ καὶ πρὸς ἑμὴν φαίην ἂν μὴ θεῖος, ὡς οἱ πλείοντες πρὸς ἐξέλιος φιλοσοφῶντες; *What then would some say, is there not One Divinity also amongst the Pagans, as they who Philosophize more fully and perfectly amongst them do declare?* And that full and remarkable *One* of *Irenaeus*, where he plainly affirmeth of the Gentiles; *Ita Creatura potius quam Creatori serviebant, & his qui non sunt Dii, L. 1. c. 9. ut Primum Deitatis Locum attribucent, Uni alicui & Summo Fabricatori hujus Universitatis Deo*; *That they so served the Creature, and those who are not Gods, rather than the Creator; that notwithstanding they attributed the First place of the Deity, to One certain Supreme God, the Maker of this Universe.* The second thing is, that *Athanasius* and all those other Orthodox Fathers, who charged the *Arians* with *Pagan Idolatry*, did thereby plainly imply, Those not to be *Uncapable of Idolatry*, who worship *One Sovereign Numen*, or acknowledge *One Supreme Deity*, the Maker of the whole World; since not only the *Arians* unquestionably did so, but also according to these Fathers, the very *Pagans* themselves. The Third Thing is, that in the Judgement of *Athanasius*, and all the Orthodox Anti-Arian Fathers, to give Religious Worship to any *Created Being* whatsoever, though Inferiour to that worship, which is given to the *Supreme God*, and therefore according to the Modern Distinction, not λατρεία, but δουλεία, is absolutely, *Idolatry*. Because it is certain, that the *Arians* gave much an Inferiour worship, to *Christ the Son or Word of God*, whom they contended to be a meer *Creature*, Made in *Time*, *Mutable* and *Defeasible*, than they did to that *Eternal God*, who was the *Creator* of

him. As those Fathers imply, the Pagans themselves to have given much an Inferiour Worship, to their *πολλοὶ γυνόσι θεοί*, their *Many Gods*, whom themselves look'd upon, as *Creatures*, than they did in *ἀγνόντες*, To that *One Uncreated God*.

Now if the Arians, who zealously contended for the *Unity of the Godhead*, were nevertheless, by the Fathers condemned, as guilty of Idolatry, for bestowing but an *Inferiour* kind of *Religious Worship*, upon *Christ the Son or Word of God* himself, as he was supposed by them to be a *Creature*; then certainly cannot they be excused from that Guilt, who bestow *Religious Worship*, upon these other *Creatures*, *Angels* and *Souls* of men, though Inferiour to what they give to the *Supreme Omnipotent God*, the *Creator* of all. Because the *Son or Word of God*, however conceived by these *Arians* to be a *Creature*, yet was look'd upon by them as the *First*, the most *Glorious*, and most *Excellent* of all *Creatures*, and that by which as an Instrument, all other *Creatures*, as *Angels* and *Souls*, were made: and therefore if it were *Idolatry* in them, to give an *Inferiour* kind of *Religious Worship*, to this *Son and Word of God* himself, according to their *Hypothesis*, then can it not possibly be accounted less, to bestow the same upon those other *Creatures*, Made by him, as *Angels* and *Men* deceased. Besides which, the *Word and Son of God*, howsoever supposed by these *Arians* to be a *Creature*, yet was not Really such; and is in Scripture unquestionably declared to be a *True Object* of *Religious Worship* (*Worship him all ye Gods*) so that the *Arians* though *Formally* Idolaters, according to their own false *Hypothesis*; yet were not *Materially* and *Really* so: whereas these *Religious Angel* and *Saint-Worshippers*, must be as well *Materially* as *Formally* such. And here it is observable, that these *Ancient Fathers* made no such *Distinction* of *Religious Worship*, into *Latria*, as peculiar to the *Supreme God*, it being that whereby he is adored as *Self-Existent* and *Omnipotent*, or the *Creator of all*; and *Dulia*, such an *Inferiour Religious Worship*, as is communicable to *Creatures*; but concluded of *Religious Worship* Universally, and without *Distinction*, that the due *Object* of it all was the *Creator* only, and not any *Creature*. Thus *Athanasius* plainly in his Third *Oration*, εἰ γὰρ ὡς τῇ δόξῃ ὑπερῶν προσκυνῶτο, ἐφ' ἧς ἔλασεν ὅτι ὑπερῶν ἔστιν, καὶ ὑπερῶν προσκυνῶν· ἀλλ' οὐ δεῖται ὅπως, κτίσματος γὰρ κτίσμα ἢ προσκυνῶν, ἀλλὰ κτίσμα θεῶν. If the *Son or Word of God* were to be *Worshipped*, (though a *Creature*) because transcending us in glory and dignity, then ought every *Inferiour Being* to *Worship* what is *Superiour* to it: Whereas the case is otherwise; For a *Creature* doth not *Religiously* worship a *Creature*, but only *God the Creator*. Now they who distinguish *Religious Worship*, into *Latria* and *Dulia*, must needs suppose the *Object* of it in general, to be that which is *Superiour* to us, and not the *Creator* only; which is here contradicted by *Athanasius*. But because it was objected against these *Orthodox Fathers* by the *Arians*, that the *Humanness* of our *Saviour Christ*, which is unquestionably a *Creature*, did share in their *Religious Worship* also; it is worth the while to see what account *Athanasius* gives of this; ὁ κτίσμα προσκυνῶμεν, μὴ γυνόσκομεν· ἐθνικῶν γὰρ καὶ ἀρεσκύνων ἢ τοιαύτη πλάτη· ἀλλὰ τὸ κύριον τὸ κτίσας σαρκα. ἡμεῖς τὸ θεῖον λόγον προσκυνῶμεν· εἰ γὰρ καὶ ἡ σὰρξ αὐτῆς καθ' ἑαυτὴν μὴ ἐστίν.

μηδ' ἔτι τῇ κτισμάτι, ἀλλὰ διὰ γένεσιν σώμα, καὶ ὅτι τὸ τοιοῦτον σῶμα, καὶ ἰαυτὸ διαφεύγει ἀπὸ τοῦ λόγου, προσκαυνόμεν, ὅτι τὸ λόγον προσκαυνῶμεν. καὶ ἄλλοις, μαρτυροῦμεν αὐτὸν ἀπὸ τῆ σαρκὸς ὅτι ἄλλ' ἑσθλός, τὸ, ὁ λόγος σὰν ἐγγύς, τῶν καὶ αὐτὸν σαρκὶ γινόμενον ὁμολογούμενον οἶν. *We give no Religious Worship to any Creature, far be it from us: For this is the Error of the Pagans and of the Arians; But We Worship the Word of God the Lord of the Creation Incarnated. For though the Flesh of Christ, considered alone by it self, were but a part of the Creatures, nevertheless it made the Body of God. And we neither Worship this Body by it self alone, divided from the Word; nor yet intending to worship the Word, do we remove it, at a great distance from this flesh; but knowing that of the Scripture, The Word was made Flesh, we look upon this Word even in the Flesh as God.* And again to the same purpose, P. 160.
καὶ προσκαυνοῦμεν ἐπὶ τῇ κύρει αὐτὴ σαρκὶ προσκαυνόντες, καὶ κτίσματι προσκαυνόμεν, ἀλλὰ τὴ κτίσω, ἐκδοσάμενον τὴ κτίσει σώμα. *Let these Arians know, at length, that we who worship the Lord in Flesh, worship no Creature, but only the Creator clothed with a Creaturely Body. And for the same cause was it that Nestorius afterwards, dividing the Word from the Flesh, the Divinity of Christ from the Humanity, and not acknowledging such an Hypothetical Union betwixt them as he ought, but nevertheless Religiously Worshipping our Saviour Christ, was therefore branded by the Christian Church, with the Name of Ἀνθρωπολάτρης, A Man-Worshipper, or Idolater. To conclude, they who excuse themselves from being Idolaters no otherwise, than because they do not give that very same Religious Worship, to Saints and Angels, which is peculiar to God Almighty, and consists in honouring him as Self-Existent, and the Creator of all things, but acknowledge those others to be Creatures; Suppose that to be Necessary to Idolatry, which is Absolutely Impossible, viz. to acknowledge more Omnipotents as Creators of all than One, or to account Creatures as such Creators; as they imply all those to be Uncapable of Idolatry, who acknowledge One Supreme God the Creator of the whole World; which is directly contradictory to the Doctrine of the Ancient Church.*

Hitherto in way of Answer to an *Atheistical Objection*, against the *Naturalty* of the *Idea* of *God*, as including *Oneness* in it, from the *Pagan Polytheism*, have we largely proved, that at least the *Civilized* and *Intelligent* Pagans, generally acknowledged *One Sovereign Nature*, and that their *Polytheism* was partly but *Phantastical*, nothing but the *Polyonymy* of one *Supreme God*, or the *Worshipping* him under different Names and Notions according to his several *Vertues* and *Manifestations*. And that though besides this they had another *Natural* and *Real Polytheism* also; yet this was only of *Many Inferiour* or *Created Gods*, Subordinate to *One Supreme* Ἄνωθεν, or *Uncreated*.

Which notwithstanding, is not so to be understood, as if we did confidently affirm, that Opinion of *Many Independent Deities*, never to have so much as entered into the Mind of any Mortal. For since *Humane Nature* is so *Mutable* and *Depravable*, as that notwithstanding the *Connate Idea* and *Prolepsis* of *God* in the Minds of Men, some unquestionably do degenerate and lapse into *Atheism*; there can be no reason

reason why it should be thought absolutely impossible, for any ever to entertain that false Conceit of *More Independent Deities*. But as for *Independent Gods Invisible*, we cannot trace the footsteps of such a Polytheism as this, any where, nor find any more than a *Ditheism*, of a *Good and Evil Principle*: Only *Philo* and others seem to have conceived, That amongst the ancient Pagans, some were so grossly foolish, as to suppose a Plurality of *Independent Gods Visible*, and to take the Sun, and Moon, and all the Stars for Such. However, if there were any such, and these Writers were not mistaken, as it frequently happened, it is certain that they were but very few, because amongst the most *Barbarian Pagans* at this day, there is hardly any Nation to be found, without an acknowledgment of a *Sovereign Deity*, as appears from all those Discoveries which have been made of them, since the improvement of Navigation.

Wherefore what hath been hitherto declared by us, might well be thought a sufficient Answer to the forementioned *Atheistick Objection*, against the Idea of God. Notwithstanding which, when we wrote the Contents of this Chapter, we intended a further Account, of the *Natural and Real Polytheism* of the Pagans, and their *Multifarious Idolatry*, chiefly in order to the *Vindication* of the Truth of *Christianity* against *Atheists*: forasmuch as one grand Design hereof, was unquestionably, to destroy the *Pagan Polytheism* and *Idolatry*, which consisted in *Worshipping the Creature besides the Creator*.

But we are very Sensible, that we have been surprized in the Length of this Chapter, which is already swelled into a *Disproportionate Bigness*; by means whereof we cannot comprehend within the compass of this Volume, all that belongs to the *Remaining Contents*, together with such a Full and Copious *Confutation* of the *Atheistick Grounds*, as was intended. Wherefore we shall here Divide the Chapter, and reserve those *Remaining Contents* together, with a further *Confutation of Atheism*, for another Volume, which God affording Life, Health, and Leisure, we intend shall follow. Only subjoyning in the mean time, a *Short and Compendious Confutation*, of all the *Atheistick Arguments* proposed.



A
C O N F U T A T I O N
O F
A T H E I S M.

C H A P. V.

HAVING in the *Second Chapter* revealed all the *Dark Mysteries of Atheism*, and produced the utmost strength of that Cause; and in the *Third*, made an *Introduction* to the Confutation of those *Atheistical Grounds*, by representing all the several *Forms and Schemes of Atheism*, and shewing both their Disagreements amongst themselves, and wherein they all agree together against *Theists*; We have been hitherto prevented, of that full and Copious Confutation of them, intended by us, by reason of that large Account given, of the *Pagan Polytheism*; which yet was no Impertinent Digression neither, it removing the *Grand Objection* against the *Naturality* of the *Idea of God*, as including *Oneliness* in it, as also preparing a way for that *Defence of Christianity*, designed by us against *Atheists*. Wherefore that we may not here be quite excluded, of what was principally intended, we shall subjoyn a *Contracted and Compendious Confutation*, of all the Premised *Atheistical Principles*. The *FIRST* whereof was this, That either men have no *Idea of God at all*, or else none but such as is *Compounded and Made up of Impossible and Contradictory Notions*; from whence these *Atheists* would infer Him, to be an *Unconceivable Nothing*. In Answer whereunto, there hath been something done already, it being declared in the Beginning of the *Fourth Chapter*, what the *Idea of God is*, viz. *A Perfect Understanding Nature, Necessarily Self-Existent, and the Cause of all other things*. And as there is Nothing either *Unconceivable*, or *Contradictory* in this *Idea*, so have we shewed, that these *Confoundd Atheists*, do not only at the same time, when they verbally deny an *Idea of God*, implicitly acknowledge and confess it, for as much as otherwise, denying his *Existence*, they should deny the *Existence of Nothing*; but also that they agree with *Theists* in this very *Idea* it being the only thing which *Atheists* Contend for, That the *First Original*

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and

and Head of all things, is no Perfect Understanding Nature, but that all sprung from *Toku and Boku*, or Dark and Senseless Matter Fortunately moved. Moreover we have not only thus declared the *Idea of God*, but also largely proved, and made it clearly evident, that the *Generality* of Mankind in all Ages, have had a *Prolapsus* or *Anticipation* in their Minds, concerning the *Real and Actual Existence* of such a Being: the Pagans themselves, besides their other *Many Gods* (which were *Understanding Beings Superior to men*;) acknowledging *One Chief and Sovereign Numen*, the *Maker* of them all, and of the *Whole World*. From whence it plainly appears, that those few *Atheists*, that formerly have been, and still are, here and there up and down in the World, are no other than the *Monsters and Anomalies* of Humane Kind. And this alone might be sufficient, to repel the *First Atheistical Assault*, made against the *Idea of God*.

Nevertheless, that we may not seem to dissemble any of the *Atheists Strength*, we shall here Particularly declare, all their most *Colourable Pretences*, against the *Idea of God*, and then show the *Folly and Invalidity* of them. Which *Pretences* are as follow; First, That we have no *Idea nor Thought* of any thing not *Subject to Corporeal Sense*; nor the least *Evidence* of the *Existence* of any thing, but from the same. Secondly, That *Theists themselves* acknowledging *God to be Incomprehensible*, he may be from thence inferred to be a *Non-Entity*. Thirdly, That the *Theists Idea of God* including *Infinity* in it, is therefore absolutely *Unconceivable and Impossible*. Fourthly, That *Theology* is an *Arbitrary Complement of Inconsistent and Contradictory Notions*; And Lastly, That the *Idea and Existence of God* owe all its being, either to the *Confounded Non-Sense of Astonish'd Minds*; or else to the *Fiction and Imposture of Politicians*.

We begin with the First. That we can have no *Idea, Conception, or Thought* of any thing, not *Subject to Sense*; nor the least *Evidence* of the *Existence* of any thing, but from the same. Thus a Modern *Atheistical Writer*; *Whatsoever we can conceive, hath been Perceived first by Sense, either at once or in parts; and a man can have no Thought representing any thing not Subject to Sense*. From whence it follows, that whatsoever is not *Sensible and Imaginable*, is utterly *unconceivable* and to us *Nothing*. Moreover the same *Writer* adds, *That the on'y Evidence which we have of the Existence of any thing, is from Sense*; the Consequence whereof is this, That there being no *Corporeal Sense* of a *Deity*, there can be no *Evidence* at all of his *Existence*. Wherefore according to the Tenour of the *Atheistical Philosophy*, all is Resolved into *Sense*; as the only *Criterion of Truth*, accordingly as *Protagoras* in *Plato's Theatetus* concludes, *Knowledge to be Sense*; and a late *Writer* of our own determines, *Sense to be Original Knowledge*. Here have we a wide Ocean before us, but we must Contract our Sayls, Were *Sense, Knowledge and Understanding*; then he that sees *Light and Colours*, and feels *Heat and Cold*, would understand *Light and Colours, Heat and Cold*, and the like of all other *Sensible Things*: neither would there be any *Philosophy* at all concerning them. Whereas the *Mind of man* remaineth altogether unsatisfied, concerning the Nature of

of these Corporeal Things, even after the Strongest Sensations of them, and is but thereby awakened, to a further *Philosophick Enquiry* and Search about them, what this Light and Colours, this Heat and Cold, &c. Really should be; and whether they be indeed *Qualities* in the *Objects* without us, or only *Phantasms* and Sensations in our selves. Now it is certain, that there could be no Suspicion of any such thing as this, were *Sense* the Highest Faculty in us; neither can *Sense* it self ever decide this Controversie; since one *Sense* cannot judge of another, or correct the Error of it; all *Sense* as such, (that is, as *Phancy* and *Apparition*) being alike True. And had not these *Atheists* been Notorious Dunces, in that *Atomick Philosophy* which they so much pretend to, they would clearly have learn'd from thence, That *Sense* is not *Knowledge* and *Understanding*, nor the *Criterion* of Truth as to *Sensible* things themselves; it reaching not to the *Essence* or *Absolute Nature* of them, but only taking notice of their *Outside*, and perceiving its own *Passions* from them, rather than the Things themselves: and That there is a Higher Faculty in the Soul, of *Reason* and *Understanding*, which judges of *Sense*, detects the *Phantasm* and *Imposture* of it; discovers to us that there is nothing in the *Objects* themselves like to those forementioned *Sensible Ideas*; and resolves all *Sensible Things* into *Intelligible Principles*; the *Ideas* whereof are not *Foreign* and *Adventitious*, and meer *Passive Impressions* upon the Soul from without; but *Native* and *Domestick* to it, or *Actively Exerted* from the Soul it self: no *Passion* being able to make a Judgment either of it self or other things. This is a thing so Evident, that *Democritus* himself could not but take notice of it, and acknowledge it, though he made not a right use thereof; he in all Probability, continuing notwithstanding a *Confounded* and *Befotted Atheist*: *Sextus Empiricus* having recorded this of him. *Ἐν τῷ κατὰ δὲ φρονίῳ ὄντι γνώσις, τῷ μὲν διὰ τῆς αἰσθήσεως, τῷ δὲ διὰ τῆς διανοίας. ὣν τῷ μὲν διὰ τῆς διανοίας γνῶσις κατὰ γὰρ, προσμαρτυρεῖται αὐτῇ τὸ πρὸς εἰς ἀληθείας κελόν, τῷ δὲ διὰ τῆς αἰσθήσεως σκοτῶν ὁνομαζέται, ἀφανέ- μῃ αὐτῆς τὸ πρὸς διάγνωσιν τῆς ἀληθείας ἀπλανής. λέγει δὲ καὶ λέγει, γνῶσις ὅτι δύο εἰσὶ ἰδέαι. ἡ μὲν γινώσκουσα ἡ σκοτῶσα, καὶ σκοτῶσα μὲν, τὰ δὲ συμπικνύει, ὥσπερ, ἀκούει, ὁσμὴν, γούρου, ψαύει. ἡ δὲ γινώσκουσα ἀπεκεκριμένη ἡ ταύτης.* *Democritus* in his *Canons* affirmeth, that there are Two kinds of Knowledges, One by the Senses, and another by the Mind. Of which that by the Mind is only accounted Knowledge, he bearing witness to the Faithfulness and Firmness thereof, for the judgment of Truth. The other by the Senses, he calleth Dark, denying it to be a Rule and Measure of Truth. His own words are these. There are Two Species of Knowledge, the One Genuine the other Dark or Obscure. The Dark and Obscure Knowledge is Seeing, Hearing Smelling, Tasting, Touching. But the Genuine Knowledge, is another more Hidden and Recondit. To which purpose there is another Fragment also of this *Democritus* preserved by the same *Sextus*; *Νόμος γλυκύ, καὶ νόμος πικρὸν, νόμος θερμὸν, νόμος ψυχρὸν. νόμος χρεόν. αἴτια δὲ αἴτιμα καὶ κατὰ. ὥσπερ νομίζονται μὲν οἷα καὶ δεξιόζονται τὰ αἰσθητά, οἷα ἴσιν δὲ κατ' ἀλήθειαν ταῦτα.* *Bitter and Sweet, Hot and Cold, are only in Opinion or Phancy. Colour is only in opinion. Atoms and Vacuum alone in Truth and Reality. That which is thought to be, are Sensibles; but these are not according to Truth, but Atoms and Vacuum only.* Now

the chief Ground of this Rational Discovery of the ancient Atomists, that Sensible things, as Heat and Cold, Bitter and Sweet, Red and Green, are no *Real Qualities* in the Objects without, but only our own *Phancies*, was because in Body, there are no such things *Intelligible*; but only *Magnitude, Figure, Site, Motion and Rest*. Of which we have not only *Sensible Ideas*, Passively impressed upon us from without, but also, *Intelligible Notions*, *Actively Exerted* from the Mind it self. Which Latter notwithstanding, because they are not unaccompanied with *Sensible Phantasms*, are by many unskillfully confounded with them. But besides these, we have other *Intelligible Notions* or *Ideas* also, which have no *Genuine Phantasms* at all belonging to them. Of which whosoever doubts, may easily be satisfied and convinced, by reading but a Sentence or two, that he understands, in any Book almost that shall come next to his hand; and reflexively examining himself, whether he have a *Phantasm* or *Sensible Idea*, belonging to every Word, or no. For whoever is modest and ingenuous, will quickly be forced to confess, that he meets with many Words, which though they have a *Sence* or *Intelligible Notion*, yet have no *Genuine Phantasm* belonging to them. And we have known some, who were confidently engaged in the other Opinion; being put to read the beginning of *Tully's Offices*, presently non-plust and confounded, in that first word *Quanquam*; they being neither able to deny but that there was a *Sence* belonging to it, nor yet to affirm, that they had any *Phantasm* thereof, save only of the *Sound* or *Letters*. But to prove that there are *Cogitations* not subject to *Corporeal Sense*, we need go no further than this very *Idea* or *Description* of God; *A Substance, Absolutely Perfect, Infinitely Good, Wise and Powerful, Necessarily Self-existent, and the Cause of all other things*. Where there is not One Word unintelligible, to him that hath any Understanding in him, and yet no Considerative and Ingenuous Person can pretend, that he hath a *Genuine Phantasm* or *Sensible Idea*, answering to any one of those words; either to *Substance*, or to *Absolutely Perfect*, or to *Infinitely*, or to *Good*, or to *Wise*, or to *Powerful*, or to *Necessity*, or to *Self-existence*, or to *Cause*; or indeed to *All*, or *Other*, or *Things*. Wherefore it is nothing but want of *Meditation*, together with a *Fond and Sottish Dotage* upon *Corporeal Sense*, which hath so far imposed upon some, as to make them believe, that they have not the least *Cogitation* of any thing, not subject to *Corporeal Sense*, or that there is nothing in *Humane Understanding* or *Conception*, which was not First in *Bodily Sense*; a Doctrine highly favourable to *Atheism*. But since it is certain on the contrary, that we have many Thoughts not Subject to Sense, it is manifest that whatsoever falls not under External Sense, is not therefore Unconceivable, and Nothing. Which whosoever asserts, must needs affirm, *Life and Cogitation* it self, *Knowledge* or *Understanding*, *Reason* and *Memory*, *Volition* and *Appetite*, things of the greatest Moment and Reality, to be Nothing but mere Words without any *Signification*. Nay *Phancy* and *Sense* it self, upon this Hypothesis, could hardly scape from becoming *Non-Entities* too, forasmuch as neither *Phancy* nor *Sense* falls under *Sense*, but only the Objects of them; we neither seeing *Vision*, nor feeling *Taction*, nor hearing *Audition*, much less,

less, bearing Sight, or seeing Taste, or the like. Wherefore though God should be never so much Corporeal, as some Theists have conceived him to be, yet since the *Chief of his Essence*, and as it were his *Inside*, must by these be acknowledged to consist in *Mind, Wisdom, and Understanding*, he could not possibly as to this, fall under Corporeal Sense (Sight or Touch) any more than Thought can. But that there is *Substance Incorporeal* also, and therefore in it self altogether *Insensible*; and that the Deity is such; is demonstrated elsewhere.

We grant indeed that the *Evidence* of Particular Bodies, existing *Hic & Nunc*, without us, doth necessarily depend upon the *Information of Sense*: but yet nevertheless the *Certainty* of this very Evidence, is not from *Sense* alone, but from a *Complication of Reason and Understanding* together with it. Were *Sense* the only Evidence of things, there could be no *Absolute Truth and Falshood*, nor *Certainty* at all of any thing; Sense as such being only *Relative to Particular Persons, Seeming and Phantastical*, and obnoxious to much *Delusion*. For if our *Nerves and Brain* be inwardly so moved, and affected, as they would be by such an Object present, when indeed it is absent, and no other Motion or Sensation, in the mean time prevail against it and obliterate it; then must that Object of necessity seem to us present. Moreover those *Imaginations*, that spring and bubble from the Soul it self, are commonly taken for *Sensations* by us when asleep, and sometimes in *Melancholick and Phanciful Persons* also, when awake. That *Atheistical Principle*, that there is no Evidence at all of any thing as Existing, but only from Corporeal Sense, is plainly contradicted by the *Atomick Atheists* themselves, When they assert *Atoms and Vacuum* to be the Principles of all things, and the *Exuvions Images* of Bodies to be the Causes both of Sight and Cogitation: for *Single Atoms*, and those *Exuvions Images*, were never Seen nor Felt; and *Vacuum or Empty Space*, is so far from being Sensible, that these *Atheists* themselves allow it to be the *One Only Incorporeal*. Wherefore they must here go beyond the Ken of Sense, and appeal to Reason only for the Existence of these Principles: as *Thom. P. 155. Protagoras* one of them in *Plato* professedly doth; ἄρα ὁ θεὸς οὐκ ἔστιν ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν ἄλλο οὐδὲν ἔστιν, ἢ ὅτι ἄνδρῶν ἀπὸ τῶν χειρῶν λαβῆναι, πᾶν τὸ ἀόρατον καὶ ἀποδείχμεν, ὡς αὐτὸς εἶπεν. Have a Care that none of the *Prophane and Uninitiated* in the *Mysteries*, over-hear you. By the *Prophane*, I mean (saith he) those who think nothing to Exist, but what they can feel with their Fingers, and exclude all that is *Invisible*, out of the Rank of Being. Were Existence to be allowed to nothing, that doth not fall under Corporeal Sense, then must we deny the Existence of Soul and Mind, in our selves, and others, because we can neither Feel nor See any such thing. Whereas we are certain of the Existence of our own Souls, partly from an inward *Consciousness* of our own *Cogitations*, and partly from that *Principle of Reason*, That, *Nothing can not Be*. And the Existence of other Individual Souls, is manifest to us, from their Effects, upon their Respeivte Bodies, their *Motions, Actions, and Discourse*. Wherefore since the *Atheists* cannot deny the Existence

of Soul or Mind in men, though no such thing fall under External Sense; they have as little Reason to deny, the Existence of a *Perfect Mind*, presiding over the *Universe*, without which it cannot be conceived whence our *Imperfect* ones should be derived. The Existence of that *God*, whom no Eye hath seen nor can see, is plainly proved by Reason from his Effects, in the *Visible Phenomena* of the Universe, and from what we are Conscious of within our selves.

Plato Theat.

The Second Pretence of *Atheists* against the *Idea of God*, and consequently his Existence, is because Theists themselves acknowledging *God* to be *Incomprehensible*, it may be from thence inferred, that he is a *Non-Entity*. Which Argumentation of the *Atheists*, supposes these Two Things, First, That what is *Incomprehensible*, is altogether *Unconceivable*; and then, that what is *Unconceivable*, is *Nothing*. The Latter of which Two, perhaps may be granted to them, That what is so Utterly *Unconceivable*, as that no man can frame any manner of *Idea* or Conception of it, is therefore either in it self, or at least to us, *Nothing*. Because though that of *Protagoras* be not true, in his sense, *πάντων χρημάτων μέτρον ἐστίν ἄνθρωπος, ὃ καὶ μὴ ὄντων ἔστιν, καὶ ὃ μὴ ὄντων, ἔστιν ἔστιν*. That *Man* is the measure of all things, either as Existing or not Existing. He meaning indeed nothing else thereby, but that there was no *Absolute Truth* or *Falshood* of any thing, but all was *Relative* to particular persons, and *Phantastical* or *Seeming* only. And though it must not be granted, that whatsoever any man's shallow Understanding, cannot easily and fully comprehend, is therefore presently to be expunged out of the Catalogue of Beings; which is the Reason, or rather *Infidelity* of the *Anti-Trinitarians*; yet is there notwithstanding some Truth in that of *Aristotle*, that *λογικὴ ψυχὴ πᾶσι πᾶσι*, the *Rational Soul or Mind*, is in a manner *All things*; it being able to frame some *Idea* and *Conception* or other, of whatsoever is in the Nature of things, and hath either an *Actual* or *Possible Existence*, from the very Highest to the Lowest. Mind and Understanding is as it were a *Diaphanous* and *Crystalline Globe*, or a kind of *Notional World*, which hath some *Reflex Image*, and correspondent Ray, or Representation in it, to whatsoever is in the *True and Real World of Being*. And upon this account may it be said, that whatsoever is in its own Nature *Absolutely Unconceivable*, is indeed a *Non-Entity*.

But the Former is absolutely denied by us, That Whatsoever is *Incomprehensible* is *Unconceivable*; and therefore when we affirm that *God* is *Incomprehensible*, our meaning is only this, that our *Imperfect Minds* cannot have such a Conception of his Nature, as doth perfectly Master, Conquer, and Subdue that Vast Object under it; or at least is so fully Adequate and Commensurate to the same, as that it doth every way Match and Equalize it. Now it doth not at all follow from hence, because *God* is thus *Incomprehensible* to our *Finite* and *Narrow Understandings*, that he is utterly *Unconceivable* by them, so that they cannot frame any *Idea* at all of him, and he may therefore be concluded to be a *Non-Entity*. For it is certain, that we cannot fully Comprehend our Selves, and that we have not such an Adequate and Comprehensive Knowledge of the Essence of any Substantial thing, as
that

that we can perfectly *Master and Conquer* it. It was a Truth, though abused by the Scepticks, that there is *aliquid in se, something Incomprehensible* in the Essence of the Lowest Substances. For even *Body* it self, which the *Atheists* think themselves so well acquainted with, because they can feel it with their fingers, and which is the only Substance that they acknowledge either in themselves or the Universe, hath such puzzling Difficulties and Entanglements in the Speculation of it, that they can never be able to extricate themselves from. We might instance also in some *Accidental things*, as *Time* and *Motion*. Truth is *Bigger than our Minds*, and we are not the *Same* with it, but have a lower Participation only of the *Intellectual Nature*, and are rather *Apprehenders* than *Comprehenders* thereof. This is indeed One Badge of our *Creaturely State*, that we have not a perfectly *Comprehensive Knowledge*, or such as is *Adequate and Commensurate* to the Essences of things; from whence we ought to be led to this acknowledgment, that there is another *Perfect Mind or Understanding Being* above us in the Universe, from which our *Imperfect Minds* were derived, and upon which they do depend. Wherefore if we can have no *Idea or Conception* of any thing whereof we have not a Full and *Perfect Comprehension*, then can we not have an *Idea or Conception* of the Nature of any Substance. But though we do not *Comprehend* all Truth, as if our Mind were *Above* it, or *Master* of it; and cannot *Penetrate* into, and look quite thorough the Nature of every thing; yet may Rational Souls frame certain *Ideas and Conceptions*, of whatsoever is in the *Orb of Being*, proportionate to their own Nature, and sufficient for their purpose. And though we cannot fully *Comprehend* the Deity, nor Exhaust the *Infiniteness* of its *Perfection*, yet may we have an *Idea or Conception* of a *Being Absolutely Perfect*, such a one as is, *Nostro modulo conformis*, agreeable and proportionate to our *Measure and Scantling*; as we may approach near to a Mountain, and touch it with our hands, though we cannot encompass it all round, and enclasp it within our arms. Whatsoever is in its own Nature *Absolutely Unconceivable*, is Nothing; but not whatsoever is not fully *Comprehensible* by our *Imperfect Understandings*.

It is true indeed, that the Deity is more *Incomprehensible* to us than any thing else whatsoever, which proceeds from the Fulness of its Being and Perfection, and from the Transcendency of its Brightness, but for the very same reason, may it be said also, in some sense, that it is more Knowable and Conceivable than any thing. As the Sun, though by reason of its Excessive Splendour, it dazle our weak sight, yet is it notwithstanding far more Visible also, than any of the *Nebulose Stelle, the small Milky Stars*. Where there is more of Light, there is more of Visibility, so wherethere is more of Entity, Reality, and Perfection, there is there more of *Conceptibility* and *Cognoscibility*; such an Object Filling up the Mind more, and Acting more strongly upon it. Nevertheless because our Weak and Imperfect Minds are lost in the Vast Immenfity and Redundancy of the Deity, and overcome with its transcendent Light, and dazeling Brightness, therefore hath it to us an Appearance of *Darkness* and *Incomprehensibility*.
Thus

As the unbounded Expansion of Light, in the clear transparent Ether, hath to us the Apparition of an *Azure Obscurity*; which yet is not any Absolute thing in it self, but only *Relative* to our Sense, and a meer Phancy in us.

The *Incomprehensibility* of the Deity, is so far from being an Argument against the Reality of its Existence, as that it is most certain on the contrary, that were there nothing *Incomprehensible* to us, who are but contemptible Pieces, and small Atoms of the Universe; were there no other Being in the world, but what our *Finite* and *Imperfect Understandings* could span or fathom, and encompass round about, look thorough and thorough, have a commanding view of, and perfectly Conquer and Subdue under them; then could there be nothing *Absolutely* and *Infinately Perfect*, that is, no God. For though that of *Empedocles* be not true in a Literal Sence, as it seems to have been taken by *Aristotle*, γαῖα μὲν γὰρ γαῖαν, &c. *That by Earth we see Earth, by Water Water, and by Fire Fire*; and understand every thing by something of the same within our selves; yet is it certain, that every thing is apprehended by some *Internal Congruity* in that which apprehends, which perhaps was the sence intended by that Noble Philosophick Poet: Wherefore it cannot possibly otherwise be, but that the *Finiteness*, *Scantiness*, and *Imperfection* of our narrow Understandings, must make them *Asymmetrall* or *Incommensurate*, to that which is *Absolutely* and *Infinately Perfect*.

And Nature it self plainly intimates to us, that there is some such *Absolutely Perfect Being*, which though not *Inconceivable*, yet is *Incomprehensible* to our *Finite Understandings*; by certain *Passions* which it hath implanted in us, that otherwise would want an *Object* to display themselves upon; namely those, of *Devout Veneration*, *Adoration*, and *Admiration*, together with a kind of *Ecstasie*, and *Pleasing Horrour*; which in the silent Language of Nature, seem to speak thus much to us, that there is some *Object* in the World, so much *Bigger* and *Vaster* than our *Mind* and *Thoughts*, that it is the very same to them, that the Ocean is to narrow Vessels, so that when they have taken into themselves as much as they can thereof by Contemplation, and filled up all their Capacity, there is still an Immeasurability of it left without, which cannot enter in for want of room to receive it, and therefore must be apprehended after some other strange and more mysterious manner, viz. by their being as it were *Plunged* into it, and *Swallowed up* or *Lost* in it. To conclude, the Deity is indeed *Incomprehensible* to our *Finite* and *Imperfect Understandings*, but not *Inconceivable*, and therefore there is no Ground at all for this Atheistick Pretence, to make it a *Non-Entity*.

We come to the *Third Atheistick Argument*; That because *Infinity* (which according to *Theology* is included in the *Idea* of God, and pervadeth all his *Attributes*) is utterly *Unconceivable*, the Deity it self is therefore an *Impossibility*, and *Non-Entity*. To this Sence sound sundry *Passages* of a *Modern Writer*; as, *Whatsoever we know, we learn from our Phantasms, but there is no Phantasm of Infinite*, and

and therefore no Knowledge or Conception of it. Again, *Whatsoever we Imagine is Finite, and therefore there is no Conception or Idea, of that which we call Infinite.* No man can have in his Mind an Image of Infinite Time, or of Infinite Power. Wherefore the Name of God is used, not to make us conceive him, but only that we may Honour him. The true Meaning whereof (as may be plainly gathered from other Passages of the same Writer) is thus to be Interpreted; That there is nothing of Philosophick Truth and Reality, in the Idea or Attributes of God; nor any other Sense in those Words, but only to signify, the Veneration and Astonishment of mens own Confounded Minds. And accordingly the Word *Infinite*, is declared, to signify nothing at all in that which is so called, (there being no such thing really existing) but only the Inability of mens own Minds, together with their Rustick Astonishment and Admiration. Wherefore when the same Writer determines, that God must not be said to be Finite; this being no good Courtship nor Complement; and yet the Word *Infinite*, signifieth nothing in the thing it self, nor hath any Conception at all answering to it; he either does plainly abuse his Reader, or else he leaves him to make up this Conclusion; That since God is neither Finite nor Infinite, he is an Unconceivable Nothing. In like manner, another Learned Well-willer to Atheism, declareth, That he who calleth any thing *Infinite*, doth but *Rei quam non capit, attribuerenomen quod non intelligit, Attribute an Unintelligible Name, to a thing Unconceivable*; because all Conception is Finite, and it is impossible to conceive any thing that hath no Bounds or Limits. But that which is mistaken for Infinite, is nothing but a Confused Chaos of the Mind, or an unshapen Embryo of Thought; when men going on further and further, and making a Continual Progress, without seeing any End before them, being at length quite weary and tyred out with this their endless Journey, they sit down, and call the thing by this Hard and Unintelligible Name, *Infinite*. And from hence does he also infer; That because we can have no Idea of Infinite, as to signify any thing in that which is so called; we therefore cannot possibly have, *Germanam Ideam Dei, Any True and Genuine Idea or Notion of God.* Of which, they who understand the Language of Atheists, know very well the meaning to be this; That there is indeed No such thing; or, That he is a Non-Entity.

Now since this Exception against the Idea of God, and consequently his Existence, is made by our Modern and Noterick Atheists; we shall in the first place shew, how Contradictious they are herein to their Predecessors, the Old Philosophick Atheists; and consequently how inconsistent and disagreeing, Atheists in several Ages have been with one another. For whereas these Modern Atheists, would have this thought a sufficient Confutation of a Deity, *That there can be Nothing Infinite*; it is certain that the Ancient Philosophick Atheists were so far from being of this Perswasion, that some of them, as *Anaximander* expressly, made *ἄπειρον*, or Infinite, the Principle of all things; that is, Infinitely Extended and Eternal Matter, devoid of all Life and Understanding. For though *Atelissus* his *ἄπειρον* or Infinite, which he made The First Principle, was a Most Perfect Being, Eminently

nently containing *all things* (as hath been already shewed) and therefore the *True Deity*: Anaximander's *ἄπειρον* or *Infinite*, yet however called *ἄνω* or *Divine* by him, (it being the only *Divinity* which he acknowledged) was nothing but *Senseless Matter*; an *Atheistick Infinite*. Wherefore both *Theists* and *Atheists* in those former times, did very well agree together in this One Point, that there was Something or other *Infinite*, as the *First Principle* of all things; either *Infinite Mind*, or *Infinite Matter*; though this latter *Atheistick Infinity* of *Extended Matter*, beindeed repugnant to Conception, (as shall be proved afterwards) there being no *True Infinite*, but a *Perfect Being*, or the Holy Trinity. Furthermore, not only Anaximander, but also after him, Democritus, and Epicurus, and many others of that Atheistick Gang, heretofore asserted likewise, a *Numerical Infinity* of *Worlds*, and therefore much more than an *Infinity* of *Atoms*, or *Particles of Matter*. And though this *Numerical Infinity* of theirs were also *Unconceivable* and *Impossible*; yet does it sufficiently appear from hence, that these Ancient *Philosophick Atheists* were so far from being abhorrent from *Infinity*, as a Thing *Impossible*, and a *Non-Entity*, that they were on the contrary very fond thereof; and therefore never went about to disprove a Deity, after this manner, *Because there can be Nothing Infinite*.

But in the next place, we shall make it manifest, that these Modern Atheists, do no less contradict plain Reason and their very Selves also, than they do their Predecessors in that Impiety, when they thus go about to disprove the Existence of a God; *Because there can be Nothing Infinite*, neither in *Duration*; nor in *Power*, nor in any other regard. For First, though it should be doubted, whether there be a God or no, yet must it needs be acknowledged to be as Indubitable, as any thing in all Geometry, that there was something or other *Infinite in Duration*, or *Eternal, without Beginning*; because, if there had been once Nothing at all, there could never have been Any thing; that *Common Notion* or *Principle* of Reason, having here an *Irresistible Force*, That *Nothing could ever come from Nothing*. Now if there were never Nothing, but always Something, then must there of necessity be something *Infinite in Duration*, and *Eternal without Beginning*. Wherefore it cannot be accounted less than *Extreme Sottishness* and *Stupidity* of Mind, in these Modern Atheists, thus to impugn a Deity, from the *Impossibility* of *Infinite Duration* without beginning. But in the next place, we must confess it seems to us hardly conceivable, that any Atheist whatsoever, could possibly be so prodigiously Sottish, or so monstrously insatuated, as really to think; that once there was *Nothing* at all, but that afterwards *Senseless Matter* happened, (no body knows how) to come into Being, from whence all other things were derived. According to which *Hypothesis*, it would follow also, that *Matter* might as well some time or other happen again, to cease to be, and so all things vanish into Nothing. To conclude therefore, these Atheists must of necessity be Guilty, of One or Other of these Two Things; either of *Extreme Sottishness* and *Stupidity*, in acknowledging neither God, nor Matter, nor Any Thing, to have Existed *Ininitely* from
Eternity

Eternity without Beginning ; or else if they do acknowledge the *Pre-Eternity of Matter*, or its *Infinite Past-duration without Beginning* ; then, of the most *Notorious Impudence*, in making that an Argument against the *Existence of a God*, which themselves acknowledge to *Matter*.

Nevertheless we shall here readily comply, with these *Modern Atheists* ; thus far, as to grant them these *Two following Things* ; First, that we can have no Proper and Genuine *Phantasms* of any *Infinite* whatsoever, because we never had *Corporeal Sense* of any, neither of *Infinite Number*, nor of *Infinite Magnitude*, and therefore much less of *Infinite Time or Duration*, and of *Infinite Power* ; these two latter things, *Time* and *Power*, themselves not falling under *Corporeal Sense*. Secondly, That as we have no *Phantasms* of any *Infinite*, so neither is *Infinity Fully Comprehensible* by our humane Understandings, that are but *Finite*. But since it is certain even to *Mathematical Evidence*, That there was *Something Infinite in Duration*, or without *Beginning*, inasmuch that no Intelligent Atheist, upon Mature Consideration will ever venture to contradict it, we shall from hence extort from these Atheists an acknowledgment, of the *Falseness* of these *Two Theorems* of theirs, That whatsoever we have no *Phantasms* or *Sensible Idea* of, as also whatsoever is not *Fully Comprehensible* by us, is therefore a pure *Non-Entity* or *Nothing* ; and enforce them to confess, That there is something Really Existing in Nature, which we have neither any *Phantasms* of, nor yet can *Fully Comprehend* with our Imperfect Understandings.

Nay, we will yet go further in compliance with them and acknowledge likewise, That as for those *Infinities*, of *Number*, of *Corporeal Magnitude*, and of *Time or Successive Duration*, we have not only no *Phantasms*, nor *Full Intellectual Comprehension* of them, but also no manner of *Intelligible Idea, Notion or Conception*. For though it be true, that *Number* be somewhere said by *Aristotle* to be *Infinite*, yet was his meaning there only in such a negative Sense as this, that we can never possibly come to an End thereof by Addition, but may in our minds still add *Number to Number Infinitely* ; which is all one as if he should indeed have affirmed, that there can be no *Number Actually and Positively Infinite*, according to *Aristotle's* own Definition of *Infinite* elsewhere given, namely, *That to which nothing can be added* : no *Number* being ever so Great, but that *One or More* may still be added to it. And as there can be no *Infinite Number*, so neither can there be any *Infinity of Corporeal Magnitude* ; not only because if there were, the parts thereof must needs be *Infinite in Number* ; but also because, as no *Number* can be so great, but that *More* may be added to it ; so neither can any *Body or Magnitude* be ever so Vast, but that *more Body or Magnitude* may be supposed till further and further ; this *Addition of Finiter*, never making up *Infinite*. Indeed *Infinite Space*, beyond the *Finite World*, is a thing which hath been much talked of ; and it is by some supposed to be *Infinite Body*, but by others to be an *Incorporeal Infinite* ; through whose Actual Distance notwithstanding (*Mensurable by Poles and Miles*)

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this *Finite World* might rowl and tumble *Infinately*. But as we conceive, all that can be demonstrated here, is no more than this, That how vastsoever the *Finite World* should be, yet is there a *Possibility* of more and more *Magnitude* and *Body*, still to be added to it, further and further, by *Divine Power*, *Infinately*; or that the *World* could never be made so Great, no not by God himself, as that his own Omnipotence could not make it yet Greater. Which *Potential Infinity* or *Indefinite Encreasableness of Corporeal Magnitude*, seems to have been mistaken for an *Actual Infinity of Space*. Whereas for this very Reason, because more could be added to the *Magnitude of the Corporeal World* *Infinately*, or without *End*; therefore is it *Impossible* that it should ever be *Positively* and *Actually Infinite*; That is, such as to which nothing more can *Possibly* be added. Wherefore we conclude concerning *Corporeal Magnitude*, as we did before of *Number*, that there can be no *Absolute* and *Actual Infinity* thereof; and that how much Vaster soever, the *World* may be, than according to the Supposition of *Vulgar Astronomers*, who make the *Starry Sphere* the *Utmost Wall* thereof, yet is it not *Absolutely Infinite*, such as Really hath *No Bounds or Limits* at all; nor to which Nothing more could by *Divine Power* be added. Lastly, we affirm likewise concerning *Time* or *Successive Duration*, that there can be no *Infinity* of that neither, no *Temporal Eternity* without *Beginning*: and that not only because there would then be an *Actual Infinity* and more than an *Infinity of Number*; but also because upon this Supposition, there would always have been an *Infinity of Time Past*, and consequently an *Infinity of Time Past*, which was never *Present*. Whereas all the *Moments of Past Time*, must needs have been once *Present*; and if so, then all of them, at least save One, *Future* too; from whence it will follow, that there was a *First Moment or Beginning of Time*. And thus does Reason conclude, neither the *World* nor *Time* it self, to have been *Infinite* in their *Past Duration*, or *Eternal* without *Beginning*.

Here will the *Atheist* think presently, he hath got a great advantage to disprove the *Existence of a God*, *Nonne qui Aeternitatem Atundi sic tollunt, eodem operâ etiam Mundi Conditori Aeternitatem tollunt?* Do not they, who thus destroy the *Eternity of the World*, at the same time destroy also the *Eternity of the Creator*? For if *Time* it self were not *Eternal*, then how could the *Deity* or any thing be so? The *Atheist* securely taking it for granted, that God himself could not be otherwise *Eternal*, than by a *Successive Flux of Infinite Time*. But we say, that this will on the contrary afford us a plain *Demonstration of the Existence of a Deity*. For since the *World* and *Time* it self, were not *Infinite* in their *Past-Duration*, but had a *Beginning*, therefore were they both certainly made together by some other Being, who is in order of *Nature Senior to Time*, and so without *Time*, before *Time*; he being above that *Successive Flux*, and comprehending in the *Stability and Immutable Perfection* of his own Being, his *Yesterday* and *To day* and *For ever*. Or thus; Something was of necessity *Infinite in Duration*, and without *Beginning*; But neither the *World*, nor *Motion*, nor *Time*, that is, no *Successive Being*, was such; therefore is there something else whose Being and *Duration* is not *Successive*

cessive and *Flowing*, but *Permanent*; to whom this *Infinity* belongeth. The Atheists here, can only smile, or make faces; and shew their little wit, in quibbling upon *Nunc-stans*, or a *Standing Now* of *Eternity*; as if that *Standing Eternity* of the Deity (which with so much Reason hath been contended for, by the Ancient Genuine Theists) were nothing but a *Pitiful Small Moment of Time Standing still*; and as if the Duration of all Beings whatsoever must needs be like our own. Whereas the Duration of every thing, must of necessity be agreeable to its Nature; and therefore, As that whose *Imperfect Nature* is ever *Flowing* like a River, and consists in *Continual Motion* and *Changes* one after another, must needs have accordingly a *Successive* and *Flowing Duration*, sliding perpetually from *Present* into *Past*, and always positing on towards the *Future*, expecting Something of it self, which is not yet in being, but to come: So must that, whose *Perfect Nature*, is *Essentially Immutable*, and always the *Same*, and *Necessarily Existent*, have a *Permanent Duration*; never losing any thing of it self once *Present*, as sliding away from it; nor yet running forwards to meet something of it self before, which is not yet in being: and it is as *Contradictious* for it, ever to have begun, as ever to Cease to be.

Now whereas the *Modern Atheists* pretend to have proved, that there is *Nothing Infinite*, neither in *Duration* nor otherwise, and consequently *No Deity*; merely because we have no *Sense* nor *Phantasms* of *Infinite*, nor can *Fully Comprehend* the same; and therefore will needs conclude that the *Words, Infinite and Eternal*, signify nothing in the thing it self, but either mens own *Ignorance* and *Inability* to conceive *When*, or *Whether*, that which is called *Eternal*, began; together with the *Confounded Non-sence* of their Astonish'd Minds, and their *Stupid Veneration*, of that which their own *Fear* and *Phancy*, has raised up as a *Bugbear* to themselves; or else the *Progress* of their Thoughts further and further backward *Indefinitely*; (though they plainly confute themselves in all this, by sometimes acknowledging *Matter* and *Motion Infinite and Eternal*, which argues either their *Extreme Sottishness* or *Impudence*.) We have shewed with *Mathematical Evidence* and *Certainty*, that there is really something *Infinite in Duration* or *Eternal*, by which therefore cannot be meant, Mens own *Ignorance*, or the *Confounded Non-sence* of their *Devotion*, nor yet the *Idle Progress* of their Minds further and further *Indefinitely*, which never reaches *Infinite*; but a *Reality* in the thing it self, namely this, that it *Never was Not*; nor had any *Beginning*. Moreover having Demonstrated concerning this *Infinity* and *Eternity*, without *Beginning*, that it cannot possibly belong to any *Successive Being*, we confidently conclude against these Atheists also, that it was not *Matter* and *Motion*, or this *Atundane System*, but a *Perfect Immutable Nature* of a *Permanent Duration*, (that is, a *God*) to whom it belonged. To sum up all therefore, we say that *Infinite* and *Eternal*, are not Words that signify *nothing in the thing it self*, nor meet *Attributes* of *Honour*, *Complement* and *Flattery*, that is, of *Devout* and *Religious Non-sence*, *Error* and *Falshood*, but *Attributes* belonging to the *Deity*, and to that alone, of the most *Philosophick*

Truth and Reality. And though we being *Finite*, have no *Full Comprehension* and *Adequate Understanding* of this *Infinity* and *Eternity* (as not of the *Deity*) yet can we not be without some *Notion*, *Conception* and *Apprehension* thereof, so long as we can thus demonstrate concerning it, that it belongs to something, and yet to nothing neither but a *Perfect Immutable Nature*. But the *Notion* of this *Infinite Eternity* will be yet further cleared in the following *Explanation* and *Vindication* of *Infinite Power*.

For the *Atheists* principally quarrel with *Infinite Power*, or *Omnipotence*, and pretend in like manner this to be *Utterly Unconceivable*, and *Impossible*, and *Subjected* in *Nothing*. Thus a *Modern Atheistical Writer* concludes, that since *No man can conceive Infinite Power*, this is also but an *Attribute of Honour* which the *Confounded Non-sence* of *Astonish'd Minds*, bestows upon the *Object* of their *Devotion*, without any *Philosophick Truth* and *Reality*. And here have our *Modern Atheists* indeed the *Suffrage* and *Agreement* of the ancient *Philosophick Atheists* also with them, who as appears from the *Verses* before cited out of *Lucretius*, concern'd themselves in nothing more, than asserting *All Power to be Finite*, and *Omnipotence* or *Infinite Power* to belong to *Nothing*.

First therefore it is here observable, that this *Omnipotence* or *Infinite Power* asserted by *Theists*, has been commonly either ignorantly mistaken, or wilfully misrepresented by these *Atheists*, out of design to make it seem *Impossible* and *Ridiculous*; as if by it were meant, a *Power of Producing* and *Doing* any thing whatsoever without *Exception*, though never so *Contradictory*. As a late *Atheistical Person*, seeming to assert this *Divine Omnipotence* and *Infinite Power*, really and designedly notwithstanding abused the same, with this *Scopstick Irony*, That *God by his Omnipotence, or Infinite Power, could turn this Tree into a Syllogism*. Children indeed have sometimes such *Childish apprehensions* of the *Divine Omnipotence*; and *Ren. Cartesius*, (though otherwise an *Acute Philosopher*) was here no less *Childish*, in affirming, that all things whatsoever, even the *Natures of Good and Evil*, and all *Truth* and *Falshood*, do so depend upon the *Arbitrary Will* and *Power of God*, as that if he had pleased, *Twice Two should not have been Four*, nor the *Three Angles of a Plain Triangle, Equal to Two Right ones*, and the like: he only adding, that all these things notwithstanding, when they were once settled by the *Divine Decree*, became *Immutable*; that is, I suppose, not in themselves or to *God*, but unto us. Than which, no *Paradox* of any old *Philosopher*, was ever more *Absurd* and *Irrational*: and certainly if any one did desire, to persuade the *World*, that *Cartesius*, notwithstanding all his pretences to *Demonstrate a Deity*, was indeed but an *Hypocritical Theist*, or *Personated and Disguised Atheist*, he could not have a fairer pretence for it out of all his *Writings*, than from hence. This being plainly to destroy the *Deity*, by making one *Attribute* thereof, to *Devour* and *Swallow* up another; *Infinite Will* and *Power*, *Infinite Understanding* and *Wisdom*. For to suppose *God* to *Understand* and to be *Wise* only by his *Will*, is all one as to suppose him,

him, to have Really no *Understanding* at all. Wherefore we do not affirm, God to be so *Omnipotent* or *Infinately Powerful*, as that he is able to Destroy or Change the *Intelligible Natures* of things at Pleasure; this being all one, as to say, that God is so *Omnipotent* and *Infinately Powerful* that he is able to Destroy, or to Baffle and Besool his own *Wisdom* and *Understanding*; which is the very *Rule* and *Measure* of his *Power*. We say not therefore, that God by his *Omnipotence* or *Infinite Power*, could make *Twice Two* not to be *Four*, or turn a *Tree* into a *Syllogism*; but we say, that *Omnipotence* or *Infinite Power*, is that which can *Produce* and *Do*, all whatsoever is *Possible*, that is, whatsoever is *Conceivable*, and Implies no manner of *Contradiction*: the very *Essence* of *Possibility* being no other than *Conceivability*. And thus has the Point been stated all along, not only by Christian Theists, but even the Ancient *Pagan Theologers* themselves; that *Omnipotence* or *Infinite Power*, is that which can do all things, that do not imply a *Contradiction*; or which are not *Unconceivable*. This appearing from that of *Agatho*, cited before out of *Aristotle*, *That nothing is exempted from the Divine Power, but only to make* *μεγαλυνειν α-φαιρη*, what hath been done, to be Undone; or the like herunto. Now *Infinite Power*, being nothing else, but a *Power* of Doing whatsoever is *Conceivable*, it is plainly Absurd to say; That a *Power* of doing nothing but what is *Conceivable*, is *Unconceivable*.

But because the Atheists look upon *Infinity*, as such a *Desperate* and *Affrightful* thing; we shall here render it something more easie, and take off that Frightful Vizard from it, which makes it seem such a *Mormo* or Bugbear to them; by declaring in the next place, that *Infinity*, is Really nothing else but *Perfection*. For *Infinite Understanding* and *Knowledge*, is nothing else but *Perfect Knowledge*, that which hath no Defect or Mixture of Ignorance with it; or the Knowledge of whatsoever is *Knowable*. So in like manner, *Infinite Power* is nothing else but *Perfect Power*, that which hath no Defect or Mixture of *Impotency* in it; a *Power* of *Producing* and *Doing* all whatsoever is *Possible*; that is, whatsoever is *Conceivable*. *Infinite Power* can Do, whatsoever *Infinite Understanding* can *Conceive*, and nothing else: Conception being the Measure of *Power* and its *Extent*, and whatsoever is in it self *Unconceivable*, being therefore *Impossible*. Lastly *Infinity of Duration* or *Eternity*, is Really nothing else, but *Perfection*, as including *Necessary Existence* and *Immutability* in it. So that it is not only *Contradictious* to such a Being, to Cease to Be, or Exist; but also to have had a *Newness* or *Beginning* of Being; or to have any Flux or Change therein, by *Dying* to the *Present*, and acquiring something New to it self which was not before. Notwithstanding which, this Being comprehends the differences of *Past*, *Present*, and *Future*, or the *Successive Priority* and *Posteriority* of all *Temporary Things*. And because *Infinity* is *Perfection*, therefore can nothing which includeth any thing of *Imperfection*, in the very *Idea* and *Essence* of it, be ever Truly and Properly *Infinite*; as Number, Corporeal Magnitude, and Successive Duration. All which can only, *Anticipari Infinitatem*, Counterfeit and Imitate *Infinity*, in their having more and more added to them *Infinately*, whereby not-

notwithstanding they never reach it or overtake it. There is nothing truly *Infinite*, neither in *Knowledge*, nor in *Power*, nor in *Duration*, but only One *Absolutely Perfect Being* or *The Holy Trinity*.

Now, that we have an *Idea* or *Conception* of *Perfection*, or a *Perfect Being* is Evident, from the *Notion* that we have, of *Imperfection* so familiar to us: *Perfection* being the *Rule* and *Measure* of *Imperfection*, and not *Imperfection* of *Perfection*; as a *Straight Line*, is the *Rule* and *Measure* of a *Crooked*, and not a *Crooked Line* of a *Straight*. So that *Perfection* is *First Conceivable*, in order of nature, before *Imperfection*, as *Light* before *Darkness*, a *Positive* before the *Privative* or *Defect*. For *Perfection* is not properly the want of *Imperfection*, but *Imperfection* of *Perfection*. Moreover, we perceive divers *Degrees* of *Perfection*, in the *Essences* of things, and consequently a *Scale* or *Ladder* of *Perfections*, in Nature, one above another, as of *Living* and *Animate Things*, above *Senseless* and *Inanimate*; of *Rational* things above *Sensitive*. And this by Reason of that *Notion* or *Idea*, which we first have, of that which is *Absolutely Perfect*; as the *Standard*; by comparing of things with which, and measuring of them, we take notice of their approaching more or less near thereunto. Nor indeed, could these *Gradual Ascents*, be *Infinite*, or *Without End*; but they must come at last, to that which is *Absolutely Perfect*, as the *Top* of them all. Lastly, we could not perceive *Imperfection*, in the most *Perfect* of all those things which we ever had *Sence* or *Experience* of in our lives, had we not a *Notion* or *Idea* of That which is *Absolutely Perfect*, which secretly comparing the same with, we perceive it to come short thereof. And we might add here, that it is not *Conceivable* neither, how there should be any *Lesser Perfection*, Existing in any Kind, were there not *First* something *Perfect* in that Kind, from whence it was derived. This of *Boetius*, being the very *Sence* and *Language* of Nature in *Rational Beings*; *Omne quod Imperfectum esse dicitur, id diminutione Perfecti Imperfectum esse perhibetur. Quid sit, ut si in quolibet genere Imperfectum quid esse videatur, in eo Perfectum quoque aliquid esse, necesse sit. Etenim sublata Perfectione, unde illud, quod Imperfectum perhibetur, existerit, ne fingi quidem potest. Neque enim a Diminutis Inconsummatisque, Natura Rerum cepit exordium; sed ab Integris Absolutisque procedens, in hac extrema, atque effeta dilabitur.* Whatsoever is said to be *Imperfect*, is accounted such, by the *Diminution* of that which is *Perfect*. From whence it comes to pass, that if in any kind, any thing appear *Imperfect*, there must of *Necessity* be something also, in that Kind, *Perfect*. For *Perfection* being once taken away, it could not be imagined, from whence that which is accounted *Imperfect*, should have proceeded. Nor did the Nature of things, take beginning, from *Inconsummate* and *Imperfect* things, but proceeding from things *Absolute* and *Complete*, thence descend down to these lower, *Effete*, and *Languid* things. But of this more elsewhere.

Wherefore since *Infinite*, is the same with *Absolutely Perfect*, we having a *Notion* or *Idea* of the *Latter*, must needs have of the *Former*.

mer. From whence we learn also, that though the word *Infinite*, be in the form thereof, *Negative*, yet is the Sence of it, in those things which are really capable of the same, *Positive*; it being all one with *Absolutely Perfect*: as likewise the Sence of the word *Finite*, is *Negative*; it being the same with *Imperfect*. So that, *Finite* is properly the *Negation* of *Infinite*, as that which in order of Nature is before it; and not *Infinite* the *Negation* of *Finite*. However in those things which are capable of no true *Infinity*, because they are Essentially *Finite*, as *Number*, *Corporeal Magnitude*, and *Time*, *Infinity* being there a meer *Imaginary thing*, and a *Non-Entity*, it can only be conceived, by the *Negation* of *Finite*; as we also conceive *Nothing*, by the *Negation* of *Something*; that is, we can have no *Positive Conception* at all thereof.

We conclude, To assert an *Infinite Being*, is nothing else but to assert a Being *Absolutely Perfect*, such as *Never was Nor*, or had no *Beginning*, which could produce all things *Possible* and *Conceivable*, and upon which all other things must depend. And this is to assert a *God*; One *Absolutely Perfect Being*, the *Original of all things*. *God*, and *Infinite*, and *Absolutely Perfect*, being but different Names for One and the same thing.

We come now to the *Fourth Atheistical Objection*, That *Theology is nothing but an Arbitrary Complement of Inconsistent and Contradictious Notions*. Where First, we deny not, but that as some Theologers (or *Eigotical Religionists*) of later times, extend the *Divine Omnipotence*, to things *Contradictious* and *Impossible*, as to the *Making of One and the same Body*, to be all of it, in several distant places at once: so may others sometimes unskillfully attribute to the Deity, things *Inconsistent* or *Contradictious* to one another, because seeming to them to be all *Perfections*. As for example, though it be concluded generally by Theologers, that there is a *Natural Justice* and *Sanctity* in the Deity, yet do some notwithstanding contend, That the *Will of God* is not determined by any *Antecedent Rule* or *Nature of Justice*, but that whatsoever he could be supposed to *Will Arbitrarily*, would therefore be *Ipsosalto Just*; which is called by them the *Divine Sovereignty*, and look'd upon as a *Great Perfection*. Though it be certain that these Two Things are directly *Contradictious* to one another; viz. That there is something in *God*, in its own Nature *Just* and *Unjust*, or a *Natural Sanctity* in *God*; and That the *Arbitrary Will* and *Command of the Deity*, is the only *Rule of Justice* and *Injustice*. Again some Theologers determining, That *Whatsoever is in God, is God*, or *Essential* to the Deity; they conceiving such an *Immutability* to be a *Necessary Perfection* thereof, seem thereby not only to *Contradict* all *Liberty of Will* in the Deity, which themselves notwithstanding contend for in a high degree; that all things are *Arbitrarily* determined by *Divine Decree*; but also to take away from it, all *Power of Acting ad Extra*, and of *Perceiving* or *Animadverting* things done successively here in the World. But it will not follow from these and the like *Contradictions*, of *mistaken Theologers*, that therefore *Theology* it self is *Contradictious*, and hath nothing of *Philosophick Truth* at all in it; more

more than because Philosophers also hold *Contradictory Opinions*, that therefore Philosophy it self is *Contradictory*, and that there is *Nothing Absolutely True or False*, but (according to the Protagorean Doctrine) all *Seeming and Phantastical*.

But in the next place we add, that though it be true, that the Nature of things, admits of nothing *Contradictory*, and that whatsoever plainly Implies a *Contradiction*, must therefore of necessity be a *Non-Entity*, yet is this Rule notwithstanding, obnoxious to be much abused, when whatsoever mens Shallow and Gross Understandings cannot Reach to, they will therefore presently conclude to be *Contradictory*, and *Impossible*. As for example, the *Atheists* and *Materialists* cannot Conceive of any other *Substance* besides *Body*, and therefore do they determine presently, that *Incorporeal Substance* is a *Contradiction* in the very Terms; it being as much as to say *Incorporeal Body*; wherefore when God is said by Theologers, to be an *Incorporeal Substance*, this is to them an *Absolute Impossibility*. Thus a Modern Writer; *The Universe, that is, the whole Mass of all things, is Corporeal; that is to say, Body*. Now every Part of *Body* is *Body*, and Consequently every Part of the *Universe* is *Body*; and that which is not *Body* is no part thereof. And because the *Universe* is *All*, that which is no part of it, is nothing. Therefore when *Spirits* are called *Incorporeal*, this is only a name of Honour, and it may with more Ficty be attributed to God himself, in whom we consider, not what Attribute best expresseth his Nature which is *Incomprehensible*; But what best expresseth our Desire to Honour him. Where, *Incorporeal*, is said to be, an Attribute of Honour, that is, such an Attribute, as expresseth only the Veneration of mens Minds, but signifieth nothing in Nature, nor hath any Philosophick Truth and Reality under it: a *Substance Incorporeal* being as *Contradictory*, as *Something* and *Nothing*. Notwithstanding which, this *Contradiction* is only in the Weakness and Childishness of these mens Understandings, and not the thing it self; it being *Demonstrable*, that there is some other *Substance* besides *Body*, according to the *True* and *Genuine Notion* of it. But because, this mistake is not proper to *Atheists* only, there being some *Theists* also, who labour under this same Infirmary of Mind, not to be able to Conceive any other *Substance* besides *Body*, and who therefore assert a *Corporeal Deity*: we shall in the next place show, from a passage of a *Modern Writer*, what kind of *Contradictions* they are, which these *Atheists* impute to all Theology; namely such as these, that it supposes God, to *Perceive things Sensible, without any Organs of Sense*; and to *Understand and be Wise without any Brains*. Pious men (saith he) attribute to God Almighty for Honour sake, whatsoever they see Honourable in the world, as *Seeing, Hearing, Wishing, Knowing, Justice, Wisdom, &c.* But they deny him such poor things, as *Eyes, Ears and Brains, and other Organs, without which we Worms, neither have, nor can conceive, such Faculties to Be*; and so far they do well. But when they dispute of God's Actions Philosophically, then do they Consider them again, as if He had indeed such Faculties. This is not well, and thence is it, that they fall into so many Difficulties. We ought not to dispute of God's Nature. He is no fit Subject of our Philosophy.

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True Religion consisteth in Obedience to Christ's Lieutenants, and in giving God such Honour, both in Attributes and Actions, as they in their severall Lieutenancies shall ordain. Where the plain and Undisguised meaning of the Author seems to be this; That God is no Subject of Philosophy, as all Real things are: (accordingly as he declareth elsewhere, that Religio non est Philosophia sed Lex, Religion is not a Matter of Philosophy, but only of Law and Arbitrary Constitution) He having no Real Nature of his own, nor being any True Inhabitant of the World or Heaven, but (as all other Ghosts and Spirits) an Inhabitant of mens Brains only, that is, a Figment of their Fear and Phancy, or a meer Political Scare-Crow. And therefore such Attributes are to be given to him, without any Scrupulosity, as the Civil Law of every Country shall appoint, and no other. The Wise and Nafute, very well understanding, that all this Business of Religion, is nothing but meer Pageantry, and that the Attributes of the Deity, indeed signifie neither True nor False nor any thing in Nature, but only mens Reverence and Devotion towards the Object of their Fear: the manner of expressing which, is determined by Civil Law. Wherefore to say, that God sees all Things, and yet hath no Eyes; and that he hears all things, and yet hath no Ears; and that he Understands and is Wise, and yet hath no Brains; and whatsoever else you will please to say of him, as Attributes of Honour and only as signifying Devotion, is thus far well enough. But when men, not understanding the true Cabal, will needs go further, they mistaking Attributes of Honour, for Attributes of Nature and of Philosophick Truth, and making them Premises to infer Absolute Truth, and convince Falseness from, or Matters to Dispute and Reason upon, that is, when they will needs suppose such a thing as a God, Really to Exist in the World, then do they involve themselves in all manner of Contradiction, Nonsense, and Absurdity; as for example, to affirm seriously, that this God Really sees all things in the world, and yet hath no Eyes; and that He indeed hears all things, and yet hath no Ears; and Lastly that he Understands and is Wise, and yet hath no Brains, which things are all Absolutely Contradictious, Unconceivable and Impossible. The sum of all is this, that when Religion and Theology, which is indeed nothing but Law and Phantasy, is made Philosophy, then is it all meer Jargon and Insignificant Non-sence. And now we see, what those Contradictions are, which the Atheists charge upon Theology; such as owe all their Being, only to the Grossness, Sottishness, and Brutishness, of these mens own apprehensions. From whence proceedeth likewise, this following Definition of Knowledge and Understanding, That it is nothing but a Tumult of the Mind, raised by External Things, Pressing the Organical Parts of mans Body. O Ye Brutish among the People, when will ye Understand? and ye Fools, when will ye be Wise? He that Planted the Ear (and gave mans Soul a power of hearing thereby) shall not He (though himself have no Ears) hear? He that formed the Eye, (and gave the Humane Soul a power of Seeing, by it as an Instrument) shall not he (though himself have no Eyes) see? Lastly, He that teacheth man Knowledge, (or gave him an Understanding Mind, besides Brains) shall not he (though himself be without Brains) Know and Understand?

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It is certain, that no *Simple Idea*, as that of a *Triangle* or a *Square*, of a *Cube* or *Sphere*, can possibly be *Contradictory* to it self; and therefore much less can the *Idea* of a *Perfect Being* (which is the *Compendious Idea* of *God*) it being more *Simple*, than any of the other. Indeed this *Simple Idea* of a *Perfect Being*, is *Pregnant* of many *Attributes*, and therefore the *Idea* of *God*, more fully declared by them all, may seem to be in this respect a *Compound Idea*, or *One Idea* and *Conception*, Consisting or made up of *Many*; which if they were really *Contradictory*, would render the whole, a *Non-Entity*. As for example, This, *A Plain Triangle, whose Three Angles are Greater than Two Right ones*; it being *Contradictory* and *Unconceivable*, is therefore no *True Idea*, but a *Non-Entity*. But all the *Genuine Attributes* of the *Deity*, of which its *Entire Idea* is made up, are Things as *Demonstrable* of a *Perfect Being*, as the *Properties* of a *Triangle* or a *Square* are of those *Ideas* respectively, and therefore cannot they Possibly be *Contradictory*, neither to it, nor to one another; because those things which agree in one Third, must needs agree together amongst themselves.

Nay the *Genuine Attributes* of the *Deity*, namely, such as are *Demonstrable* of an *Absolutely Perfect Being*, are not only not *Contradictory*; but also necessarily *Connected* together, and *Inseparable* from one another. For there could not possibly be, *One Thing Infinite in Wisdom Only*, *Another Thing Infinite Only in Power*, and *Another thing Only Infinite in Duration or Eternal*. But the very same thing which is *Infinite in Wisdom*, must needs be also *Infinite in Power*, and *Infinite in Duration*, and so *vice versa*. That which is *Infinite* in any one *Perfection*, must of necessity, have all *Perfections* in it. Thus are all the *Genuine Attributes* of the *Deity*, not only not *Contradictory*, but also *Incomparably Concatenate*; and the *Idea* of *God* no *Congeries* either of *Disagreeing things*; or else of such as are unnecessarily *Connected* with one another.

In very truth, all the several *Attributes* of the *Deity*, are nothing else but so many *Partial* and *Inadequate Conceptions*, of *One and the Same, Simple Perfect Being*, taken in as it were by piecemeal: by reason of the *Imperfection* of our *Humane Understandings*, which could not fully *Conceive* it all together at once: And therefore are they Really all but *One thing*, though they have the *Appearance* of *Multiplicity* to us. As the *One Simple Light* of the *Sun*, diversly *Refracted* and *Reflected* from a *Rorid Cloud*, hath to us the *Appearance*, of the *variegated Colours* of the *Rainbow*.

Wherefore the *Attributes* of *God*, are no *Bundle* of *Unconceivable*, and *Impossible*, huddled up together; nor *Attributes* of *Honour* and *Complement* only, and nothing but the *Religious Nonsense* of *Astonish'd Minds*, expressing their *Devotion* towards what they *Fear*; but all of them *Attributes* of *Nature*, and of most *severe Philosophick Truth*. Neither is the *Idea* of *God*, an *Arbitrary Complement*, of things *Unnecessarily Connected*, and *Separable* from one another;

another: it is no *Faſtious* nor *Fiſitious* thing, made up by any *Feigning Power* of the Soul, but it is a *Natural* and moſt *Simple Un-compounded Idea*; ſuch as to which nothing can be Arbitrarily added, nor nothing detracted from. Notwithſtanding which, by reaſon of the Imperfection of humane Minds there may be, and are, different Apprehenſions concerning it. For as every one that hath a *Conception* of a Plain Triangle in general, doth not therefore know, that it includes this *Property* in it, to have *Three Angles Equal to Two Right ones*; nor doth every one, who hath an Idea of a *Rectangular Triangle*, preſently underſtand, that the *Square of the Subtenſe*, is Equal to the *Squares of both the Sides*; ſo neither doth every one, who hath a *Conception* of a *Perfect Being*, therefore preſently know all that is included in that *Idea*. Moreover men may eaſily miſtake things, for *Absolute Perfections*, which are not ſuch, as hath been partly already ſhewed.

And now whereas the Atheiſts, pretend in the next place, to give an Account of that *Suppoſed Contradictionſneſs*, in the *Idea* and *Attributes of God*; namely, that it proceeded principally, from *Fear*, or the *Confounded Nonſence of mens Aſtoniſhed Minds*, huddling up together all *Imaginable Attributes of Honour, Courtſhip, and Complement* without any *Philoſophick Truth, Sence, or Signification*: as alſo in part from the *Fiction* and *Impoſture* of Politicians: all this hath been already prevented, and the Foundation thereof quite taken away, by our ſhewing, that there is nothing in the *Genuine Idea of God* and his *Attributes*, but what is *Demonſtrable of a Perfect Being*, and that there cannot be the leaſt either *Added* to that *Idea*, or *Detracted* from it, any more than there can be any thing *Added* to, or *Detracted* from the *Idea of a Triangle* or of a *Square*. From whence it follows unavoidably, that there cannot poſſibly be any thing, either *Contradictious* or *Arbitrariouſ* in the *Divine Idea*, and that the *Genuine Attributes* thereof, are *Attributes of Neceſſary Philoſophick Truth*: namely, ſuch as do not only ſpeak the *Piety, Devotion, and Reverence* of mens own Minds; but declare the *Real Nature* of the thing it ſelf. Wherefore when a *Modern Atheiſtick Writer*, affirmeth of all thoſe who Reaſon and conclude concerning *God's Nature*, from his *Attributes*; That *Loſing their Underſtanding in the very firſt attempts, they fall from one Inconvenience (or Abſurdity) to another without end, after the ſame manner as when one ignorant of Court-ceremonies, coming into the preſence of a greater perſon than he was wont to ſpeak to, and ſtumbling at his entrance, to ſave himſelf from falling lets ſlip his Cloak, to recover his Cloak, lets fall his Hat, and ſo with one diſorder after another, diſcovers his Ruſticity and Aſtoniſhment*: We ſay, that though there be ſomething of *Wiſ* and *Phancy* in this, yet as it is applied to Theology and the *Genuine Attributes* of the *Deity*, there is not the leaſt of *Philoſophick Truth*. However we deny not, but that ſome, either out of *Superſtition*, or elſe out of *Flattery*, (for thus are they ſtilled by St. Jerome, *Stulti Adulatores Dei, Fooliſh Flatterers of God Almighty*) have ſometimes attributed ſuch things to him, as are *Incongruous* to his Nature, and under a pretence of *Honouring him*, by *Magnifying his Power and Sovereignty*, do indeed

most highly Dishonour him; they representing him to be such a Being, as is no way *Amiable* or *Desirable*.

But the Atheists are most of all concerned, to give an Account of that *Unquestionable Phenomenon*, the *General Perjurasion* of the Existence of a God, in the Minds of men, and their *Propensity to Religion*, in all ages and places of the world; whence this should come, if there be really no such thing in Nature. And this they think to do, in the Last place also, *Partly*, from mens *Own Fear*, together with their *Ignorance of Causes*, and *Partly*, from the *Fiction of Lawmakers and Politicians*, they endeavouring thereby to keep men in Civil Subjection under them. Where we shall *First* plainly and *Nakedly* declare the *Atheists* meaning, and then manifest the *Invalidity* and *Foolery* of these their Pretences, to save the forementioned *Phenomenon*.

First therefore, these Atheists affirm, That mankind by reason of their *Natural Imbecillity*, are in perpetual *Solicitude, Anxiety*, and *Fear*, concerning *Future Events*, or their *Good* and *Evil Fortune* to come; and this *Passion of Fear* inclining men to *Imagine* things *Formidable* and *Fearful*, and to *Suspect* or *Believe* the Existence of what really is not; I say, that this *Distrustful Fear* and *Jealousie* in the Minds of men, concerning their *Future Condition*, raises up to them the *Phantasm*, of a most *Affrightful Spectre*, an *Invisible Understanding Being*, *Arbitrarily Governing* and *Swaying* the affairs of the whole *World*, and at pleasure *Tyrannizing* over *Mankind*. And when mens *Exorbitant Fear* and *Fancy*, has thus raised up to it self, such a *Mormo* or *Bugbear*, such an *Affrightful Spectre* as this, a thing that is really no *Inhabitant* of the *World* or of *Heaven*, but only of *mens Brains*; they afterward stand in awe of this their *Own Imagination*, and Tremblingly worship this *Creature* and *Figment* of their own *Fear* and *Phancy*, as a thing *Really Existing* without them, or a *God*: devising all manner of expressions of *Honour* and *Reverence* towards it, and anxiously endeavouring, by all ways conceivable, to *Propitiate* and *Atone* the same. And thus have they brought upon themselves, a most heave *Token of Bondage*, and filled their *Lives* with all manner of *Bitterness* and *Misery*.

Again to this *Fear of Future Events*, the Atheists add also *Ignorance of Causes*, as a further Account of this *Phenomenon* of Religion, so generally entertained in the world. For Mankind (say they) are *Naturally Inquisitive* into the *Causes* of things, and that not only of the *Events* of their *Own Good* and *Evil Fortune*, but also of the *Phenomena* of the *World*, and the *Effects* of *Nature*. And such is their *Curiosity*, that wheresoever they can discover no *Visible* and *Natural Cause*, there are they prone to *Feign* and *Imagine*, other *Causes* *Invisible* and *Supernatural*. As it was observed of the *Tragick Dramatists*, that whenever they could not well extricate themselves, they were wont to bring in a *God* upon the *Stage*: and as *Aristotle* recordeth of *Anaxagoras*, that he never betook himself to *Mind* or *Understanding*, that is, to *God*, for a *Cause*; but only then when he was at a loss for other *Natural* and *Necessary Causes*. From whence these Atheists would infer, that nothing but *Ignorance of Causes*, made *Anaxagoras*

xagoras to assert a *Deity*. Wherefore it is no wonder (say they) if the Generality of Mankind, being *Ignorant of the Causes*, almost of all Events, and Effects of Nature, have by reason of their *Natural Curiosity* and *Fear* Feigned or Introduced, one *Invisible Power* or *Agent Omnipotent*, as the *Supreme Cause of all things*: they betaking themselves thereto, as to a kind of *Refuge, Asylum, or Sanctuary* for their *Ignorance*.

These two *Accounts* of the *Phenomenon of Religion*, from mens *Fear* and *Solicitude* about *Future Events*, and from their *Ignorance of Causes*, together with their *Curiosity*, are thus joyned together by a *Modern Writer*; *Perpetual fear of Future Evils, always accompanying mankind, in the Ignorance of Causes, as it were in the Dark, must needs have for Object Something. And therefore when there is nothing to be seen, there is nothing to accuse for their Evil Fortune, but some Power or Agent Invisible.* Moreover it is concluded, that from the same *Originals*, sprang, not only that vulgar opinion of *Inferiour Ghosts* and *Spirits* also, subservient to the *Supreme Deity* (as the *Great Ghost* of the whole World) (*Apparitions* being nothing but mens own *Dreams* and *Phancies* taken by them for *Sensations*) but also mens taking things *Casual* for *Prognosticks*, and their being so *Superstitiously* addicted to *Omens* and *Portents*, *Oracles*, and *Divinations* and *Prophecies*; this proceeding likewise, from the same *Phantastick* Supposition, that the things of the *World*, are disposed of, not by *Nature*, but by some *Understanding* and *Intending Agent* or *Person*.

But lest these Two forementioned *Accounts*, of that *Phenomenon of Religion*, and the *Belief of a Deity*, so Epidemical to Mankind, should yet seem insufficient; the *Atheists* will superadd a *Third* to them, from the *Fiction* and *Imposition* of *Civil Sovereigns, Crafty Law-makers* and *Designing Politicians*. Who perceiving a great advantage to be made, from the *Belief of a God and Religion*, for the better keeping of men in *Obedience* and *Subjection* to themselves, and in *Peace* and *Civil Society* with one another (when they are perswaded, that besides the *Punishments* appointed by *Laws*, which can only take place upon open and convicted *Transgressors*, and are often eluded and avoided, there are other *Punishments* that will be inflicted even upon the secret violators of them, both in this *Life* and after *Death*, by a *Divine, Invisible and Irresistible Hand*) have thereupon perversely laid hold of mens *Fear* and *Ignorance*, and cherished those *Seeds of Religion* in them (being the *Infirmities* of their *Nature*) and further confirmed their *Belief* of *Ghosts* and *Spirits*, *Miracles* and *Prodigies*, *Oracles* and *Divinations*, by *Tales* or *Fables*, publickly allowed and recommended. According to that *Definition of Religion*, given by a *Modern Writer*, *Fear of Power Invisible, Feigned by the Mind, or Imagined from Tales publickly allowed, Religion; not allowed, Superstition.* And that Religion thus Nursed up by *Politicians*, might be every way *Compliant* with, and *Obedient* to their *Designs*, and no way *Refractory* to the same; it hath been their great care to perswade the *People*, that their *Laws* were not meerly their

Trall. Theol.
Polit.

own Inventions, but that themselves were only the *Interpreters of the Gods therein*, and that the same things were really displeasing to the Gods, which were forbidden by them: God ruling over the world no otherwise than in them, as his *Vicegerents*; according to that Assertion of a Late Writer, *Deum nullum Regnum in homines habere, nisi per eos qui Imperium tenent*, that God Reigneth over men, only in the *Civil Sovereigns*. This is therefore another *Atheistical Account of Religions* so generally prevailing in the world, from its being a fit *Engine of State*, and Politicians generally looking upon it, as an *Arcanum Imperii*, a *Mystery of Government*, to possess the Minds of the People with the Belief of a God, and to keep them busily employed in the *exercises of Religion*, thereby to render them the more *Tame and Gentle*; apt to *Obedience, Subjection, Peace and Civil Society*.

Neither is all this, the meer Invention of *Modern Atheists*, but indeed the old *Atheistical Cabal*; as may appear partly, from that known Passage of the Poet, *That the Gods were first made by Fear*; and from *Lucretius* his so frequently insisting upon the same, according to the mind of *Epicurus*. For in his First Book, he makes *Terrorem animi, & Tenebras, Terrour of Mind, and Darknes*, the Chief Causes of *Theism*: and in his Sixth, he further pursues the same Grounds, especially the Latter of them, after this manner;

Lamb. 528.

*Cætera quæ fieri in Terræ Cæloque videntur,
Mortales, pavidis quom pendens mentibus sæpe,
Efficiunt animos humiles formidine Divum:
Depressosque premunt ad terram, propterea quod
IGNORANTIA CAUSA RUM, conferre Deorum
Cogit ad Imperium res; & concedere Regnum, &
Quorum operum causas nulla ratione videre
Possunt, hæc fieri Divino Numine rentur.*

To this Sence. *Mortals, when with Trembling Minds they behold the Objects both of Heaven and Earth, they become depressed and sunk down under the Fear of the Gods. Ignorance of Causes setting up the Reign and Empire of the Gods. For when men can find no Natural Causes of these things, they suppose them presently, to have been done by a Divine Power.*

And this *Ignorance of Causes*, is also elsewhere insisted upon by the same Poet, as the chief Source of Religion, or the Belief of a God.

Lamb. 5: Lamb.
p. 500.

*Præterea cæli rationes ordine certo;
Et varia annorum cernebant tempora verti;
Nec poterant quibus id fieret cognoscere causas.
Ergo PERFUGIUM sibi habebant, omnia Divis
Tradere, & ipsorum nutu facere omnia flecti.*

Moreover when a Modern Writer, declares the *Opinion of Ghosts*, to be one of those things, in which consisteth the *Natural Seeds of Religion*:

Religion : As also that this *Opinion* proceedeth from the Ignorance how to distinguish *Dreams* and other strong *Phancies*, from *Vision* and *Sense* ; he seemeth herein to have trod likewise in the Footsteps of *Lucretius*, giving not obscurely, the same Account of *Religion* in his Fifth Book.

*Nunc quæ causa Deum per magnas Numina gentes,
Peruolgaris, & ararum compleverit Urbes, &c.
Non ita difficile est rationem reddere Verbis.
Quippe etenim jam tum Divum mortalia Secla,
Egregias animo facies vigilante videbant,
Et magis in Somnis, mirando corporis ausu.
Hisigitur Sensum tribuebant, &c.*

That is, *How the Noise of the Gods, came thus to ring over the whole world, and to fill all places with Temples and Altars, is not a thing very difficult to give an account of, it proceeding first, from mens Fearful Dreams, and their Phantasms when awake ; taken by them for Visions and Sensations. Whereupon they attributed not only Sense to these things as really Existing, but also Immortality and great Power. For though this were properly an Account only, of those Inferiour and Plebeian Gods, called Demons and Genii, yet was it supposed, that the belief of these things, did easily dispose the minds of men also, to the Perswasion of One Supreme Omnipotent Deity over all.*

Lastly, That the Ancient Atheists, as well as the Modern. pretended, the *Opinion of a God, and Religion*, to have been a *Political Invention*, is frequently declared in the writings of the Pagans ; as in this of *Cicero*, *Si qui dixerunt totam de Diis Immortalibus Opinionem, siâam esse ab hominibus Sapientibus, Republicæ causâ, ut quos Ratio non posset, eos ad Officium Religio duceret ; nonne omnem Religionem funditus sustulerunt ?* They who affirmed the whole opinion of the Gods, to have been feigned by wise men for the sake of the Commonwealth, that so Religion might engage those to their Duty whom Reason could not ; did they not utterly destroy all Religion ? And the fence of the Ancient Atheists is thus represented by *Plato* ; οὐδὲς, ὃ μοι αἰεὶ, ὡς αὐτὸς περὶ τῶν θεῶν ἔσται πᾶσι, ἢ φύσιν, ἢ νόμον, ἀλλὰ τὰ νόμοις, καὶ τοῖς ἀλλοῖς ἀλλοῖς, ὅταν ἕκαστος ἀπομαρτυροῖται νομῶν τε καὶ νόμοις. *De Leg. L. 10.* They First of all affirm, that the Gods are not by Nature, but by Art and Laws onely, and that from thence it comes to pass, that they are different to different Nations and Countreys, accordingly as the several humours of their Law-makers did chance to determine. And before *Plato*, *Critias* one of the Thirty Tyrants of Athens, plainly declared Religion at first to have been a *Political Intrigue* in those Verses of his recorded by *Sextus* the Philosopher, beginning to this purpose ; That there was a time at first, when mens life was Disorderly and Brutish, and the Will of the Stronger was the only Law. After which they consented and agreed together to make Civil Laws ; that so the disorderly might be punished. Notwithstanding which, it was still found that men were only hindred from open, but not from secret Injustices. Whereupon some Sagacious and Witty person was the Author of a further Invention, to deter men as well from secret, as from open Injuries ;

ἑστειμένον ἔν τῷ θεῷ ἐσχησάμετο •
 ὥς ἐστὶ δαίμων ἀφ' ἧτος θαλάσσης βίος,
 νέμει τ' ἀκούει καὶ βλέπει, φρονεῖται •
 ἔφ' οὗ πᾶν μὲν τὸ λεχθὲν αἰ βροτοῖς ἀκούει,
 ἀρώμενον δ' πᾶν ἰδ' εἶν δυνάσται.

Namely, by introducing or feigning a God Immortal and Incorruptible, who hears and sees and takes notice of all things. Critias then concluding his Poem in these words,

οὕτω δ' πρῶτον οἶμαι πείσεται πᾶσι
 σεντὲς νομίζον δαίμονας ἔσθαι γῆρας.

And in this manner do I conceive, some One at first, to have persuaded mortals to believe, that there is a kind of Gods.

Thus have we fully declared, the fence of the Atheists, in their Account of the *Phenomenon of Religion* and the *Belief of a God*; namely, that they derive it principally from these *Three Springs or Originals*; First from mens own Fear and Solicitude concerning Future Events, or their Good and Evil Fortune. Secondly, from their Ignorance of the Causes both of those Events, and the Phenomena of Nature; together with their Curiosity. And Lastly, from the Fiction of Civil Sovereigns, Law-makers, and Politicians. The Weakness and Foolery of all which, we shall now briefly manifest. First therefore, it is certain, that such an Excess of Fear, as makes any one constantly and obstinately to believe, the Existence of That, which there is no manner of ground neither from Sense nor Reason for; tending also to the great Disquiet of mens own Lives, and the Terror of their Minds; cannot be accounted other than a kind of *Crazedness* or *Distraction*. Wherefore the Atheists themselves acknowledging, the Generality of mankind, to be possessed with such a Belief of a Deity, when they resolve this into such an Excess of Fear; it is all one, as if they should affirm, the Generality of mankind, to be Frighted out of their Wits, or Crazed and Distemper'd in their Brains: none but a few Atheists, who being undaunted and undismayed have escaped this *Panick Terror*, remaining Sober and in their Right Senses. But whereas the Atheists, thus impute to the Generality of mankind not only *Light-Minded Credulity*, and *Phantasy*, but also such an Excess of Fear, as differs nothing at all from *Crazedness* and *Distraction* or *Madness*; We affirm on the contrary, that their supposed *Courage*, *Steadiness* and *Sobriety*, is really nothing else but the *Dull* and *Sottish Stupidity* of their minds; *Dead* and *Heavy Incredulity*, and *Earthly Diffidence* or *Distrust*; by reason whereof, they will believe nothing but what they can Feel or See.

Theists indeed have a Religious Fear of God, which is Consequent from him, or their Belief of him (of which more afterwards;) but the Deity it self or the Belief thereof, was not Created by any Antecedent Fear, that is, by Fear concerning Mens Good and Evil Fortune; it being

being certain, that none are less *Sollicitous* concerning such *Events*, than they who are most truly *Religious*. The Reason whereof is, because these place their *Chief Good*, in nothing that is ἀλλότριον, *Aliene* or in *Others Power*, and Exposed to the *Strokes of Fortune*; but in that which is most truly their *Own*, namely the *Right use of their own Will*. As the *Atheists* on the contrary, must needs for this very reason be liable to great *Fears* and *Solicitudes*, concerning *Outward Events*, because they place their *Good* and *Evil*, in the πάθος ἡδονῆς καὶ λύπης, the *Passion of Pleasure* and *Pain*; or at least denying *Natural Honesty*, they acknowledge no other *Good*, but what belongs to the *Animal Life only*, and so is under the *Empire of Fortune*. And that the *Atheists* are indeed generally, *Timorous* and *Fearful*, *Suspicious* and *Distrustful things*; seems to appear plainly, from their building all their *Politicks*, *Civil Societies*, and *Justice*, (improperly so called) upon that only *Foundation of Fear* and *Distrust*.

But the *Grand Error* of the *Atheists* here is this, that they suppose the *Deity*, according to the sense of the Generality of mankind, to be nothing but a *Mormo*, *Eng-bear*, or *Terriculum*; an *Affrightful*, *Hurtful*, and most *Undesirable thing*: Whereas men every where invoke the *Deity* in their *Straits* and *Difficulties* for aid and assistance; looking upon it as *Exorable* and *Placable*; and by their *Trust* and *Confidence* in it, acknowledge its *Goodness* and *Benignity*. *Synesius* De Regno p. 9. affirms, that though men were otherwise much divided in their opinions, yet ἀπαντα τὰ θεῶν ὁμολογοῦν ἀπαλις ἀπανταχῶς καὶ σοφοὶ καὶ ἄσοφοι, *They all every where, both Wise and Unwise, agree in this, that God is to be praised, as one who is Good and Benign.*

If amongst the *Pagans*, there were any, who understood that *Proverbial Speech*, φθονεῖν τὸ θεῶν in the worst sense, as if *God Almighty*, were of an *Envious* and *Spiteful Nature*, these were certainly, but a few *Ill-natur'd men*, who therefore drew a *Picture* of the *Deity*, according to their own *Likeness*. For the *Proverb* in that sense, was disclaimed and cried down, by all the wiser *Pagans*; as *Aristotle*, who affirmed the *Poets* to have lyed in this, as well as they did in many other things; and *Plutarch*, who taketh *Herodotus* for insinuating, τὸ θεῶν πάντων φθονεῖν τι καὶ ταπεινῶδες, *The Deity universally* (that is, All the *Gods*) *to be of an Envious and Vexatious or Spiteful disposition*, whereas Himself appropriated this only to that *Evil Demon* or *Principle* asserted by him; as appeareth from the *Life of P. Æmilius* written by him, where he affirmeth, not that τὸ θεῶν πάντων φθονεῖν, *The Deity Universally* was of an *Envious Nature*, but, *That there is a Certain Deity or Demon, whose proper task it is, to bring down all great and over-swelling humane Prosperity, and so to temper every mans Life, that none may be happy in this world sincerely and unmixedly, without a check of Adversity*; which is as if a *Christian*, should ascribe it to the *Devil*. And *Plato* plainly declares the reason of *God's* making the *World* at first, to have been no other than this, ἀγαθὸς γὰρ, ἀγαθὸν ἡ ἐξ ὧν ὁ κόσμος ἐγένετο ἡ ἀγαθὸν φθονεῖν, *because he was Good, and there is no manner of Envy in that which is Good*. From whence he also concluded, πάντα ἐπιμαρτυρεῖ ἑκατόνδε γενέσθαι ἀθανάτου αὐτοῦ, *That God*

Cccc

there-

Metaph. L. 1:
c. 2. ὅτι τὸ θεῶν
φθονεῖν ἡδονῆς
καὶ λύπης, ἀλλὰ πᾶσι
ἀνθρώποις κοινόν.
c. de Herod.
Alaig.

therefore willed, all things should be made the most like himself, that is, after the best manner. But the true meaning of that *Ill*-*language*d Proverb, seems at first, to have been no other, than what, besides *Hesiod*, the Scripture it self also attributes to God almighty, that he affecteth to *Humble* and *Abase* the *Pride* of men, and to pull down all *High*, *Towering*, and *Lofly* things, whether as *Noxious* and *Hurtful* to the men themselves, or as in some sence *Invidious* to him, and *D derogatory* from his Honour, who alone ought to be exalted, and no flesh to glory before him. And there hath been so much experience of such a thing as this in the world, that the *Epicurean* Poet himself, could not but confess, that there was some *Hidden Force* or *Power* which seemed to have a spite to all *Over-swelling Greatnesses*, and affect to cast contempt and scorn upon the *Pride* of men,

Lamb. 503.

*Usque ad res humanas Vis Abdita quædam
Obterit, & pulchros fasces, sævasque secures,
Proculcare, ac ludibrio sibi habere videtur.*

Where he plainly Reel'd and Stagger'd in his *Atheism*, or else was indeed a Theist, but knew it not; it being certain that there can be no such *Force* as this, in *Regno Atomorum*, in the *Reign* or *Empire* of *Sensless Atoms*. And as for those among *Christians*, who make such a horrid Representation of God Almighty, as one who Created far the greatest part of mankind, for no other end or design, but only this, that he might *Recreate* and *Delight* himself in their *Eternal Torments*; these also do but transcribe or copy out their own *Ill Nature*, and then read it in the *Deity*; the Scripture declaring on the contrary, That *God is Love*. Nevertheless these very persons in the mean time, dearly hug and embrace God Almighty in their own Conceit, as one that is Fondly Good, Kind, and Gracious to themselves; he having fastned his affections upon their very *Persons*, without any consideration of their *Dispositions* or *Qualifications*.

It is true indeed, that *Religion* is often expressed in the Scripture, by the *Fear of God*, and *Fear* hath been said to be *Prima Mensura Deitatis*, the *First Measure of the Divinity in us*, or the *First Impression* that *Religion* makes upon men in this *Obnoxious* and *Guilty* state, before they have arrived to the *true Love of God* and *Righteousness*. But this *Religious Fear*, is not a *Fear of God*, as a meer *Arbitrary Omnipotent Being*, much less as *Hurtful* and *Mischievous* (which could not be disjoyned from *Hatred*;) but an awful regard of him, as of one who is *Essentially Just*, and as well a *Punisher of Vice* and *Wickedness*, as a *Rewarder of Virtue*. *Lucretius* himself, when he describes this *Religious Fear* of men, confessing it to be conjoyned with a *Conscience of their Duty*, or to include the same within it self.

P. 503.

*Tunc Populi Gentesque tres sunt, &c.
Ne quod ob admissum sædè dictumve superbè,
Fœnarum grave sit solvendi tempus adactum.*

And

And this is the Sence of the Generality of mankind, that there being a *Natural Difference of Good and Evil Moral*, there is an *Impartial Justice* in the Deity which presideth over the same, and inclines it as well, to *Punish the wicked*, as to *Reward the Vertuous*: *Epicurus* himself acknowledging thus much, ἔστιν ἡ μεγίστη βλάβη τῶν κακῶν, οὐκ ἔστιν ἐνδοξασθαι, ἡ ἀφελῆσαι τοῖς ἀγαθοῖς, *Theists* suppose, that there are both great Evils inflicted upon the wicked from the Gods; and also great Rewards by them bestowed upon the Good. And this Fear of God, is not only Beneficial to mankind in general, by repressing the growth of wickedness, but also wholefom and Salutory to those very persons themselves, that are thus Religiously affected, it being Preservative of them both from *Moral Evils*, and likewise from the *Evils of Punishment* consequent thereupon. This is the *True and Genuine Fear of Religion*; which when it degenerates into a *Dark* kind, of *Jealous* and *Suspicious Fear of God Almighty*, either as a *Hurtful*, or as a meer *Arbitrary* and *Tyrannical Being*, then is it look'd upon, as the *Vice or Extreme of Religion*, and distinguished from it by that name of *ἰσχυρομανία*, *Superstition*. Thus is the Character of a Superstitious Man given by *Plutarch*, οἶσται θεὸς εἶναι, λυπηρὸς ὃ ἡ βλαβερὸς, *That he thinks there are Gods, but that they are Noxious and Hurtful*; and ἀνάγει τὴν μωρίαν τῆς ἰσχυρομανίας, ἡ φοβῶσθαι τὸν θεόν, *a Superstitious man must needs Hate God, as well as Fear him*. The true Fear of God (as the Son of *Sirach* speaks) is the Beginning of his Love, and Faith is the Beginning of cleaving to him. As if he should have said, The first Entrance into Religion is an Awful regard to God as the Punisher of Vice; the Second step forwards therein, is Faith or Confidence in God, whereby men Rely upon him for Good, and Cleave to him; and the Top and Perfection of all Religion, is the Love of God above all, as the most Amiable Being. Christianity, the best of Religions, recommendeth Faith to us, as the Inlet or Introduction into all True and Ingenuous Piety; for He that cometh to God, must not only believe that he is, but also that he is a Rewarder of those that seek him. Which Faith is better defined in the Scripture, than by any Scholastick; to be the Substance of things (that are to be) hoped for, and the Evidence of things not seen. That is, a Confident Perswasion of things that fall not under Sight, (because they are either Invisible or Future) and which also are to be Hoped for. So that Religious Fear consisteth well with Faith, and Faith is near of kin to Hope, and the result of both Faith and Hope, is Love: which Faith, Hope and Love, do all suppose an Essential Goodness in the Deity. God is such a Being, who if He were not, were of all things whatsoever most to be Wished for. It being indeed no way desirable (as that noble Emperor concluded) for a man to live in a world, void of a God and Providence. He that believes a God, believes all that Good and Perfection in the Universe, which his Heart can possibly wish or desire. It is the Interest of none, that there should be no God, but only of such wretched Persons, as have abandoned their First and only true Interest, of being Good, and Friends to God, and are desperately resolved upon ways of Wickedness.

The Reason why the Atheists do thus grossly mistake the Notion of God,
Cccc 2

God, and conceive of him differently from the Generality of mankind, as a thing which is only to be Feared, and must consequently be Hated, is from nothing but their own Vice and Ill Nature. For first, their Vice so far blinding them, as to make them think, that the Moral Differences of Good and Evil, have no foundation in Nature, but only in Law or Arbitrary Constitution (which Law is contrary to Nature, Nature being Liberty, but Law Restraint;) as they cannot but really Hate that, which Hinders them of their True Liberty and Chief Good, so must they needs interpret the Severity of the Deity so much spoken of against Wickedness, to be nothing else, but Cruelty and Arbitrary Tyranny. Again it is a wretched Ill-natured Maxim, which these Atheists have, That there is Nulla Naturalis Charitas, No Natural Charity, but that Omnis Benevolentia oritur ex Imbecillitate & Motu, All Benevolence ariseth onely, from Imbecillity and Fear; that is, from being either obnoxious to anothers Power, or standing in need of his Help. So that all that is now called Love and Friendship amongst Men, is according to these really nothing, but either a crouching under Anothers Power, whom they cannot Resist; or else Mercatura quaedam Utilitatum, a certain kind of Merchandizing for Utilities. And thus does Cotta in Cicero declare their sense, Ne Homines quidem censeatis, nisi Imbecilli essent, futuros Beneficos aut Benignos, You conceive that no man would be any way Beneficent or Benevolent to another, were it not for his Imbecillity or Indigence. But as for God Almighty, these Atheists conclude, That upon the supposition of his Existence, there could not be so much as this Spurious Love or Benevolence in him neither, towards any thing; because by reason of his Absolute and Irresistible Power, He would neither stand in Need of Any thing, and be devoid of all Fear. Thus the forementioned Cotta. Quid est Præstantius Bonitate & Beneficentiâ? Quâ cum carere Deum vultis, neminem Deo nec Deum nec Hominem Carum, neminem ab eo amari vultis. Ita sit ut non modo Homines à Diis, sed ipsi Dii inter se ab aliis aliis negligantur. What is there more excellent than Goodness and Beneficence? which when you will needs have God to be utterly devoid of, you suppose that neither any God nor Man, is Dear to the Supreme God, or beloved of him. From whence it will follow, that not only men are neglected by the Gods, but also the Gods amongst themselves are neglected by one another. Accordingly a late Pretender to Politicks, who in this manner, discards all Natural Justice and Charity, determines concerning God, Regnandi & Punienti eos qui Leges suas violant, Jus Deo esse à Solâ Potentiâ Irresistibili, That he has no other Right of Reigning over men, and of Punishing those who transgress his Laws, but only from his Irresistible Power. Which indeed is all one as to say, That God has no Right at all of Ruling over mankind, and imposing Commands upon them, but what he doth in this kind, he doth it only by Force and Power; Right, and Might, (or Power) being very different things from one another, and there being no Jus or Right without Natural Justice; so that the word Right is here only Abused. And Consentaneously hereunto the same Writer further adds, Si Jus Regnandi habeat Deus ab Omnipotentia sua, manifestum est Obligationem ad præstandum ipsi Obedientiam incumbere Hominibus propter Imbecillitatem, That if God's Right of Commanding, be derived only from his Omnipotence,

then

Cic. de N.D.
L. 1. c. 13.
La mb.

Cic. Ibid.

Cic. Ibid.

then is it manifest, that mens Obligation to obey him, lies upon them only from their Imbecillity. Or as it is further explained by him, *Homines idè Deo subiectos esse, quia Omnipotentes non sunt, aut quia ad Resistendum satis Virium non habent*, That men are therefore only subject to God, because they are not Omnipotent, or have not sufficient Power to Resist him. Thus do we see plainly, how the Atheists by reason of their Vice and and Ill Nature. (which makes them deny all Natural Justice and Honesty, all Natural Charity and Benevolence) transform the Deity into a monstrous shape; such an Omnipotent Being, as if he were, could have nothing neither of Justice, in him, nor of Benevolence towards his Creatures; and whose only Rights and Authority of Commanding them, would be his Irresistible Power; whom his Creatures could not place any Hope, Trust and Confidence in, nor have any other Obligation to obey, than that of Fear and Necessity, proceeding from their Imbecillity, or Inability to resist him. And such a Deity as this, is indeed a *Mormo* or *Eug-bear*, a most Formidable and Affrightful thing.

But all this is nothing, but the Atheists False Imagination; True Religion representing a most comfortable Prospect of things from the Deity; whereas on the contrary, the *Atheistick Scene of things*, is *Dismal, Hopeless and Forlorn*, That there should be no other Good, than what depends upon things wholly out of our own power, the momentary gratification of our Insatiate Appetites, and the perpetual pouring in to a *Dolium Pertusum*, a Perforated and Leaking Vessel. That our selves should be but a *Congeries of Atoms*, upon the dissolution of whose Compages, our Life should vanish into nothing, and all our Hope perish. That there should be no Providence over us, nor any Kind and Good-natured Being above, to take care of us, there being nothing without us, but Dead and Senseless Matter. True indeed there could be no spiteful Designs in *Senseless Atoms*, or a Dark Inconscions Nature. Upon which account, *Plutarch* would grant, that even this *Atheistick Hypothesis* it self, as bad as it is, were notwithstanding to be preferred, before that of an Omnipotent, Spiteful and Malicious Being, (if there can be any such Hypothesis as this) a Monarchy of the *Manichean Evil Principle*, reigning all alone over the whole world, without any Corrival, and having an undisturbed Empire. Nevertheless it is certain also, that there could be no Faith nor Hope neither, in these *Senseless Atoms*, both Necessarily and Fortuitously moved, no more than there could be Faith and Hope in a Whirlwind, or in a Tempestuous Sea, whose merciless waves are Inexorable, and deaf to all Cries and Supplications. For which reason *Epicurus* himself confessed, that it was better to give credit to the Fable of the Gods, (as he calls it) than to serve the *Atheistick Fate*, or that *Material Necessity* of all things, introduced by those *Atheistick Physiologers* *Leucippus* and *Democritus*; *ἡ γὰρ τῶν θεῶν μέγα κατακολαδών, ἢ τῇ τῶν φυσικῶν ἀναγκῇ· ὁ μὲν γὰρ ἐλπίδα ἀνταρτήσεως ὑπονοεῖται, διὰ δὲ τῆς φύσεως ἡ ἀνταρτία ἔχει τὴν ἀνάγκην*. Because there is Hope that the Gods may be prevailed with, by worship and prayers; but the other (Necessity) is altogether deaf and Inexorable. And though *Epicurus* thought to mend the matter, and make the *Atheistick Hypothesis* more tolerable, by introducing into it (contrary to the Tenour of those Principles) Liberty

De Superst.

Epiſt. ad Men.
P. 49. Gass.

of

of *Will* in Men; yet this being not a *Power* over things Without us, but our Selves only, could alter the case very little. *Epicurus* himself was in a *Panick Fear*, lest the frame of Heaven should sometime upon a sudden crack, and tumble about his Ears, and this Fortuitous Complement of Atoms be dissolved into a *Chaos*,

— Tria talia Texta

*Una Dies dabit exitio; multosque per annos
Sustentata ruet moles, & Machina mundi,*

De Superst.

And what Comfort could his *Liberty of Will* then afford Him, who placed all his happiness in *Security* from *External Evils*? τίλ' οὐ τὴ μὴ νοῦνεν θεός, μὴ φοβέσθαι, (saith *Plutarch*) *The Atheistick Design* in shaking off the *Belief of a God*, was to be without *Fear*; but by means hereof, they framed such a System of things to themselves, as under which, they could not have the least *Hope, Faith* or *Confidence*. Thus running from *Fear*, did they plunge themselves into *Fear*; for they who are without *Hope*, can never be free from *Fear*. Endless of necessity must the *Fears* and *Anxieties* of those men be, who shake off that *One Fear* of *God*, that would only preserve them from *Evil*, and have no *Faith* nor *Hope* in him. Wherefore we might conclude upon better grounds than the *Atheists* do of *Theism*; that *Atheism* (which hath no foundation at all in *Nature* nor in *Reason*) springs first from the *Imposture of Fear*. For the *Faith of Religion*, being the *Substance* or *Confidence* of such things not seen, as are to be *Hoped* for; *Atheistick Infidelity* must needs on the contrary be, a certain heavy *Diffidence*, *Despondence* and *Misgiving of Mind*, or a *Timorous Distrust* and *Disbelief of Good*, to be *Hoped* for, beyond the reach of *Sense*; namely of an *Invisible Being Omnipotent*, that exerciseth a *Just, Kind, and Gracious Providence*, over all those who commit their ways to him, with an endeavour to please him, both here in this *Life* and after *Death*. But *Vice*, or the *Love of Lawless Liberty*, prevailing over such *Disbelieving persons*, makes them by degrees, more and more desirous, that there should be no *God*; that is, no such *Hinderer* of their *Liberty*, and to count it a happiness to be freed from the *Fear* of him, whose *Justice* (if he were) they must needs be obnoxious to,

And now have we made it Evident, that these *Atheists* who make *Religion* and the *Belief of a God*, to proceed from the *Imposture of Fear*, do first of all disguise the *Deity*, and put a *Monstrous, Horrid* and *Affrightful Vizard* upon it, transforming it into such a thing, as can only be *Feared* and *Hated*; and then do they conclude concerning it (as well indeed they may) that there is no such thing as this, really *Existing in Nature*, but that it is only a *Mormo* or *Eng-bear*, raised up by mens *Fear* and *Phantasie*. Of the Two, it might better be said, that the *Opinion of a God*, sprung from mens *Hope of Good*, than from their *Fear of Evil*; but really, it springs neither from *Hope* nor *Fear*, (however in different Circumstances it raises both those *Passions* in our Minds;) nor is it the *Imposture of any Passion*, but that whose *Belief* is supported and Sustained, by the strongest

strongest and clearest Reason; as shall be declared in due place. But the Sense of a Deity, often Preventing Ratiocination in us, and urging it self more Immediately upon us, it is certain that there is also, besides a Rational Belief thereof, a Natural Prophecy or Anticipation in the Minds of men concerning it, which by Aristotle is called *μαρτεία*, A Vaticination.

Thus have we sufficiently confuted, the First Atheistick Pretence, to solve the Phenomenon of Religion and the Belief of a God, so generally entertained, from the Imposture of Fear: we come now to the Second, That it proceeded from the Ignorance of Causes also, or Mens want of Philosophy: they being prone, by reason of their Innate Curiosity, where they find no Causes to make or feign them; and from their Fear, in the Absence of Natural and Necessary Causes, to imagine Super-natural and Divine; this also affording them a handfom Cover and Pretext for their Ignorance. For which cause these Atheists stick not to affirm of God Almighty, what some Philosophers do of Occult Qualities, that he is but *Perfugium & Asylum Ignorantiae*, a Refuge Lucet. p. 500. and Shelter for mens Ignorance; that is, in plain and downright Language, The meer Sanctuary of Fools.

And these two things are here commonly joyned together by these Atheists, both Fear, and Ignorance of Causes, as which joyntly concur in the Production of Theism. Because as the Fear of Children raises up Bugbears especially in the Dark, so do they suppose in like manner, the Fear of men, in the Darkness of their Ignorance of Causes especially, to raise up the Mormo, Spectre or Phantasm of a God; which is thus intimated by the Epicurean Poet,

————— *Omnia Cæcis*
In tenebris Metnunt.

And accordingly Democritus gave this account of the Original of Theism or Religion, *ὁρῶντες γὰρ οἱ τοῖς μετέωροις πᾶσι καὶ οἱ παλαιοὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων, καὶ τὰς βροτῶν καὶ ἀστροπῶν, καὶ κεραυνῶν, ἡλίου τε καὶ σελήνης ἐκλείψεις, ἐκθαμβούμενοι δὲ τοὺς οἰόμενοι τῶν αἰσίων αἰτίας·* That when in old times, men observed strange and affrightful things in the Meteors and the Heaven, as Thunder, Lightning, Thunderbolts & Eclipses; they not knowing the Causes thereof, & being terrified thereby, presently imputed them to the Gods. And Epicurus declares this to have been the reason, why he took such great pains in the study of Physiology, that by finding out the Natural and Necessary Causes of things, he might be able to free both himself and others from the Terror of a God, which would otherwise Invade and Assault them: the Importunity of mens minds, when-ever they are at a loss for Natural Causes, urging them so much, with the Fear, Suspicion, and Jealousie of a Deity.

Wherefore the Atheists thus dabling in Physiology, and finding out as they conceive, Material and Mechanical Causes, for some of the Phenomena of Nature, and especially for such of them, as the unskilful Vulgar some times impute to God himself; when they can prove Eclipses

Eclipses (for example) to be no *Miracles*, and render it probable, that *Thunder* is not the *Voice of God Almighty* himself, as it were roaring above in the Heavens, meerly to affright and amaze poor Mortals, and make them quake and tremble; and that *Thunderbolts* are not there flung by his own hands, as the direful messengers of his wrath and displeasure; they presently conclude triumphantly thereupon, concerning *Nature* or *Matter*, that it doth

Ipsa sua per se, sponte, omnia, Diis agere experta,

Do all things alone of it self without a God. But we shall here make it appear in a few Instances as briefly as we may, that *Philosophy* and the *True Knowledge of Causes*, leads to God; and that *Atheism* is nothing but *Ignorance of Causes and of Philosophy*.

For first, no Atheist, who derives all from senseless Atoms or Matter, is able to assign any Cause at all of Himself, or give any true account of the Original of his own *Soul* or *Mind*, it being utterly Unconceivable and Impossible, that *Soul* and *Mind*, *Sense*, *Reason* and *Understanding*, should ever arise from *Irrational* and *Senseless Matter* however modified; or result from *Atoms*, devoid of all manner of Qualities; that is, from meer *Magnitude*, *Figure*, *Site* and *Motion* of Parts. For though it be indeed absurd to say (as these Atheists alledge) that *Laughing* and *Crying Things*, are made out of *Laughing* and *Crying Principles*,

Et Ridere potest non ex Ridentibu' factus;

Yet does it not therefore follow, that *Sensitive* and *Rational Beings*, might result from a Composition of *Irrational* and *Senseless Atoms*, which according to the *Democritick Hypothesis*, have nothing in them, but *Magnitude*, *Figure*, *Site*, and *Motion*, or *Rest*. Because *Laughing* and *Crying*, are *Motions*, which result from the *Mechanism* of Humane Bodies, in such a manner *Organized*, but *Sense* and *Understanding* are neither *Local Motion*, nor *Mechanism*. And the Case will be the very same, both in the *Anaximandrian* or *Hylopathian*, and in the *Stratonick* or *Hylozoick Atheism*, because *Sense* and *Conscious Understanding*, could no more result, either from those Qualities of Heat and Cold, Moist and Dry, tempered together, or from the meer *Organization* of *Inanimate* and *Senseless Matter*, than it could from the

Concursus, Atoms, Ordo, Positura, Figura,

of *Atoms* devoid of all manner of Qualities. Had there been once nothing but *Senseless Matter*, *Fortuitously Moved*, there could never have emerged into *Being*, any *Soul* or *Mind*, *Sense* and *Understanding*; because no *Effect* can possibly transcend the *Perfection* of its *Cause*. Wherefore Atheists supposing *Themselves*, and all *Souls* and *Minds*, to have sprung from *Stupid* and *Senseless Matter*; and all that *Wisdom* which is any where in the World, both *Political* and *Philosophical*,

to be the Result of meer *Fortune* and *Chance* ; must needs be concluded, to be Grossly *Ignorant of Causes* ; which had they not been, they could never have been *Atheists*. So that *Ignorance of Causes*, is the *Seed*, not of *Theism*, but of *Atheism* : true *Philosophy*, and the *Knowledge of the Cause of our Selves*, leading necessarily to a *Deity*.

Again, *Atheists* are *Ignorant of the Cause of Motion in Bodies* also ; by which notwithstanding they suppose all things to be done ; that is, they are never able to *Salve this Phenomenon*, so long as they are *Atheists*, and acknowledge no other Substance besides *Matter* or *Body*. For First it is undeniably certain, that *Motion* is not *Essential* to all *Body* as such, because then no Particles of *Matter* could ever *Rest* ; and consequently there could have been no *Generation*, nor no such *Mundane System* produced as this is, which requires a certain Proportionate Commixture of *Motion* and *Rest* ; no *Sun*, nor *Moon*, nor *Earth*, nor *Bodies of Animals* ; since there could be no Coherent Consistency of any thing, when all things flutter'd and were in continual *Separation* and *Division* from one another. Again it is certain likewise, that *Matter* or *Body* as such, hath no Power of *Moving* it self *Freely* or *Spontaneously* neither, by *Will* or *Appetite* ; both because the same Inconvenience would from hence ensue likewise, and because the *Phænomena* or *Appearances* do plainly evince the contrary. And as for that Prodigious Absurd Paradox, of some few *Hylozoick Atheists*, that all *Matter* as such, and therefore every *Smallest Particle* thereof, hath not only *Life* Essentially belonging to it, but also *Perfect Wisdom* and *Knowledge*, together with *Appetite*, and *Self-moving Power*, though without *Animal Sense* or *Consciousness* : this, I say, will be elsewhere in due place further confuted. But the Generality of the ancient *Atheists*, that is, the *Anaximandrians* and *Democriticks*, attributed no manner of *Life* to *Matter* as such ; and therefore could ascribe no *Voluntary*, or *Spontaneous Motion* to the same, but *Fortuitous* only ; according to that of the *Epicurean Poet* already cited,

*Nam certè neque Consilio, Primordia rerum,
Ordine se queque, atque sagaci mente locarunt ;
Nec quos queque darent Motus pepigere profecto.*

Wherefore these *Democriticks*, as *Aristotle* somewhere intimates, were able to assign no other Cause of *Motion*, than only this, That One *Body* moved another from *Eternity* Infinitely, so that there was no *πρῶτον κίνησις*, no First Unmoved Mover, ever to be found ; because there is no Beginning nor First in *Eternity*. From whence probably that Doctrine of some *Atheistick Stoicks* in *Alex. Aphrodisius* was derived, That there is no First in the rank and order of Causes. In the footsteps of which Philosophers, a Modern Writer seemeth to have trodden, when declaring himself after this manner ; *Si quis ab Effectu quocunque, ad Causam ejus Immediatam, atque inde ad Remotiorum, ac sic perpetuò ratiocinatione ascendcrit, non tamen in aeternum procedere poterit, sed defatigatus aliquando deficiet.* If any one will from whatsoever Effect, ascend upward to its Immediate Cause, and

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*Alex. Aph.
Lib de Fate,*

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from thence to a Remoter, and so onwards perpetually, in his Ratiocination; yet shall he never be able to hold on thorough all Eternity, but at length being quite tyred out with his Journey, be forced to desist or give over. Which seems to be all one, as if he should have said; One thing Moved or Caused another Infinitely from Eternity, in which there being no Beginning, there is consequently no First Mover or Cause to be reach'd unto. But this Infinite Progress of these Democriticks, in the Order of Causes, and their slitting off the Cause of Motion, from one thing to another without end or beginning, was rightly understood by Aristotle, to be indeed the Assigning of No Cause of Motion at all, *ἐς ἀπὸ τοῦ ὄντος, ἐκ μὴ ἔστι καὶ φάνηκεν πρῶτον*, They acknowledging (saith he) no First Mover according to Nature, must needs make an idle Progress Infinitely; that is, in the Language of this Philosopher, assign no Cause at all of Motion. Epicurus therefore to mend the matter, though according to the Principles of the Atomick Philosophy, he discarded all other Qualities, yet did he notwithstanding admit this One Quality of Gravity or Ponderosity in Atoms, pressing them continually downwards in Infinite Space. In which, as nothing could be more Absurd nor Unphilosophical, than to make Upwards and Downwards in Infinite Space, or a Gravity tending to no Centre, nor Place of Rest; so did he not assign any Cause of Motion neither; but only in effect affirm, the Atoms therefore to tend Downwards, because they did so: a Quality of Gravity signifying only an Endeavour to tend Downwards, but Why or Wherefore, no body knows. And it is all one as if Epicurus should have said; that Atoms moved Downwards by an Occult Quality, he either betaking himself to this as an Asylum, a Sanctuary or Refuge for his Ignorance; or else indeed more absurdly making his very Ignorance it self (disguized under that name of a Quality) to be the Cause of Motion. Thus the Atheists universally, either assigned no Cause at all for Motion, as the Anaximandrians and Democriticks; or else no True one, as the Hylozoists; when to avoid Incorporeal Substance, they would venture to attribute, *Perfekt Understanding, Appetite or Will, and Self-moving Power*, to all Senseless Matter whatsoever. But since it appears plainly, that Matter or Body cannot Move it self; either the Motion of all Bodies, must have no manner of Cause, or else must there of necessity, be some other Substance besides Body, such as is Self-active and Hylarchical, or hath a Natural Power, of Ruling over Matter. Upon which latter account, Plato rightly determin'd, that Cogitation, which is Self-activity or Autochinsie, was in order of Nature, before the Local Motion of Body, which is Heterochinsie. Though Motion considered Passively in Bodies, or taken for their Translation, or Change of Distance and Place, be indeed a Corporeal thing, or a Mode of those Bodies themselves movings yet as it is considered Actively, for the Vis Movens, that Active Force which causes this Translation or Change of Place, so is it an Incorporeal thing; the Energy of a Self-Active Substance, upon that sluggish Matter or Body, which cannot at all move it self. Wherefore in the Bodies of Animals, the True and Proper Cause of Motion, or the Determination thereof at least; is not the Matter it self Organized; but the Soul either as Cogitative, or Passively-Self-Active, Vitally united thereunto, and Naturally Ruling over it. But in the whole World it is either God himself, Originally impress-
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ing a certain *Quantity of Motion* upon the Matter of the Universe, and constantly conserving the same, according to that of the Scripture, *In* *Mat. 17. 22.* *him we Love & Move:* (which seems to have been the Sense also of that Noble Argentine Poet and Philosopher, when he described God, to be only, *A Pure or Holy Mind, that with swift thoughts agitates the whole World*) or else it is Instrumentally, an *Inferiour Created Spirit, Soul, or Life of Nature*, that is, a *Subordinate Hylarchical Principle*, which hath a *Power of Moving Matter Regularly*, according to the Direction of a *Superiour Perfect Mind*. And thus do we see again, that *Ignorance of Causes*, is the *Seed of Atheism*, and not of *Theism*; no Atheists bring able to assign a true *Cause of Motion*; the Knowledge whereof plainly leadeth to a God.

Furthermore those Atheists who acknowledge no other Principle of things, but *Senseless Matter Fortuitously moved*, must needs be *Ignorant* also of the *Cause* of that *Grand Phenomenon*, called by Aristotle, the τὸ αὐτὸ καὶ ἁρμόζον, the *Well and Fit in Nature*, that is, of the most *Artificial Frame* of the whole Mundane System in General, and of the *Bodies of Animals* in Particular, together with the *Conspiring Harmony* of all. For they who boasted themselves able to give *Natural Causes* of all things whatsoever without a God; can give no other Cause at all of this *Phenomenon*, but only that the *World Happened by Chance to be thus made as it is*. Now they who make *Fortune and Chance*, to be the only Cause of this so Admirable *Phenomenon*, the most *Regular and Artificial Frame*, and *Harmony* of the *Universe*; they either make the meer *Absence and Want of a Cause*, to be a Cause, *Fortune and Chance* being nothing else but the *Absence or want of an Intending Cause*. Or else do they make, their own *Ignorance of a Cause*, and *They know not How*, to be a Cause; as the *Author of the Leviathan* interprets the meaning hereof, *Many times* (saith he) *men put for Cause*; *Natural Events, their own Ignorance, but disguised in other words, as when they say, that Fortune is the Cause of things Contingent, that is, of things whereof they know no Cause*. Or they affirm against all Reason, one Contrary to be the Cause of another, as *Confusion* to be the Cause of *Order, Pulchritude and Harmony*; *Chance and Fortune*, to be the Cause of *Art and Skill*; *Folly and Nonsense*, the Cause of the most *Wise and Regular Contrivance*. Or Lastly, they deny it to have any Cause at all, since they deny an *Intending Cause*, and there cannot Possibly be any other Cause of *Artificialness and Conspiring Harmony*, than *Mind and Wisdom, Counsel and Contrivance*.

But because the *Atheists* here make some *Pretences* for this their *Ignorance*, we shall not conceal any of them, but bring them all to light; to the end that we may discover their *Weakness and Foolery*. First therefore they *Pretend*, that the *World* is not so *Artificially and Well made*, but that it might have been made much *Better*, and that there are many *Faults and Flaws* to be found therein; from whence they would infer, that it was not made by a *God*, he being supposed by *Theists*, to be no *Bungler*, but a *Perfect Mind*, or a *Being Infinitely Good and Wise*, who therefore should have made all things for the *Best*.

But this being already set down by it self, as a *Twelfth Atheistick Objection* against a *Deity*, we must reserve the Confutation thereof for its proper place. Only we shall observe thus much here by the way; That those *Theists* of Later times, who either because they Fancy a meer *Arbitrary Deity*; or because their *Faith* in the *Divine Goodness* is but weak; or because they Judge of things according to their own *Private Appetites*, and *Selfish Passions*, and not with a Free Uncaptivated *Universality* of Mind, and an *Impartial Regard* to the *Good* of the *Whole*; or because they look only upon the *Present Scene* of things, and take not in the *Future* into consideration, nor have a Comprehensive View of the whole *Plot* of *Divine Providence* together; or lastly, because we Mortals do all stand upon too *Low a Ground*, to take a commanding view and *Prospect* upon the whole Frame of things; and our shallow Understandings are not able to fathom the Depths of the *Divine Wisdom*, nor trace all the Methods and Designs of *Providence*; grant, That the World might have been made much *Better* than now it is; which indeed is all one as to say, that it is *Not Well made*; these *Neo-terick Christians* (I say) seem hereby, to give a much greater advantage to the *Atheists*, than the *Pagan Theists* themselves heretofore did, who stood their Ground, and generously maintained against them, that *Mind* being the *Maker of all things*, and not *Fortune* or *Chance*, nor *Arbitrary Self-will*, and *Irrational Humour* *Omnipotent*, the *τὸ βέλτιστον*, that which is *Absolutely the Best* in every case, so far as the *Necessity* of things would admit, and in compliance with the *Good* of the *Whole*, was the *Measure* and *Rule* both of *Nature* and *Providence*.

Again the *Atomick Atheists* further alledge, that though there be many things in the world, which serve well for *Uses*, yet it does not at all follow, that therefore they were made *Intentionally* and *Designedly* for those *Uses*; because though things Happen by *Chance* to be so or so Made, yet may they serve for something or other afterward, and have their several *Uses* *Consequent*. Wherefore all the things of *Nature*, *Happened* (say they) by *Chance*, to be so made as they are, and their several *Uses* notwithstanding were *Consequent*, or Following thereupon. Thus the *Epicurean Poet*,

*Lacros. L. 4.
v. 367. Lamb.*

————— *Nil ideo natum est in Corpore, ut Utī
Possimus, sed quod Natum est id precreat Usū.*

Phys. L. 2. c. 8.

Nothing in man's Body was made out of design for any Use, but all the several Parts thereof, happening to be so made as they are, their Uses were *Consequent* thereupon. In like manner the Old *Atheistick Philosophers* in *Aristotle*, concluded, τὰς ἐδελθὰς ἑ ἀνάγκης ἀπατέλλαι, τὰς μὲν ἐμπροσθεν ὄντας, ἐπ' ἡγεμονίας πρὸς τὸ διακεῖν, τὰς δὲ ὀπίσθεν πλατύς, καὶ χρεῖμας πρὸς τὸ λεῖαναι τὴν τροφὴν· ἐπεὶ δὲ τότε ἕνεκα γινώσκειν, ἀλλὰ συμπτῶν· ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ τῶν ἄλλων μερῶν, ὡς οὗτος δὲ καὶ ὑπάρχει τὸ ἕνεκα τῶν. That the *Former Teeth*, were made by *Material* or *Mechanical Necessity*, *Thin and Sharp*, by means whereof they became fit for *Cutting*; but the *Jaw-Teeth* *Thick and Broad*, whereby they be-

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came Useful for the Grinding of Food. But neither of them were Intended to be such, for the sake of these Uses, but Happened by Chance only. And the like concerning all the other Parts of the Body, which seem to be made for Ends. Accordingly the same Aristotle, represents the sense of those ancient Atheists, concerning the other Parts of the Universe, or Things of Nature, that they were all likewise made such, by the Necessity of Material (or Mechanical) Motions Undirected, and yet had nevertheless their several Uses Consequent, upon this their Accidental Structure. *Τι καλὸν τὸν φόνον μὴ ἐνενδὲν τῷ ποιεῖν, μὴδ' ὅτι βέλτων, ἀλλ' ὡσπερ ὅτε ὁ Ζεὺς, ὅχι ὅπως ἔστιν αἰσίων, ἀλλ' ὅτι ἀνάγκη, &c.* What hinders but that Nature might act without any respect to Ends or Good and Better, as Jupiter or the Heaven, raineth not Intentionally to make the Corn grow, but from Necessity? Because the vapours being raised up into the Middle Region, and there Refrigerated and Condensed, must needs descend down again in the form of Water. But this happens by meer Chance and without any Intention, that the Grain is made to grow thereby; as the Contrary sometimes Happens, by the excess of it.

But to this we Reply, That though a thing that Happens Accidentally to be so or so Made, may afterwards notwithstanding prove often serviceable for some Use or other; yet when any thing consisteth of many Parts, that are all Artificially proportionated together, and with much Curiosity accommodated one to another; any one of which Parts having been wanting, or otherwise in the least placed and disposed of, would have rendered the whole altogether Inept for such a Use; then may we well conclude it not to have been made by Chance, but by Counsel and Design Intentionally, for such Uses. As for example, The Eye, whose Structure and Fabrick consisting of many Parts (Humours and Membranes) is so Artificially composed; no reasonable person who considers the whole Anatomy thereof, and the Curiosity of its Structure, can think otherwise of it, but that it was made out of Design for the Use of Seeing; and did not Happen Accidentally to be so made, and then the Use of Seeing follow; as the Epicurean Poet would fain persuade us,

*Lumina ne facias Oculorum clara Creata,
Prospicere ut possimus.*

P. 367. Lamb.

You are by all means to take heed, of entertaining that so dangerous Opinion (to Atheism) that Eyes were made for the sake of Seeing, and Ears for the sake of Hearing. But for a man to think, that not only Eyes happened to be so made, and the Use of Seeing Unintended Followed; but also that in all the same Animals, Ears Happen: do to be so made too, and the Use of Hearing Followed them; and a Mouth and Tongue Happened to be so made likewise, and the Use of Eating, and (in men) of Speaking, was also Accidentally Consequent thereupon; and Feet were in the same Animals made by Chance too, and the Use of Walking Followed; and Hands made in them by Chance also, upon which so many necessary Uses depend; besides Innumerable other Parts of the Body, both Similar and Organical, none of which could

could have been wanting, without rendering the whole *Inept* or *Useless*; I say, to think, that all these things should Happen by Chance to be Thus made in every one and the same Animal, and not *Designed* by *Mind* or *Council*, that they might joyntly *Concur* and *Contribute* to the Good of the whole; This argues the greatest *Insensibility* of *Mind* *Imaginable*. But this Absurd and Ridiculous Conceit hath been long since so industriously Confuted, and the folly thereof so fully manifested, by that learned Pagan Philosopher and Physician, *Galen*, in his Book of the Use of Parts, that it would be altogether Superfluous to insist any more upon it.

Wherefore that the *Former Teeth* are made *Thin* and *Sharp*, and the *Jaw-Teeth* *Thick* and *Broad*, by *Chance only*, and not for *Use*, was one of the *Democritick* Dotages; as also That nothing in the Clouds and Meteors, was intended for the *Good* of this *Habitable Earth*, within whose *Atmo-sphere* they are contained, but all proceeded from *Material* and *Mechanical Necessity*. Which Conceit, though *Cartesius* seem to have written his whole Book of Meteors in favour of, he beginning it with the Derision of those, who *Seat God* in the Clouds, and imagine his hands to be Employed, in opening and shutting the Cloisters of the Winds, in sprinkling the Flowers with dews, and thunder-striking the Tops of Mountains; and closing his Discourse with this Boast; that he had now made it manifest, there was no need to fly to Miracles, (that is, to Bring in a God upon the Stage) to save those Phenomena; yet were it easie enough to demonstrate, the Defectiveness of those his *Mechanical Undertakings*, in sundry particulars, and to evince that all those things could not be carried on, with such constant Regularity, by meer *Fortuitous Mechanism*, without any *Superiour Principle* to guide and steer them. Nevertheless we acknowledge, that *God* and *Nature* do things every whete, in the most *Frugal* and *Compendious way*, and with the least *Operoseness*, and therefore that the *Mechanick Powers* are not rejected, but taken in, so far as they could comply serviceably with the *Intellectual Model* and *Platform*. But still so, as that all is supervised by One *Understanding* and *Intending Cause*, and nothing passes, without His *Approbation*; who when either those *Mechanick Powers* fall short, or the *Stubborn Necessity* of *Matter* proves uncompliant, does over-rule the same, and supply the Defects thereof, by that which is *Vital*; and that without setting his own Hands immediately to every work too; there being a *Subservient Minister* under him, an *Artificial Nature*, which as an *Archæus* of the whole world, governs the *Fluctuating Mechanism* thereof, and does all things faithfully, for Ends and Purposes, Intended by its Director.

But our *Atomick Atheists* still further alledge, That though it might well seem strange, that *Matter* *Fortuitously moved*, should at the very first jump, fall into such a *Regular Frame* as this is, having so many Aptitudes for Uses, so many *Correspondencies* between several things, and such an agreeing *Harmony* in the whole; yet ought it not to seem a jot strange, if *Atoms* by *Motion*, making all possible *Combinations* and *Contextures*, and trying all manner of *Conclusions* and *Experiments*,

ments, should after Innumerable other Freaks, and Discongruous Forms produced, in length of time. fall into such a System as this is. Wherefore they affirm, that this Earth of ours at first, brought forth divers Monstrous and Irregular Shapes of Animals,

*Orba pedum partim, manuum viduata vicissim;
Multa sine ore etiam, sine Vultu ceca reperta.*

*Lacert. L. 5.
P. 476 Lamb.*

some without Feet, some without Hands, some without a Mouth and Face, some wanting fit Muscles and Nerves for the Motion of their members. And the old Philosophick Atheists, were so frank and lavish herein, that they stuck not to affirm, amongst those monstrous Shapes of Animals there were once produced, Centaurs, and Scyllas, and Chimeras; περὶ αὐτῶν δὲ ἀνθρώπων, mixtly Boviform and Hominiform, Bisform and Triform Animals: but Epicurus a little ashamed of this, as that which must needs look Oddly and Ridiculously, and seeming more Cautious and Castigate, pretends to correct the Extravagancy of this Phancy,

*Sed neque Centauri fuerunt, neque tempore in illo,
Fisse queat Duplici Natura, & Corpore Bino,
Ex alienigenis Membris compacta potestas.*

*Luc. L. 9.
P. 479.*

Nevertheless, there were not then any Centaurs, nor Bisform and Triform Animals; he adding, that they who feigned such things as these, might as well phancy, Rivers flowing with Golden Streams, and Trees Germinating sparkling Diamonds, and such vastly Gigantean men, as could stride over Seas, and take up Mountains in their Clutches, and turn the Heavens about with the strength of their arms. Against all which notwithstanding, he gravely gives such a Reason, as plainly overthrows his own Principles,

*Res sic quæque suo ritu procedit, & omnes,
Fœdere Naturæ certo discrimina servant.*

P. 480.

Because things by a certain Covenant of Nature, always keep up their Specifick Differences, without being confounded together. For what Covenant of Nature can there be in Infinite Chance? or what Law can there be set to the Absolutely Fortuitous Motions of Atoms, to circumscribe them by? Wherefore it must be acknowledged, that according to the genuine Hypothesis of the Atomick Atheism, all Imaginable Forms of Inanimate Bodies, Plants and Animals, as Centaurs, Scylla's and Chimera's, are producible by the Fortuitous Motions of Matter, there being nothing to hinder it, whilst it doth,

*Omnimodis coire, atque omnia pertentare
Quæcumque inter se possint congressa creare,*

Put it self into all kind of Combinations, play all manner of Freaks, and try all possible Conclusions and Experiments:

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But they Pretend, that these *Monstrows, Irregular Shapes of Animals*, were not therefore now to be found, because by reason of their *Inept Fabrick*, they could not propagate their kind by Generation, as neither indeed Preserve their own Individuals. Thus does *Lucretius* declare the fence of *Epicurus*,

Lamb. p. 476.

Quoniam Natura absternit animum
Nec potuere caputum atatis tangere florem,
Nec reperire cibum, nec jungi per Veneris res.

Nat. Hist.
L. 2. c. 68.

And that this *Atheistick Doctrine* was older than *Epicurus*, appeareth from these words of *Aristotle*, ὅτις μὲν ἐν ἀπείρῳ συνέχῃ, τὰ πάντα μὲν ἐγένοντο ἀπὸ τοῦ αὐτομάτου συστάσις ὁππότε δ' ἔως ἡμετέρας, ἀπὸ τοῦ ἐμπεδοκλέους ἢ γὰρ τοῦ βουγιῶν, καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ ἐμπεδοκλέους ἢ γὰρ τοῦ βουγιῶν, καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ ἐμπεδοκλέους. *When Animals Happened at first to be made, in all manner of Forms, those of them only, were preserved and continued to the present time, which-chanced to be fitly made (for Generation) but all the others perished, as Empedocles affirmeth of the Partly-Oxe-and-Partly-Man-Animals.* Moreover the ancient both *Anaximandrian* and *Democritick Atheists*, concluded that besides this One World of ours, there were other *Infinite Worlds*, (they conceiving it as absurd to think, there should be but One only World in *Infinite Space*, as that in a vast plowed and sowed Field, there should grow up only One Ear of Corn, and no more) and they would have us believe, that amongst these *Infinite Worlds* (all of them Fortuitously made) there is not One of a Thousand or perhaps of Ten thousand, that hath such *Regularity, Concinnity, and Harmony* in it, as this World that we chanced to emerge in. Now it cannot be thought strange (as they suppose) if amongst *Infinite Worlds*, One or Two, should chance to fall into some *Regularity*. They would also confidently assure us, that the present System of things, in this World of ours, shall not long continue such as it is, but after a while fall into *Confusion* and *Disorder* again;

Mundi naturam totius atas
Mutat, & ex alio terram status excipit alter,
Quod potuit nequeat, possit quod non tulit ante :

The same wheel of Fortune, which moving upward, hath brought into view this Scene of things that now is, turning round, will sometime or other, carry it all away again, introducing a new one in its stead; and then shall we have *Centauris*, and *Scylla's* and *Chimera's* again; all manner of *Inept Forms of Animals*, as before.

But because men may yet be puzzled with the *Universality* and *Constancy* of this *Regularity*, and its long Continuance through so many Ages, that there are no Records at all of the contrary any where to be found; the *Atomick Atheist* further adds, that the *Senseless Atoms*, playing and toying up and down, without any care or thought, and from Eternity Trying all manner of *Tricks*, *Conclusions*

sions and *Experiments*, were at length (they know not how) *Taught*, and by the *Necessity* of *things themselves*, as it were, *Driven*, to a certain kind of *Trade* of *Artificialness* and *Methodicalness*: so that though their *Motions* were at First all *Casual* and *Fortuitous*, yet in length of *Time*, they became *Orderly* and *Artificial*, and Governed by a *certain Law*; they contracting as it were upon themselves by long *Practice* and *Experience*, a kind of *Habit* of moving *Regularly*; or else being by the meer *Necessity* of *things*, at length forced so to move, as they should have done, had *Art* and *Wisdom* directed them. Thus *Epictetus* in his Epistle to *Herodotus*, ἀλλὰ μὴς ὑπολαμβάνει εἰς τὴν φύσιν πολλὰ P. 28. Gess. εἰς παντοία ὑπὸ τῆς αὐτῆς τῆς περιμετρικῆς διδασκῆσαι τι εἰς ἀναγκαῖότητα, It must be held, that *Nature* is both *Taught* and *Necessitated* by the *things themselves*: Or else as *Gassendus* interprets the words, *quadam veluti Naturali Necessariaque Doctrina sensum imbuta*; by little and little *Embedded*, with a certain kind of *Natural* and *Necessary Doctrine*.

To which *Atheistical Pretences*, we shall briefly reply; First, that it is but an *Idle Dream*, or rather *Impudent Forgery* of these *Atheists*, that heretofore there were in this *World* of ours, all manner of *Monstrous* and *Irregular Shapes* of *Animals* produced; *Centauri*, *Scylla's*, and *Chimera's*, &c. and indeed at first none but such: There being not the least footstep of any such thing appearing in all the *Monuments* of *Antiquity*, and *Traditions* of *Former times*; and these *Atheists* being not able to give any manner of reason, why there should not be such produced as well at this *Present time*, however the *Individuals* themselves could not continue long, or propagate by *Generation*; or at least why it should not *Happen*, that in some *Ages* or *Countreys*, there were either all *Androgyna*, of both *Sexes*, or else no *Animal* but of *One Sex*, *Male*, or *Female* only; or lastly none of any *Sex* at all. Neither is there any more reason to give credit to these *Atheists*, when (though enemies to *Divination*) they would *Prophesie* concerning *Future times*, that in this *World* of ours, all shall sometime fall into *Confusion* and *Nonsense* again. And as their *Infinity* of *Worlds*, is an *absolute Impossibility*; so to their *Bold* and *Confident Assertion*, concerning those *Supposed* other *Worlds*; as if they had travelled over them all; that amongst *Ten Thousand* of them, there is hardly *Ooe*, that hath so much *Regularity* in it, as this *World* of ours; it might be replied, with equal *Confidence*, and much more *Probability* of *Reason*; That were every *Planet* about this *Sun* of ours an *Habitable Earth*; and every *Fixed Star* a *Sun*, having likewise its several other *Planets* or *Habitable Earths* moving round about it; and not any one of these *Desert* or *Uninhabited*, but all *Peopled with Animals*; we say, were this so extravagant *Supposition* true; That there would not be found any one *Ridiculous* or *Inept System* amongst them all; but that the *Divine Art* and *Wisdom* (which being *Infinite*, can never be *Defective*, nor any where *Idle*) would exercise its *Dominion* upon all, and every where *Impress* the *Sculptures* and *Signatures* of it self.

In the next place we affirm, That the *Fortuitous Motions* of *Sensless Atoms*, tying never so many *Experiments* and *Conclusions*, and making

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king never so many *Combinations* and *Aggregate Forms* of things, could never be able to produce so much as the *Form* or *System* of one complete Animal, with all the Organick parts thereof so Artificially disposed (each of these being as it were a *Little World*) much less the *System* of this *Great World*, with that variety of Animals in it; but least of all could it *Constantly Continue* such *Regularity* and *Artificialness* every where. For that the *Fortuitous Motions* of *Irrational*, *Senseless* and *Stupid Matter*, should in length of time grow *Artificial*, and contract a *Habit*, of acting as *Regularly* and *Methodically*, as if perfect *Art* or *Wisdom* had directed them; this is the most *Prodigious Nonfence Imaginable*, and can be accounted no other, than *Atheistick Fanaticism*.

It is no more possible, that the *Fortuitous Motion* of *Dead* and *Senseless Matter*, should ever from it self be *Taught* & *Necessitated* to produce such an *Orderly* and *Regular System* as the Frame of this whole World is, together with the Bodies of Animals, and constantly to continue the same; than that a man perfectly *Illiterate*, and neither able to write nor read, taking up a Pen into his hand, and making all manner of of scrawls, with Ink upon Paper, should at length be *Taught* and *Necessitated* by the Thing it self, to write a whole Quire of Paper together, with such Characters, as being *Decyphered* by a certain Key, would all prove coherent *Philosophick Sense*. Or than that we our selves, writing down the meer *Letters of the Alphabet*, transposedly, any how, as it happens, without the least Thought, either of Words or Sense, after our scribbling a long time together what was altogether *Insignificant*, should at length have been *Taught* & *Necessitated* by the Thing it self, without the least Study and Consideration of our own, to write this whole Volume. Or to use another *Instance*; This is no more possible, than that Ten or a Dozen Persons, altogether unskilled in *Musick*, having several Instruments given them, and striking the Strings or Keys thereof, any how, as it happened, should after some time of Discord and Jarring, at length be *Taught* and *Necessitated*, to fall into most *Exquisite Harmony*, and continue the same uninterruptedly for several Hours together.

Wherefore if it be *Ridiculous* for one that hath read over the works of *Plato* or *Aristotle*, or those six Books of *T. Lucretius Carus*, *De Natura Rerum*; to contend, that possibly, the Letters of those Books might be all put together by Chance, or Scribbled at random, without the least Thought or Study of the Writer, he having also no manner of *Philosophick Skill* in him; Or for one that hears ten or a dozen Persons playing in Confort upon Instruments of *Musick*, and making *Ravishing Harmony*, to persuade himself that none of those Players, had for all that, the least of *Musical Art* or *Skill* in them, but struck the Strings as it happened: It must needs be much more *Ridiculous* and *Abjurd*, to suppose this *Artificial System* of the whole World, to have Resulted from the *Fortuitous Motion* of *Senseless Atoms*, without the Direction of any *Art* or *Wisdom*; there being much more of *Sence*, *Art*, and *Philosophy* therein, than in any *Philosophick Volume* or *Poem* ever written by men; and more of *Harmony* and

and Proportion, than in any Composition of Vocal Musick. We conclude therefore with Aristotle, ἀδύνατον ὃ τῶντων τῶντων ἔχειν ἢ τελεῖν, *Nat. Aufe.* *L. 2. c. 8.* That it is Absolutely Impossible things should have come to pass, after this manner; that is, by meet Fortune and Chance, and without the Direction of any Mind or God. The Divine Mind and Wisdom, hath so Printed its Seal or Signature upon the Matter of the whole Corporeal World, as that Fortune and Chance, could never possibly have counterfeited the same.

Notwithstanding all which, the Ancient Atheists would undertake by their wonderful skill in Logick, to demonstrate, that *The Frame of Nature* could not possibly be made by any *Intending Cause*, and for the sake of *Ends and Uses*; as for example, that *Eyes* could not be first of all made *Intentionally* for the Use of *Seeing*, nor *Ears* *Intentionally* for the Use of *Hearing*, and so for the rest: Because forsooth, these things were all of them, in order of *Time and Nature*, before their several *Uses*. The argument is seriously propounded by *Lucretius* after this manner,

*Nec fuit ante, Videre, Oculorum lumina nata,
Nec Diſis Orare, prius, quam Lingua Creatæ eſt;
Sed potius longè Lingua præceſſit Origo
Sermonem, multoque Creatæ ſunt prius Aures,
Quam Sonus eſt Auditus; & omnia denique membra,
Antè ſuere, ut opinor, eorum quam fuit uſus.
Haud igitur potuere Utendi crefcere cauſa.*

Lamb. p. 367.

To this ſence; There was no ſuch thing as *Seeing* before *Eyes* were made, nor *Hearing* before *Ears*, nor *Speaking* before the *Tongue*. But the original of the *Tongue* much preceded *Speech*: So likewise *Eyes* and *Ears* were made before there was any *Seeing* of colours or *Hearing* of Sounds. In like manner all the other members of the *Body*, were produced before their reſpective *Uses*. And therefore they could not be made *Intentionally*, for the ſake of thoſe *Uses*. The Force of which Argument conſiſteth in this Proposition; That whatſoever is made for the ſake of another thing, muſt exiſt in time after that other thing for whoſe ſake it was made: Or, That for which any thing is made, muſt not only be, in order of *Nature*, but alſo of *Time*, before that which is made for it. And this that *Epicurean Poet* endeavours to prove by ſundry Inſtances;

*At Contra conferre Mann certamina pugne,
Antè fuit multò quàm lucida tela volarent, &c.*

Bis.

Darts were made for the ſake of *Fighting*, but *Fighting* was before *Darts*, or elſe they had never been invented. *Bucklers* were excogitated and deviſed, for the keeping off of blows and ſtrokes, but the declining of ſtrokes was before *Bucklers*. So were *Beds* contrived for the ſake of *Reſting* and *Sleeping*, but *Reſting* and *Sleeping* were older than *Beds*, and gave occaſion for the invention of them. *Cups* were intended and deſigned for the ſake of *Drinking*, which they would not have been, had

there not been drinking before. According to the force of which Instances, the Poet would infer, that whosoever affirms *Eyes* to have been made for the sake of *Seeing*, must suppose in like manner, there was some kind of *Seeing* or other, before *Eyes*. But since there was no *Seeing* at all before *Eyes*, therefore could not *Eyes* be made for the sake of *Seeing*. And this is the *Atheistick Demonstration*, That the Parts of Mens Bodies, and other things of Nature, could not be made by any *Intending Cause*, for the sake of *Ends* and *Uses*:

But it is evident, that this *Logick of Atheists*, differs from that of all other *Mortals*; according to which *The End* or *That* for which any thing is made, is only in *Intention* before the *Means*, or *That* which is Made for it; but in *Time* and *Execution* after it. And thus, was the More Effectual way of *Fighting* and doing *Execution*, for whose sake *Darts* were invented, in *Time* after *Darts*, and only in *Intention* before them. It is true indeed, that *Fighting* in General, was before *Darts*, *Sleeping* before *Beds*, and *Drinking* before *Cups*, and thereby did they give occasion for men to think of *Means*, for the more Effectual *Fighting*, and more *Commodious Sleeping* and *Drinking*. Men being commonly excited from the *Experience of Things*, and the Sense of their *Needs* and *Wants*, to excogitate and provide fit *Means* and *Remedies*. But it doth not therefore follow, that the *Maker of the World*, could not have at once beforehand, a *Preventive Knowledge*, of whatsoever would be Useful and for the Good of *Animals*, and so make them *Intentionally* for those *Uses*. Wherefore the Argument should have been framed thus; Whatsoever any thing is made for, as the end, that must needs be in the *Knowledge* and *Intention* of the *Maker*, before the *Existence* of that which is made for it. And therefore if *Eyes* were made for the *Sake* or *End* of *Seeing*, *Seeing* must of necessity be in the *Knowledge* and *Intention* of the *Maker* of *Eyes*, before there were any *Eyes* actually existing. But there could be no *Knowledge* of *Seeing*, before there were any *Eyes*. Wherefore *Eyes* could not be made for the sake of *Seeing*.

And this indeed is the *Genuine Scope* and *Drift* of the Premised *Atheistick Argument*, however it were disguised by them in their manner of propounding it. The Reason whereof was, because they took it for granted, that all *Knowledge* as such, is Derived by Sense, from the *Things themselves Known Pre-existing*. From whence it follows, that there could be no *Knowledge* of *Vision* or *Seeing*, before there was *Actual Seeing* and *Eyes*; and so they think it to be Demonstrated, that *Eyes* could not be made by any *Deity* for the *Sake* of *Seeing*, before there was *Seeing*; no more than *Spectacles* by men for the sake of *Eyes*, before there were *Eyes*. Thus does the Epicurean Poet conclude Triumphantly,

L. 3. p. 368.

*Ille quidem seorsum sunt omnia, quæ praeiusta
Nata, dedere suæ post Notitiam Utilitatis.
Quo genere imprimis Sensus & Membra videmus.
Quare etiam atque etiam procul est ut credere possis,*

Utili-

Utilitatis ob officium potuisse creari.

That is, *The Members of Sens Bodies, and Organs of Sense, were first Made by themselves, and then did they afterwards give the Notice or Knowledge of their several Utilities: none of which could have been had before. Wherefore we affirm again and again, that it is Impossible, these things should have been made Designedly for their Uses.*

So that the Controversie is at last resolved wholly into this. Whether or no, all Knowledge and Understanding as such, Universally, does arise from Things Antecedently Existing without the Knower. Which being asserted by Atheists, they conclude from thence, that the Things of the World could not be made by the Previous Counsel, Contrivance, and Intention of any Understanding Deity, but that they all Blunder'd out themselves, one after another, according to the Train or Sequel of the Fortuitous Motions of Matter. And that from thence, Knowledge and Understanding, Counsel and Intention, sprung up afterward, as Junior to Things, and the World. But this being already made the Eleventh Atheistick Argument against a Deity, viz. That all Knowledge and Mental Conception, is the Information of the Things themselves Known, existing before and without the Knower, and a Passion from them; and therefore that the World must needs be, before any Knowledge or Conception of it, and no Knowledge or Conception, before the World, as its Cause: We shall refer the Answer to it, and Confutation of it, to its proper place; where we shall plainly Demonstrate, that Knowledge or Understanding, is not in its own Nature, *Edypal*, but *Archetypal*; and that it is Older than the World, and the Maker of all things.

But the Atheists yet further urge, against the Proving of a God from the $\tau\omicron\ \kappa\ \chi\ \alpha\lambda\acute{\alpha}\varsigma$, the Regular Frame of the whole World in general, and the Artificial Structure of the Bodies of Animals, after this manner; That it is altogether Unreasonable to suppose, there should be no Cause in Nature, for the Phenomena thereof, especially for those things which are daily Generated, as the Bodies of Animals: but (as by the Tragick Poets) a God should be introduced, as it were from a *Machin* forcibly to save them. And indeed though there were a God, yet they think He ought not to be detruded to such mean Offices as this, viz. to make the Body of every the most Contemptible Animal, as it were with his own Hands. *Miraculously*; nor ought Nature or the World to be supposed, so Imperfect, as if it must be Bungled and Botched up every where after this manner. It is Nature therefore which is the Cause of these Natural Productions and Generations. Which Nature, that it doth not Intend nor act Designedly for Ends and Uses, appears not only from hence, because it never Consults or Deliberates, (which Aristotle intimates to have been the Reason why some of old denied, the things of Nature, to have been made for Ends) but also because it hath no Animal-Sense or Conscience, no Understanding or Appetite. Wherefore this Opinion of, Intending, and Final Causality in Nature, can be accounted no other, than an *Idolum specus* (as some affect to phrase it) or a Prejudice of mens Minds,

Minds, when they apply their own *Properties* to things without them, and think because themselves *Intend*, and act for *Ends*, that therefore *Nature* doth the like. And they might as well say, that *Nature* *Laughs* and *Cries*, *Speaks* and *Walks*, *Syllogizes* and *Philosophizes*, because themselves do so. But as a Modern Philosopher concludeth; *The Universe, as one Aggregate of things Natural, hath no Intention belonging to it.* And accordingly were all *Final Causes* rightly banished by *Democritus* out of *Phyiology*, as *Aristotle* recordeth of him, τὸ δ' ἐνταυτά ἀφ' οὗ λίαν, πᾶσι ἀνάγκη οὗς χεῖται ἢ φόνος. That be reduced all things to *Natural* and *Necessary Causes*, altogether rejecting *Final*.

To all which we briefly reply; That there are indeed two *Extremes* here to be avoided, the *One* of those, who derive all things from the *Fortuitous Motions* of *Senseless Matter*, which is the *Extreme* of the *Atomick Atheists*; the *Other* of *Bigotical Religionists*, who will needs have God αὐτεργῶν ἀπαντα, to do all things himself immediately; as if all in *Nature* were *Miracle*. But there is a *Middle* betwixt both these *Extremes*; namely, to suppose, that besides God and in Subordination to him, there is a *Nature* (not *Fortuitous*, but) *Artificial* and *Methodical*, which governing the *Motion* of *Matter* and bringing it into *Regularity*, is a *Secondary* or *Inferiour Cause* of *Generations*. Now this *Natura Artificiosa*, this *Artificial Nature*, though it self indeed do not understand the Reason of what it doth, nor properly *Intend the Ends* thereof, yet may it well be conceived to act *Regularly* for the sake of *Ends Understood* and *Intended*, by that *Perfect Mind*, upon which it depends. As the *Mannary Officers*, understand not the *Designs* of the *Architect*, but only drudgingly perform their several tasks imposed by him: and as *Types* or *Forms of Letters*, composed together, Print *Coherent Philosophick Sense*, which themselves understand nothing of (upon which *Artificial* or *Spermatick Nature*, we have largely insisted before, in the *Appendix* to the *Third Chapter*.) And thus, neither are all things performed *Immediately* and *Miraculously* by God himself, neither are they all done *Fortuitously* and *Temerariouly*, but *Regularly* and *Methodically* for the sake of *Ends*, though not *Understood* by *Nature* it self, but by that *Higher Mind* which is the Cause of it, and doth as it were continually Inspire it. Some indeed have unskillfully attributed their *Own Properties*, or *Animal Idiopathies* to *Inanimate Bodies*, as when they say, that *Matter* desires *Forms* as the *Female* doth the *Male*, and that *Heavy Bodies* descend down by *Appetite* toward the *Centre*, that so they may rest therein: and that they sometimes again, Ascend in *Discretion*, to avoid a *Vacuum*. Of which Fanciful Extravagances, if the Advancer of Learning be understood, there is nothing to be reprehended in this following passage of his, *Incredibile est quantum agmen Idolorum Philosophiæ immiserit, Naturalium Operationum ad Similitudinem Actionum Humanarum Reductio; It is incredible, how many Errors have been transfused into Philosophy, from this One Delusion, of Reducing Natural actions, to the Mode of humane; or of thinking that Nature acteth as a Man doth.* But if that of his be extended further, to take away all *Final Causes* from the things of *Nature*, as if nothing

nothing were done therein for *Ends Intended* by a *Higher Mind*, then is it the very *Spirit of Atheism and Infidelity*. It is no *Idol* of the *Cave or Den* (to use that *Affected Language*) that is, no *Prejudice*, or *Fallacy* imposed upon our selves, from the attributing our own *Animalisb Properties*, to things without us; to think that the *Frame and System* of this whole World, was contrived by a *Perfect Understanding Being or Mind* (now also presiding over the same) which hath every where *Printed the Signatures* of its own *Wisdom* upon the *Matter*. As also, that though *Nature* it self do not properly *Intend*, yet it acteth according to an *Intellectual Platform* Prescribed to it, as being the *Mannary Officer* of the *Divine Architectonick Art*, or this *Art* it self as it were *Transfused* into the *Matter* and *Embodied* in it. Thus *Cicero's Balbus* long since declared concerning it; that it was not, *Vis quaedam sine Ratione, cients Motus in Corporibus Necessarios*; sed *Vis particeps Ordinis, tanquam via progrediens*; *cujus Solertiam nulla Ars, nemo Artifex consequi potest imitando*; Not a force Unguided by Reason, Exciting Necessary Motions in Bodies Temerariouly; but such a Force as partakes of Order, and proceeds as it were Methodically; whose Cunning or Ingeniosity, no Art or Humane Officer can possibly reach to by Imitation. For, it is altogether Unconceivable, how we Our Selves should have *Mind and Intention* in us, were there none in the Universe, or in that *Highest Principle* from which all proceeds. Moreover it was truly affirmed by *Aristotle*, that there is much more of *Art* in some of the things of *Nature*, than there is in any thing Artificially made by men; and therefore *Intention*, or *Final and Mental Causality*, can no more be secluded from the consideration of *Natural*, than it can from that of *Artificial things*. Now it is plain that *Things Artificial*, as a *House* or *Clock*, can neither be Understood, nor any true Cause of them assigned, without *Design*, or *Intention* for *Ends and Good*. For to say, that a *House*, is *Stones, Timber, Mortar, Iron, Glass, Lead, &c.* all put together, is not to give a Definition thereof, or to tell what indeed it is; it being such an *Apt Disposition* of all these *Materials*, as may make up the whole fit for *Habitation*, and the *Uses* of men. Wherefore this is not sufficiently to assign the Cause of a *House* neither; to declare out of what *Quarry* the *Stones* were dug, nor in what *Woods* or *Forests* the *Timber* was felled, and the like: Nor as *Aristotle* addeth, *ὥς τὸ πῶς γινώσκειν ἐξ ἀνάγκης νομίζοι, ἐπὶ τοῖς μὲν βαρύν κατωτέρω φέρεσθαι, τοῖς δὲ ῥαπτοῦσιν ἀνωτέρω φέρεσθαι, καὶ τοῖς ἐν μέσῳ ἀνωτέρω καὶ κατωτέρω φέρεσθαι*. If any one should go about thus to give an account of a *House* from *Material Necessity* (as the *Atheistick Philosophers* then did of the *World* and the *Bodies of Animals*) That the *Heavier things* being carried downward of their own accord, and the *Lighter* upward; therefore the *Stones* and *Foundation* lay at the bottom, and the *Earth* for the *Walls* being *Lighter* was *Higher*; and the *Timber* being yet *Lighter*, *Higher* than that; but above all the *Straw* or *Thatch*, it being the *Lightest* of all: Nor lastly, if as the same *Aristotle* elsewhere also suggesteth, one should further pretend, that a *House* was therefore made such, *κατασκευασθὲν τῷ ὄρει, &c.* merely because the *Hands* of the *Labourers*, and the *Axes*, and *Hammers* and *Trowels*, and other *Instruments*, Chanced all to be moved so and so. We say, that

Nat. Auct.
L. 1. c. 9.

that none of all these, would be to assign the true cause of a House; without declaring, that the Architect first framed in his Mind a Model or Platform of such a thing, to be made out of those Materials, so aptly disposed, into a *Foundation, Walls, Roof, Doors, Rooms, Stairs, Chimneys, Windows, &c.* as might render the whole fit for Habitation, and other Humane uses. And no more certainly can the Things of Nature, (in whose very Essence Final Causality is as much included) be either rightly Understood, or the Causes of them assigned, merely from *Matter and Mechanism*, or the Necessary and *Unguided Motion* thereof; without *Design or Intention for Ends and Good*. Wherefore to say, that the Bodies of Animals became such, merely because the *Fluid Seed*, by Motion Happened to make such *Traces*, and beget such *Stamina and Lincaments*, as out of which that Compages of the whole resulted; is not to assign a *Cause* of them, but to Dissemble, Smother, and Conceal their *True Efficient Cause*, which is the *Wisdom and Contrivance* of that *Divine Architect and Geometer*, making them every way fit, for the Inhabitation and uses of their respective Souls. Neither indeed can we banish, all *Final*, that is all *Material Causality*, from Philosophy, or the Consideration of Nature, without banishing at the same time, *Reason and Understanding* from our selves; and looking upon the Things of Nature, with no other Eyes, than *Brutes* do. However none of the Ancient Atheists, would ever undertake to assign *Necessary Causes*, for all the *Parts of the Bodies* of Animals, and their *Efformation*, from meer *Matter, Motion, and Mechanism*: Those small and pitiful attempts in order thereunto that have been made by some of them in a few *Instances*, (as that the *Spina Dorsi*, came from the *Flexure* of the Bodies of Animals, when they first sprung out of the Earth; the *Intestines* from the *Flux of Humours* excavating a crooked and winding Channel for it self, and that the *Nostrils* were broke open, by the *Eruption of breath*;) these, I say, only showing the *Unseifableness and Impossibility* thereof. And therefore *Democritus* was so wise, as never to pretend to give an Account in this way, of the *Formation* of the *Fœtus*, he looking upon it, as a thing absolutely Desperate; nor would he venture to say any more concerning it (as *Aristotle* informeth us) than ὅτι ἔσται ἀεὶ ἐξ ἀνάγκης γινέσθαι, *that it always cometh so to pass of necessity*; but stopp'd all further Enquiry concerning it after this manner, τὸ ἰσχυρὸν τὸ διὰ τί, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐπὶ πάντων τινος, τὸ ἔσθαι ἔσθαι τὸ ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀρχῆν, *That to demand, about any of these things, for what Cause it was thus, was to demand a Beginning of Infinite*. As if, all the Motions from *Eternity*, had an Influence upon, and Contribution to, whatsoever Corporeal thing was now produced. And *Lucretius* notwithstanding all his swaggering, and boasting, that He and *Epicurus* were able to assign *Natural and Necessary Causes* for every thing, without a *God*; hath no where so much as one word concerning it. We conclude therefore, that *Aristotle's* Judgment concerning *Final Causes* in *Philosophy*, is much to be preferred before that of *Democritus*, καὶ αὐτὰ μὲν τὰ φυσικὰ λεγόμενα αἱ αἰτίαι, μένον, ἢ ἢ τινος ἕνεκα αὐτῶν γὰρ τὸ τοιοῦτον ἔστιν, ἀλλ' οὐκ αὐτῶν τὸ τίνα, *That both kind of Causes (Material, and Final) ought to be declared by a Physiologer, but especially the Final; the End being the Cause of the Matter, but the Mat-*

Nat. Aufz.
L. 2. d. 9.

ter not the Cause of the End. And thus do we see plainly, that the *Atomick Atheists* are utterly Ignorant of the Cause, τὸ αἰτιόν, of the Regular and Artificial Frame of the things in Nature, and consequently of the whole *Mundane System*; the True Knowledge whereof, necessarily leadeth to a God.

But it is prodigiously strange, that these Atheists, should in this their Ignorance and *Sottishness*, be Justified by any *Professed Theists* and *Christians* of Later times; who Atomizing in their *Physiology* also, would fain persuade us in like manner, that this whole *Mundane System*, together with *Plants*, and *Animals*, was derived, meetly from the *Necessary* and *Unguided Motion*, of the *Small Particles* of Matter, at first turned round in a *Vortex*, or else jumbled all together in a *Chaos*, without any *Intention* for *Ends* and *Good*, that is, without the *Direction* of any *Mind*. God in the mean time standing by, only as an *Idle Spectator*, of this *Lusus Atomorum*, this *Sportful Dance of Atoms*, and of the various Results thereof. Nay these *Mechanick Theists*, have here quite outstripped and out-done, the *Atomick Atheists* themselves, they being much more *Immodest* and *Extravagant*, than ever those were. For the *Professed Atheists*, durst never venture to affirm, that this *Regular System* of things, Resulted from the *Fortuitous Motions* of Atoms, at the very first; before they had for a long time together, produced many other *Inept Combinations*, or *Aggregate Forms* of particular things, and *Nonsensical Systems* of the whole. And they supposed also, that the *Regularity* of things here in this world, would not always continue such neither, but that some time or other, *Confusion* and *Disorder* would break in again. Moreover, that besides this World of ours, there are at this very instant, Innumerable other worlds *Irregular*, and that there is but One of a Thousand or ten Thousand, amongst the *Infinite Worlds*, that have such *Regularity* in them. The reason of all which is, because it was generally taken for granted and look'd upon as a *Common Notion*, that οὐκ ἐπὶ τύχῃ καὶ τῷ αὐτομάτῳ, ἀλλ' αἰετῶ φησὶται, as *Aristotle* expresseth it, that *None of those things which are from Fortune or Chance, come to pass constantly and always alike*. But our *Mechanick* or *Atomick Theists*, will have their Atoms, never so much as once to have Fumbled, in these their *Fortuitous Motions*; nor to have produced any *Inept System*, or *Incongruous Forms* at all; but from the very first all along, to have taken up their Place, and have Ranged themselves, so *Orderly*, *Methodically*, and *Discreetly*, as that they could not possibly have done it better, had they been Directed by the most *Perfect Wisdom*. Wherefore these *Atomick Theists*, utterly Evacuate that grand Argument for a God, taken from the *Phenomenon* of the *Artificial Frame* of things, which hath been so much insisted on in all Ages, and which commonly makes the strongest impression of any other, upon the Minds of men; they leaving only certain *Metaphysical Arguments* for a *Deity*, which though never so good, yet by reason of their *Subtlety*, can do but little Execution upon the Minds of the *Generality*, and even amongst the *Learned*, do oftentimes beget, more of *Doubtful Disputation* and *Scepticism*, than of *Clear Conviction* and *Satisfaction*. The Atheists

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in the mean time laughing in their sleeves, and not a little triumphing, to see the Cause of Theism, thus betrayed by its professed Friends and Assertors, and the Grand Argument for the same, totally Slurred by them; and so their work done, as it were to their hands, for them.

Now as this argues the greatest *Insensibility of Mind*, or *Sottishness* and *Stupidity*, in *Pretended Theists*, not to take the least notice of the *Regular and Artificial Frame of things*, or of the *Signatures* of the *Divine Art and Wisdom* in them, nor to look upon the World and things of Nature, with any *Other Eyes*, than *Oxen* and *Horses* do; so are there many *Phænomena* in Nature, which being partly *Above* the Force of these *Mechanick Powers*, and partly *Contrary* to the same, can therefore never be Salved by them, nor without *Final Causes*, and some *Vital Principle*. As for example, that of *Gravity*, or the *Tendency of Bodies Downward*, the *Motion of the Diaphragma in Respiration*, the *Systole and Diastole of the Heart*, which was before declared to be a *Muscular Constriction and Relaxation*, and therefore not *Mechanical* but *Vital*. We might also add amongst many others, the *Intersection of the Plains of the Equator and Ecliptick*, or the *Earth's Diurnal Motion*, upon an *Axix* not *Parallel* with that of the *Ecliptick*, nor *Perpendicular* to the *Plain* thereof. For though *Cartesius* would needs imagine this *Earth* of ours once to have been a *Sun*, and so it self the *Centre* of a lesser *Vortex*; whose *Axix* was then *Directed* after this manner, and which therefore still kept the same *Site* or *Posture*, by reason of the *Striate Particles*, finding no fit *Pores* or *Traces* for their passage thorough it, but only in this *Direction*; yet does he himself confess, that because these *Two Motions* of the *Earth*, the *Annual* and *Diurnal*, would be much more conveniently made upon *Parallel Axes*, therefore according to the *Laws of Mechanism*, they should perpetually be brought nearer and nearer together, till at length the *Equator* and the *Ecliptick* come to have their *Axes Parallel* to one another. Which as it hath not yet come to pass, so neither hath there been, for these last two Thousand years, (according to the best *Observations* and *Judgments of Astronomers*) any nearer approach, made of them to one another. Wherefore the Continuation of these *Two Motions of the Earth*, the *Annual* and *Diurnal*, upon *Axes* different or not *Parallel*, is resolvable into nothing, but a *Final and Mental Cause*, or the *Will of God*, because it was Best it should be so, the *Variety* of the *Seasons* of the year depending hereupon. But the greatest of all the particular *Phænomena*, is the *Organization and Formation* of the *Bodies of Animals*, consisting of such *Variety and Curiosity*; which these *Mechanick Philosophers* being no way able to give an account of, from the *Necessary Motion of Matter*, *Unguided by Mind for Ends*, prudently therefore break off their System there, when they should come to *Animals*, and so leave it altogether untouch'd. We acknowledge indeed, that there is a *Posthumous Piece* extant, imputed to *Cartesius*, and entituled, *De la Formation du Fœtus*, wherein there is some *Pretence* made to save all this by *Fortuitous Mechanism*. But as the *Theory* thereof is wholly built upon a *False Supposition*, sufficiently

sufficiently confuted by the Learned Harvey, in his *Book of Generation*. That the Seed *dob Materially enter, into the Composition of the Egg*; so is it all along Precarious and Exceptionable; nor does it extend at all to the Differences that are in several Animals, or offer the least Reason, why an Animal of one Species or Kind, might not be Formed out of the Seed of another.

It is here indeed Pretended by these *Mechanick Theists*, that *Final Causes*, therefore ought not to be of any Regard to a Philosopher, because we should not arrogate to Our selves to be as Wise as God Almighty is, or to be Privy to his Secrets. Thus in the *Metaphysical Meditations*; *Atq; ob hanc Unicam Rationem totum illud Causarum genus, quod à Fine peti solet, in Rebus Physicis nullum Usum habere existimo; non enim absque Temeritate me puto, investigare posse Finem Dei.* And again likewise in the *Principles of Philosophy*. *Nullas unquam Rationes circa Res Naturales, à Fine quem Deus aut Natura in iis faciendis sibi proposuit, admittimus, quia non tantum nobis debemus arrogare, ut ejus Consiliorum participes esse possimus.* But the Question is not, Whether we can always reach to the *Ends of God Almighty*, and know what is *Absolutely Best* in every case, and accordingly make Conclusions, that theretore the thing is, or ought to be so; but, Whether any thing at all, were made by God, for *Ends and Good*, otherwise than would of it self have resulted from the *Fortuitous Motion of Matter*. Nevertheless we see no Reason at all, why it should be thought *Prelumption*, or *Intrusion* into the Secrets of God Almighty, to affirm, that *Eyes* were made by him for the *End of Seeing* (and accordingly so contrived as might best conduce thereunto) and *Ears* for the *End of Hearing*, and the like. This being so plain, that nothing but *Sottish Stupidity*, or *Atheistick Incredulity* (masked perhaps under an Hypocritical Veil of *Humility*) can make any doubt thereof. And theretore *Aristotle* justly reprehended *Anaxagoras*, for that Absurd *Aporism* of his, διὰ τὸ χεῖρας ἔχειν, φρονημάτων ὅτιαι τῶ ζώοντι, ἢ ἀνθρώπῳ, That *Man was therefore the Wisest (or most Solert) of all Animals, because he Chanced to have hands.* He not doubting to affirm on the Contrary, ὁ λόγος διὰ τὸ φρονημάτων ὅτιαι τῶ ζώοντι χεῖρας ἔχειν. ἢ ὅτι φῶς αἰ διαφέρει καὶ ἀπὸ ἀνθρώπου φρονημάτων, καὶ δυναμὴν χεῖρας ἔχειν. ἢ ὅτι φῶς αἰ διαφέρει καὶ ἀπὸ ἀνθρώπου φρονημάτων, καὶ δυναμὴν χεῖρας ἔχειν. ἢ ὅτι φῶς αἰ διαφέρει καὶ ἀπὸ ἀνθρώπου φρονημάτων, καὶ δυναμὴν χεῖρας ἔχειν. That it was far more reasonable to think, that because *Man was the Wisest (or most Solert and Active) of all Animals, therefore he had Hands given him.* For Nature (saith he) distributes as a *Wise man* doth, what is suitable to every one; and it is more Proper to give Pipes to one that hath *Musical Skill*, than upon him that hath Pipes, to bestow *Musical Skill*.

Wherefore these *Mechanick Theists* would further, alledge, and that with some more Colour of Reason; That it is below the Dignity of God Almighty, to condescend to all those mean and trivial Offices, and to do the Things of Nature himself immediatly; as also that it would be but a Botch in Nature, if the *Defects* thereof were every where to be supplied by *Miracle*. But to this also the Reply is easie; That though the *Divine Wisdom* it self contrived the Syll^m of the whole World, for *Ends and Good*, yet Nature, as an *Inferiour Attribut*

Steph. Pocl.
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ster, immediately Executes the same; I say, not a Dead, Fortuitous, and meerly Mechanical; but a Vital, Orderly and Artificial Nature. Which Nature, asserted by most of the Ancient Philosophers who were Theists, is thus described by Proclus, ἡ φύσις ἐχάτη μόρ' ἔστι τῇ τὴ συνμαρτυρίας τῆτο ἐ, ἀναστῆθ' θνητογενήτων αἰτίαν, ἐ, τὸ πέρας τῆ τῇ ἀσπαμάτων ἔπαιν πλάτες· πλήρης ὃ λόγον ἐ, διυάμεται δι' ὅ καὶ δύνανται τὰ ἐκείνομα· τοιαύτη ὃ ὅσα περιλάλυνται ἀπὸ τῆ ζωογόνου Διῆς,

Νότοις δ' ἀμφι, Διῆς φύσις ἀπλῆσθ' ἡδυνῶται,

ἀφ' ἧς πῶσα ζωὰ πρόβηται, ἢ τε τοιερῶ ἐ, ἡ ἀχάρεσθ' τῇ διακρινόμεν· ὁκρητημένη δ' ἀναστῆθ' ἐ, ἀπικωρημένη, φοιτᾷ διὰ πάντα ἀκαλίτως, ἐ, πάντα ἐμπνῶ, δι' ἣν τὰ ἀφύλακα ψυχῆς μετῆχ' πῶς, ἐ, τὰ φανερόμακα μὲν δὲ διαμακίας ἐ, τῇ κόσμῳ, ταῖς ἐ, αὐτῇ τῇ εἰδῶν αἰτίαις συνελόμενα.

Ἄρχη δ' αὖ φύσις ἀσπαμάτη κόσμῳ τε ἐ, ἐζον
φνῶ τὸ λόγον,
Οὐρανὸς ὅφρα Διῆ δ' ὅρμῳ αἰδῶν κατασφραγῶ·
καὶ τὰ ἐξῆς.

Nature, is the Last of all those Causes that Fabricate this Corporeal and Sensible world, and the utmost Bound of Incorporeal Substances. Which being full of Reasons and Powers, Orders, and Presides over all Mundane affairs. It proceeding (according to the Magick Oracle) from that Supreme Goddess, the Divine Wisdom, which is the Fountain of all Life, as well Intellectual, as that which is Concrete with Matter. Which Wisdom, this Nature always essentially depending upon, passes through all things unbindedly: by means whereof, even Inanimate things, partake of a kind of Life; and things Corruptible remain Eternal in their Species, they being contained by its Standing Forms or Ideas, as their Causes. And thus does the Oracle describe Nature, as presiding over the whole Corporeal Word, and perpetually turning round the Heavens. Here have we a Description of One Universal Substantial Life, Soul, or Spirit of Nature, Subordinate to the Deity; besides which the same Proclus, elsewhere supposeth other Particular Natures, or Spermatick Reasons, in those Words of his, μετὰ τῷ ψυχῶν τῷ πρώτῳ, ψυχῶν· ἐ, μετὰ τῷ ἑλλῳ φύσι, φύσις· After the first Soul, are there particular Souls, and after the Universal Nature, Particular Natures. Where it may be observed by the way, that this Proclus, though he were a Superstitious Pagan, much addicted to the Multiplying of Gods (Subordinate to one Supreme) or a Bigotick Polytheist, who had a humour of Deifying almost every thing, and therefore would have this Nature forsooth to be called a Goddess too; yet does he declare it not to be properly such, but Abusively only (viz. because it was no Intellectual Thing) as he saith the Bodies of the Sun, Moon and Stars, supposed to be Animated, were called Gods too, they being the Statues of the Gods. This is the meaning of those Words, ἐ, Διῆς μὲν τὰ ὁκρινόμενα, καὶ ἐ, αὐτῶν ἐχουσι τὸ ἴσα θεῶν· καὶ γὰρ τὰ Διῶν σώματα, Διῶν καλῶμεθα, ὡς ἀγάλματα τῇ Διῶν· Nature is a God or Goddess, not as having Godship properly belonging to it, but as the Divine Bodies are called Gods, because they are Statues of the Gods.

Wherefore

Wherefore we cannot otherwise conclude concerning these our *Mechanick Theists*, who will thus needs derive all Corporeal things from a *Dead and Stupid Nature*, or from the *Necessary Motions of Serpſſ Matter*, without the *Direction of any Mind*, or *Intention for Ends and Good*; but that they are indeed *Cousin-Germans* to *Atheists*; or possessed in a Degree, with a kind of *Atheistick Enthusiasm*, or *Fanaticism*; they being so far forth, *Inspired*, with a *Spirit of Infidelity*, which is the *Spirit of Atheism*.

But these *Mechanick Theists* are again counterbalanced by another sort of *Atheists*, not *Mechanical* nor *Fortuitous*; namely the *Hylozoists*; who are unquestionably convinced, that *Opera Naturæ sunt Opera Intelligentiæ*, that the *Works of Nature are Works of Understanding*; and that the Original of these Corporeal things was not *Dead and Stupid Matter Fortuitously moved*; upon which account *Stratoclerides*, *Democritus* his *Rough and Smooth, Crooked and Hooky Atoms*, as *meer Dreams and Dotages*. But these notwithstanding, because they would not admit of any other *Substance besides Matter*, suppose *Life and Perception*, Essentially to belong to all *Matter* as such; whereby it hath a *Perfect Knowledge* of whatsoever it self could *Do or Suffer* (though without *Animal-consciousness*) and can *Form* it self to the *Best advantage*; sometimes improving it self by *Organization*, to *Sense* in *Brutes*, and to *Reason and Reflexive Understanding* in *Men*. Wherefore according to the Principles of these *Hylozoists*, there is not any need of a *God*, at all; that is, of one *Perfect Mind or Understanding Being* presiding over the whole world; they concluding accordingly, the Opinion of a *God*, to be only a *Mistaking*, of the *Inadequate Conception of Matter* in General, its *Life and Energetick Nature* taken alone *Abstractly*, for a *Complete Substance* by it self. Nevertheless these *Hylozoick Atheists*, are no way able by this *Hypothesis* of theirs neither, to save that *Phænomenon* of the *Regularity and Harmony* of the whole Universe; because every *Part of Matter*, being according to them, a *Distinct Percipient* by it self, whose knowledge extendeth only to its own Concernment; and there being no one thing presiding over all; the things of the whole World (*ὅρα ὡς ἡμεῖς συντάσσονται*, in which all things are Co-ordered together) could never have fallen, into One such *Agreeing and Conspiring Harmony*.

And as for those other *Cosmo-plastick Atheists*, who suppose the whole World to be as it were but One *Huge Plant, Tree, or Vegetable*, or to have One *Spermatick, Plastick, and Artificial Nature* only, *Orderly and Methodically* disposing the whole, but without *Sense and Understanding*, these can no way do the business neither, that is, save the aforementioned *Phænomenon*, it being utterly Impossible, that there should be any such *Artificial and Regular Nature*, otherwise than as derived from, and depending upon, a *Perfect Mind or Wisdom*.

And thus do we see plainly, that no *Atheists* whatsoever, can save the *Phænomena of Nature*, and this Particularly, of the *Regular*

gular Frame and Harmony of the Universe; and that true Philosophy, or the Knowledge of Causes, Necessarily leadeth to a God.

But besides these *Phænomena*, of *Cogitation* or *Soul* and *Mind* in *Animals*, *Local Motion* in *Bodies*, and the *Artificial Frame* of things for *Ends* and *Uses*, together with the *Conspiring Harmony* of the *Whole*; which can no way be *Saved* without a *Deity*; We might here further add, that the *Fortuitous*, that is, the *Anaximandrian* and *Democritick Atheists*, who *Universally* asserted the *Novity* of this *Mundane System*, were not able to give any tolerable account neither, of the *First Beginning* of *Men*, and those *Greater Animals*, that are no otherwise begotten, than in the way of *Generation*, by the *Commixture* of *Male* and *Female*.

Aristotle in his Book of the *Generation of Animals*, writeth thus; Lib. 3. c. ult. Περὶ τῆς ἀνθρώπων καὶ τετραπόδων ζώωντος, ἐκπόσει τις αὖ, ὡς ἐκ γυνῆς καὶ ζυγῶντος, ὡς καὶ παρὰ τούτων, δύο τεύχεα γίνεσθαι τὸ ἔκγεσθαι· ἢ γὰρ ὡς ἀνθρώπων συνιστάμενα τὸ πρῶτον, ἢ ἐκ ὧν· If *Men* and *Fourfooted Animals*, were ever *Generated* out of the *Earth*, as some affirm, it may be probably conceived to have been, one of these *Two ways*; either that they were *Produced* as *Worms* out of *Putrefaction*, or else *Formed* in certain *Eggs*; growing out of the *Earth*. And then after a while he concludes again, ὥς ἂν τις ἀρχὴ τῆς γενέσεως πάντων τῶν ζώων, ἀλλοθεν δὲν τὸντο ἔσται τῶι ἔκγεσθαι, That if there were any *Beginning* of the *Generation* of all *Animals*, it is reasonable to think it, to have been one of these *Two* forementioned ways. It is well known that *Aristotle*, though a *Theist*, elsewhere asserteth the *World's Eternity*, according to which *Hypothesis* of his, there was never any *First Male* nor *Female*, in any kind of *Animals*, but one begat another *Infinitely* without any *Beginning*; a thing utterly repugnant to our *Humane Faculties*, that are never able to frame any *Conception* of such an *Infinity* of *Number* and *Time*, and of a *Successive Generation* from *Eternity*. But here *Aristotle* himself seems staggering or *Sceptical* about it; If *Men* were ever *Generated* out of the *Earth*; and, If there were any *Beginning* of the *Generation* of *Animals*: As he doth also, in his *Toppicks*, Lib. 1. c. 9. τίς μὲν αἰδιότης ἢ ὄχι, Whether the *World* were *Eternal* or no? he ranking it amongst those ἀπὸ τῶν λόγων μὴ ἔχειν οὐδὲν μέγεθος, Those *Great things* for which we can give no certain *Reason*, one way nor other. Now (saith he) If the *World* had a *Beginning*, and If *Men* were once *γυνῶντες* or *αὐτόχθονες*, *Earth-Born*, then must they have been in all probability, either *Generated* as *Worms*, out of *Putrefaction*, or else out of *Eggs*; he supposing (it seems) those *Eggs* to have grown out of the *Earth*. But the *Generality* of *Atheists* in *Aristotle's* time, as well as *Theists*, denying this *Eternity* of the *Mundane System*, as not so agreeable with their *Hypothesis*, because so *Constant* and *Invariable* an *Order* in the *World*, from *Eternity*, hath not such an appearance or semblance of *Chance*, nor can be easily supposed to have been, without the *Providence* of a *Perfect Mind*, presiding over it, and *Senior* to it (as *Aristotle* conceived) in *Nature*, though not in *Time*; They therefore in all *Probability* concluded likewise, *Men* at First

First to have been *Generated* One of these *Two* ways, either out of *Putrefaction*, or from *Eggs*; and this by the *Fortuitous Motion* of Matter; without the *Providence* or *Direction* of any Deity. But after *Aristotle*, *Epicurus* Phancied those First Men and other Animals, so have been Formed in certain *Wombs* or *Eggs* growing out of the Earth,

Crescebant Uteri terræ radicibus apti;

And this no otherwise than by the *Fortuitous Motion* of *Atoms* also.

But if Men had been at First Formed after this manner, either in *Wombs* or *Eggs* (growing out of the Earth) or Generated out of *Putrefaction*, by *Chance*; then could there be no reason imaginable, why it should not sometimes so Happen now, the *Motions* of *Atoms* being as Brisk and Vigorous, as ever they were, and so to continue to all Eternity: so that there is not the least Ground at all, for that *Precarious Phancy* and *Pretence* of *Epicurus*, that the Earth as a *Child-bearing Woman*, growing old, became at length *Effete* and *Barren*. Moreover the Men thus at first excluded out of *Eggs*, *Wombs* or *Eggshells*, or Generated out of *Putrefaction*, were supposed by these *Atheists* themselves, to have been produced, not in a *Mature* and *Adult*, but an *Infant-like*, *Weak* and *Tender* State, just such as they are now born into the World; by means whereof they could neither be able to Feed and Nourish themselves, nor defend themselves from harms and Injuries. But when the same *Epicurus* would here pretend also, that the Earth which had been so *Fruitful* a Mother, became afterward by *Chance* too, as tender and indulgent a Nurse, of this her own Progeny, and sent forth Streams or Rivers of Milk after them, out of those Gaps of her Wounded Surface, which they had before burst out of, as *Critolamus* long since observed, he might as well have feigned, the Earth to have had *Breasts* and *Nipples* too, as *Wombs* and *Milk*; and then what should hinder, but that she might have Arms and Hands also, and Swaddling-bands to boot? Neither is that less *Precarious*, when the same *Atheistick Philosopher* adds, that in this Imaginary State of the *New-born* world, there was for a long time neither any Immoderate Heat nor Cold, nor any Rude and Churlish Blasts of Wind, the least to annoy or injure those tender *Earth-born Infants* and *Nurslings*. All which things being considered, *Anaximander* seems of the Two, to have concluded more wisely, that Men, because they require a longer time than other Animals to be hatched up in, were at first Generated in the *Bellies* of *Fishes*, and there nourished up for a good while, till they were at length able to defend, and shift for themselves, and then were Disgorged, and cast up upon dry land. Thus do we see, that there is nothing in the World so Monstrous, nor Prodigiouly Absurd, which men *Atheistically* inclined, will not rather Imagine, and Swallow down; than entertain the *Notion* of a God.

*In Phil. Quod
Secund. Inver.*

Wherefore here is *Dignus Vindice Nodus*, and this *Phænomenon* of the First Beginning of Mankind, and other Greater Animals, cannot be

be *Salv'd* otherwise, than according to the *Athenick History*, by admitting of *Σὺν ἀν. παλαις*, a God out of a *Muslin*, that is, an Extraordinary Manifestation of the Deity, informing Man, and other Animals, Male and Female, once out of the Earth; and that not in a *Rude, Tender and Infant-like State*, but *Mature and Adult*, that to they might be able immediately, to shift for themselves, Multiply and Propagate their kind by Generation; and this being once done, and now no longer any necessity, of such an extraordinary way of proceeding; then putting a stop immediately thereunto, that so no more *Terrigenæ* nor *Autochthonæ*, *Earth-born Men*, should be any longer produced. For all these circumstances being put together, it plainly appears, that this whole *Phænomenon*, surpasses, not only the *Mechanical*, but also the *Physick Powers*; their being much of *Discretion* in it, which the latter of these, cannot arrive to neither; they always acting, *Fatally and Necessarily*. Nevertheless we shall not here determine, Whether God Almighty might not, make use of the *Subservient Ministry* of Angels or Superiour Spirits, Created before Man, in this first extraordinary Efformation of the Bodies of Animals out of the Earth, in a *Mature and Adult State*; as *Plato* in his *Timæus*, introduceth the *Supreme God* (whom he supposeth to be the immediate Creator of all *Immortal Souls*) thus bespeaking the *Junior Gods*, and setting them a work in the *Fabrication of Mortal Bodies*, τὴν ἔσπευσεν ἑλπίς, ἀδελφοί, οὐκ ἀποφασίσαις, ἀμερόμενοι ἔσπευσεν, ἡμεῖς, ἔσπευσεν, *It is your work now to Adapt the Mortal to the Immortal, and to Generate or make Terrestrial Animals*; He afterwards adding, μὴ δὲ ἐπὶ τῆς, τοῖς εἰς παρὶς οὐκ, οὐκ, ἀλλὰ, πᾶσι, οὐκ, *That after the sowing of Immortal Souls, (the Supreme God) committed to these Junior Gods, the task of forming Mortal Bodies*. Which of *Plato's*, some conceive to have been derived from that of *Moses*, *Let us make Man after our own Image*.

Moreover, these *Atheists* are no more able to *Salve* that other Common and Ordinary *Phænomenon* neither, of the *Conservation of the Species* of all Animals, by keeping up constantly in the world, a due *Numerical Proportion* between the *Sexes of Male and Female*. For did this depend only upon *Fortuitous Mechanism*, it cannot well be conceived, but that in some ages or other, there should happen to be, either all *Males*, or all *Females*; and so the *Species* fail. Nay it cannot well be thought otherwise, but that there is in this a *Providence* also, Superiour to that of the *Physick or Spermatick Nature*, which hath not so much of *Knowledge and Discretion* allowed to it, as whereby to be able alone, to govern this *Affair*.

Lastly, there are yet other *Phænomena*, no less *Real*, though not *Physiological*, which *Atheists* can no way *Salve*; as that of *Natural Justice*, and *Honesty*, *Duty*, and *Obligation*; the true Foundation both of *Ethicks* and *Politicks*; and the *τὴν ἐν ἡμῖν*, *Liberty of Will*, properly so called, not that of *Fortuitous Determination*, when there is a *Perfect Equality or Indifferency* of *Eligibility* in *Objects*; but that whereby men deserve *Commendation and Blame*, *Rewards and Punishments*, and so become fit *Objects* for *Remunerative Justice* to display it self upon,

upon, a *Main Hinge* upon which Religion Turneth; (though those Two be not commonly so well distinguish'd as they ought.) For when *Epicurus* (an *Absolute Atheist*) departing here from *Democritus*, pretended to Salve this, by his *Exiguum Clinamen Principiorum*, this attempt of his, was no other, than a plain *Delirancy*, or *Atheistick Phrenzy* in him.

And now have we already, *Preventively Confuted*, the *Third Atheistick Pretence* also, to *Salve* the *Phænomenon of Religion* and the *Belief of a God*, so generally entertained; namely from the *Fiction and Imposition of Politicians*; we having not only manifested, that there is a *Natural Prolepsis and Anticipation of a God*, in the *Minds of men*, as the *Object of their Fear*, Preventing *Reason*; but also that the *Belief thereof*, is sustained and upheld, by the strongest *Reason*; the *Phænomena of Nature* being no way *Salvable*, nor the *Causes of things* Assignable, without a *Deity*; so that Religion being Founded, both upon the *Instincts of Nature*, and upon *Solid Reason*, cannot possibly be any *Fiction or Imposition of Politicians*. Nevertheless we shall speak something particularly to this also. The *Atheists* therefore conceive, that though those *Infirmities of Humane Nature*, mens *Fear and Ignorant Credulity*, do much dispose and incline them, to the *Belief of a God*, or else of a *Rank of Beings*, Superiour to men (whether *Visible or Invisible*) commonly called by the *Pagans, Gods*; yet would not this be so generally entertained, as it is; especially that of *One Supreme Deity*, the *First Original* of all things, and *Monarch of the Universe*, had it not been for the *Fraud and Fiction of Lawmakers and Civil Sovereigns*, who the better to keep men in *Peace and Subjection* under them, and in a kind of *Religious and Superstitious Observation of their Laws, and Devotion to the same*, devised this *Notion of a God*, and then possessed the *Minds of men* with a *Belief of his Existence*, and an *Awe* of him.

Now we deny not, but that *Politicians* may sometimes abuse *Religion*, and make it serve for the promoting of their own private *Interests and Designs*; which yet they could not so well do neither, were the thing it self, a meer *Cheat and Figment* of their own, and had no *Reality at all in Nature*, nor any thing *Solid* at the bottom of it. But since Religion obtains so universally every where, it is not conceivable, how *Civil Sovereigns* throughout the whole World, some of which are so distant, and have so little Correspondence with one another, should notwithstanding, all so well agree in this *One Cheating Mystery of Government*, or *Piece of State-Coozenage*; nor if they could, how they should be able so effectually to possess the *Generality of mankind*, (as well wise as unwise) with such a *Constant Fear, Awe, and Dread*, of a meer *Counterfeit thing*, and an *Invisible Nothing*; and which hath not only no manner of *Foundation* neither in *Sense nor Reason*, but also (as the *Atheists* suppose) tends to their own great *Terror and Disquietment*; and so brings them at once under a miserable *Vassallage* both of *Mind and Body*. Especially since men are not generally, so apt to think, that how much the more they have of *Power & Dignity*, they have therefore so much the more of

Knowledge and Skill, in Philosophy and the Things of Nature, above others. And is it not strange, that the world should not all this while, have suspected or discovered this *Cheat* and *Juggle* of Politicians, and have *Smelt* out, a *Plot* upon themselves, in the *Fiction* of Religion, to take away their Liberty and enthrall them under Bondage: and that so many of these *Politicians* and *Civil Sovereigns* themselves also, should have been unacquainted herewith, and as simply awed, with the Fear of this *Invisible Nothing*, as any others? All other Cheats and Juggles when they are once never so little detected, are presently thereupon dashed quite out of countenance, and have never any more the Confidence to obtrude themselves upon the world. But though the Atheists have for these Two Thousand years past, been continually buzzing into mens Ears, that Religion is nothing but a meer *State-Juggle* and *Political Imposture*, yet hath not the Credit thereof been the least impaired thereby, nor its Power and Dominion over the Minds of men abated; from whence it may be concluded, that it is no *Counterfeit* and *Filitious thing*, but what is deeply rooted in the *Intellectual Nature* of man, a thing Solid at the bottom, and Supported by its own strength. Which yet may more fully appear from *Christianity*, a Religion founded in no *Humane Policy*, nor tending to promote any *Worldly Interest* or *Design*; which yet by its own, or the *Divine Force*, hath prevailed over the *Power* and *Policy*, the *Rage* and *Madness* of all *Civil States*, *Jewish* and *Pagan*, and hath Conquered so great a Part of the Persecuting World under it; and that not by *Resisting*, or *Opposing Force*, but by suffering Deaths and Martyrdoms, in way of Adherence to that Principle, *That it is better to obey God than Men*. Which thing was thus Preshigned in the Prophetick Scripture; *Why do the Heathen Rage, and the People imagine a Vain thing? The Kings of the Earth set themselves, and the Rulers take Counsel together, against the Lord, and against his Christ, &c. He that sitteth in the Heavens shall laugh, the Lord shall have them in Derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his Wrath, &c. Yet have I set my King upon my Holy Hill of Sion. I will give thee the Heathen for thine Inheritance, and the Uttermoſt Parts of the Earth for thy Possession. Be wise now therefore, O ye Kings, &c.*

But that *Theism*, or Religion, is no *Gulley* or *Imposture*, will be yet further made unquestionably Evident. That the generality of Mankind have agreed in the acknowledgment of one *Supreme Deity*, as a Being *Eternal* and *Necessarily Existent*, *Absolutely Perfect*, and *Omnipotent*, and the *Maker of the whole World*, hath been already largely proved in the foregoing Discourse. To which purpose is this of *Sextus* the Philosopher, *Κοντὸν ὃν πρόβλημα ἔχον πάντες ἀνθρώποι ὅτι οὗτος, καὶ ὃν μοιδοῦν τι ἴσιν ἔχει καὶ ἀρραβὸν καὶ τέλος ἐν δυνάμει, καὶ παντὶ καὶ ἀντιπρόσῳ. All men have this common Prolepsis, concerning God, that he is a Living Being Incorruptible, Perfectly Happy, and Uncapable of all manner of Evil. And the Notion of that God, which *Epicurus* opposed, was no other than this, *An Understanding Being, having all Happiness, with Incorruptibility, that Framed the whole World.* Now, I say, that if there be no such thing*

is this Existing, and this *Idea of God*, be a meer *Fiditious Thing*, then was it altogether *Arbitrariouſ*. But it is unconceivable, how the Generality of Mankind, (a few Atheiſts only excepted) ſhould univerſally agree, in one and the ſame *Arbitrariouſ Figment*. This Argumentation hath been formerly uſed, by ſome Theiſts, as appeareth from the forementioned *Sextus*, *πῶς δὲ ἔστιν ἄλογον, τὸ ἅπλῳ πάντας τοῖς αὐτοῖς ὑπάρχον ἰδιώματι, ἀλλὰ μὴ φυσικῶς ὅτις* *Ad. Mab.* *ἀκατάστατον*. It is altogether Irrational to think, that all men ſhould by Chance, light upon the ſame Properties (in the *Idea of God*) without being Naturally mov'd thereunto. Neither is that any ſufficient account which the Atheiſts would here give, that *Stateſmen* and *Politicians*, every where thus poſſeſſed the Minds of men with One and the ſame *Idea*; the Difficulty ſtill remaining, how Civil Sovereigns and Law-makers, in all the diſtant parts of the world, and ſuch as had no Communication nor Entercourſe with one another; ſhould univerſally Jump, in one and the ſame *Fiditious* and *Arbitrariouſ Idea*.

Moreover, were there no God, it is Not Conceivable, how that forementioned *Idea* ſhould ever have Entred into the Minds of men, or how it could have been Formed in them. And here the Atheiſts again, think it enough, to ſay that this *Notion* or *Idea* was Put into the Minds of the Generality of mankind, by Law-makers and Politicians, Telling them, of ſuch a Being, and perſwading them to believe his Exiſtence; or that it was from the firſt Feigner or Inventor of it, propagated all along and conveyed down, by Oral Tradition. But this argues their great Ignorance in Philoſophy to think that any *Notion* or *Idea*, is put into mens Minds from without, meerly by Telling, or by Words; we being Paſſive to nothing elſe from words, but their Sounds and the Phantaſms thereof; they only occaſioning the Soul to excite ſuch *Notions*, as it had before within it ſelf (whether *Innate* or *Adventitious*) which thoſe words by the Compact and Agreement of men were made to be Signs of; or elſe to reflect alſo further, upon thoſe *Ideas* of their own, Conſider them more Diſtinctly, and Compare them with one another. And though all Learning be not the Remembrance of what the Soul once before actually underſtood, in a Pre-exiſtent State, as Plato ſomewhere would have it, according to that of Boetius,

*Quod ſi Platonis Muſa perſonat Verum,
Quod quiſque Diſcit, Immemor Recordatur;* 2

Yet is all Humane Teaching, but *Maientical*, or *Obſetricious*; and not the filling of the Soul as a Veſſel, meerly by Pouring into it from Without, but the Kindling of it from Within; or helping it ſo to excite and awaken, compare, and compound its own *Notions*, as whereby to arrive at the Knowledge, of that which it was before Ignorant of; as the thing was better expreſſed by the forementioned Philoſophick Poet, in theſe words,

*Hæret proſeſſo Semen introrſum Vexi,
Quod excitatur Ventilante Doctrina.*

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Where-

Wherefore the meer *Telling* of men, There is a *God*, could not infuse any *Idea* of him into their Minds; nor yet the further giving this Definition of him, that he is a *Being Absolutely Perfect*, *Eternal and Self-Existent*, make them understand any thing of his Nature, were they not able to Excite *Notions* or *Ideas* from within themselves, correspondent to those several words. However the Difficulty still remains, How those *Civil Sovereigns* and *Law-makers*, or how *Critias*, his very first Inventor of that Cheat of a God, could Form that *Idea*, within themselves, since upon supposition of his Non-Existence, it is the *Idea of Nothing*, or of a *Non-Entity*. And this was Judiciously Hinted also by the same *Sextus*; *οἱ δὲ διαμφοδεκτικῆς, φασὶ ἐν νομοθεταὶ τῆς ἐκπίνουσαι τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, τὴν περὶ τοῦ θεοῦ διδόναι, μὴ εἰδότες ἐν τῷ ἀρχαίῳ ἱστορῶν ἀνέξαι περὶ μὲν, ὑπὲρ ἑαυτῶν ἂν τῶν, πᾶν δὲ οἱ νομοθεταὶ, μὴδὲν περὶ τοῦ θεοῦ πυνθίσκω, ἢ λῆθαι εἰς ἑπαινοῦν θεῶν; The Atheists affirming, that certain Law-makers first put this Notion of a God, into the minds of men, do not consider, that they still remain intangled in the Difficulty, if any one further demand of them, how those Law-makers themselves could first form that *Idea*? From whence it is afterward concluded, *ἡ τοίνυν θεὰ, οὐδὲ κατὰ τὰ νομοθεταὶ, περιδείκνυται οἱ πολλοὶ ὡς ἀνθρώπων ἑαυτοῦ εἰδῶν. That therefore the Notion of a God, sprung not from the Arbitrariness Fiction, of Law-makers and Politicians.**

But some *Atheists* will yet further Reply, That there is a *Feigning Power* in the Humane Soul, whereby it can Frame *Ideas* or *Conceptions* of such things, as actually never were nor will be; as of a *Centaur*, or of a *Golden Mountain*; and that by such a *Feigning Power* as this, the *Idea* of God, though there be no such thing Existing, might be Framed. And here we deny not, but that the Humane Soul hath a Power of *Compound*ing Ideas and Things, together, which Exist Severally, and Apart, in Nature, but never were, not will be, in that Conjunction: and this indeed is all the *Feigning Power* that it hath. For the Mind cannot make any *New Cogitation*; which was not before, but only *Compound* that which Is. As the *Painter* cannot *Feign Colours*, but must use such as exist in Nature, only he can Variously Compound them together, and by his *Pencil*, draw the Figures and Lineaments of such things as no where are; as he can add to the Head and Face of a Man, the Neck, Shoulders, and Body of a Horse. In like manner that more Subtle *Painter* or *Limner*, the *Mind* and *Imagination* of man, can frame *Compound*ed *Ideas* of things, which no where Exist, but yet His Simple Colours notwithstanding, must be Real; He cannot Feign any *Cogitation*, which was not in Nature, nor make a *Positive Conception* of that which is *Absolutely Nothing*; which were no less than to make, *Nothing* to be *Something*, or Create *Something* out of *Nothing*. And though the whole of these *Fictions* *Ideas* (as of a *Golden Mountain*) does not any where actually Exist, yet for as much as it doth not *Absolutely* imply a Contradiction, for it so to do, therefore hath it also a *Possible Entity* too, and otherwise it could not be Conceivable. As a *Triangular Square*, for example, being a *Contradictory* Thing, hath not so much as a *Possible Entity*, and therefore is not *Conceivable* as such; (though both a Triangle and a Square severally be Conceivable) it being meer Non-Sence, Nothing, and no *Idea*

Idea at all. Nay we Conceive, that a Theist may presume with Reverence to say, that God Almighty himself, though he can Create More or Fewer Really Existent things, as he pleaseth, and could make a whole world out of *Nothing*, yet can he not make more *Cogitation* or *Conception*, then *It*; or was before contained in his own *Infinite Mind* and *Eternal Wisdom*; nor have a *Positive Idea* of any thing, which hath neither *Actual* nor *Possible Entity*.

But the *Idea* of God, is not a *Complement* or *Aggregation* of things, which Exist Scatteredly and Apart in the World; for then would it be a meer *Arbitrarioum* thing; and it might be what every one pleased; one Adding more things together, and another Fewer; but each of them writing, the *Name* or *Title* of God, as bungling Painters did, under these several *Figments*. Whereas we have already proved, that the *Idea* of God, is One most Simple *Idea*, of an *Absolutely Perfect Being*, though having several *Partial* and *Inadequate Conceptions*; so that nothing can be Added to it, nor *Detraacted* from it, there being nothing included therein, but what is *Demonstrable* of a *Perfect Being*, and therefore nothing at all *Arbitrarioum*.

Moreover, many of those *Partial Conceptions* contained in the entire *Idea* of God, are no where else to be found in the whole world, Existing Singly and Apart; and therefore, if there be no God, they must needs be *Absolute Non-Entities*, as *Immutability*, *Necessary Existence*, *Infinity*, and *Perfection*, &c. so that the *Painter* that makes this *Idea*, must here *Feign Colours* themselves, or Create *New Cogitation* and *Conception* out of *Nothing*, upon the *Atheistick Supposition*.

Lastly, If there be no God now Existing, it is Impossible that ever there should be any, and so the Whole *Idea* of God, would be the *Idea* of that, which hath no *Possible Entity* neither; whereas those other *Fictional Ideas*, made by the Mind of man, though they be of such things, as have no *Actual Existence*, yet have they all a *Possible Entity* as was said before.

But that we may Conceal nothing of the Atheists Strength, we must here acknowledge, that some of them have yet pretended further, that besides this *Power* of *Compounding* things together, the human Soul hath also another *Ampliating*, or *Increasing* and *Improving Power*, by both which together, though there be no God Existing, nor yet *Possible*; the *Idea* of him, may be *Fictionally* made: those *Partial Ideas* which are no where else to be found, arising, as they say, from a μεταβάσις από τῆς ἀνθρώπου, a *Transition* and *Gradual Procession* from men; in way of *Amplification*, *Augmentation* and *Improvement*. Thus do we read in *Sextus*, τὸ αἰδῶν ἔσται ἢ οὐκ ἔστιν, καὶ ἀφάρτου, καὶ τέλειον αὐτὸ ἐνδραμενὸν, παρῆλθε καὶ τιλὸν ἀπὸ τῆς ἀνθρώπου μετάστασις. ὡς γὰρ ἢ καὶνὸν ἀνθρώπου ἀνέστασις τῇ φαντασίᾳ, νότον ἔχουσι κύκλωπας, ὅτις ἀνθρώπων ἐνδραμενὰ νοήσαντες καὶ μακρότερον καὶ συμπληρωμένον πᾶσι τοῖς ἀγαθοῖς, ὅτι τὰ πάντα ὁπτιέσταις, ἢ αὐτοῖς ἐκείνοις ἀνεστῇ νοήσασιν οὐκ ἔστιν καὶ πολλὴν πολυχρόνον πᾶσι φαντασμάστις ἀνθρώπων οἱ πολλοὶ, ἐπιβῆσαι ἢ χροῖον εἰς ἀφάρτου, ὅτι αὐτῶν εἰς ὑποκρίναι αἰδῶν παρὰ γὰρ νόμον.

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τοις ἰδέαις ἐξ αἰδίου ὄντα ἢ οὐκ. The Ideas, of the Eternity, Incorruptibility, and Perfect Happiness of the Deity, were Fictionally made, by way of Transition from men. For as by encreasing a man of an ordinary Stature in our Imagination, we Fictionally make the Phantasm of a Cyclops; so when beholding a Happy Man that aboundeth with all good things, we Amplify, Intend, and as it were Swell the same in our Minds higher and higher, we then arrive at length to the Idea of a Being Absolutely Happy, that is, a God. So did the Ancients, taking notice of a very Longevous man, and encreasing this length of Age, further and further Infinitely, by that means Frame the Notion or Idea of Eternity, and attribute the same to God.

P. 167 Sev.

But to this we Reply; First, that according to the Principles of the Atheists themselves, there could not possibly be any such Amplifying and Feigning Power of the Soul, as whereby it could Make More than It; because they suppose it to have no Active Power at all; but all our Conceptions to be nothing but meer Passions, from the Objects without; according to that of Protagoræ in Plato's Thætetus, ἔτι γὰρ οὐ μὴ ὄντα δύναται δοῦναι, ἔτι ἅμα παρὲς ἃ ἂν πάλιν, It is neither possible; for a man to conceive that which is not; nor any more or otherwise, than he Suffers. Again as Sextus the Philosopher also intimates, the Atheists are here plainly guilty, of that Fallacy or Error in Ratiocination, which is commonly called a Circle, or δι' ἀνάλογον. For whereas they could not otherwise Judge, the greatest Perfection and Happiness which ever they had experience of in men, to be Imperfect, then by an Anticipated Idea of Perfection, and Happiness, with which it was in their minds compared; (by virtue of which Idea also, it comes to pass, that they are able to Amplify those lesser Perfections of men further and further, and can take occasion from Imperfect Things, to think of that which is Absolutely Perfect;) that is, whereas these Atheists themselves first make the Idea of Imperfection, from Perfection; they not attending to this, do again go about, to make up the Notion or Idea, of that which is Absolutely Perfect (by way of Amplification) from that which is Imperfect. But that men have a Notion of Absolute Perfection in them, by which as the Rule or Measure, they (comparing other things therewith) Judge them to be Imperfect; and which is therefore in Order of Nature First; may appear from hence, because all Theologers as well Pagan as Christian, give this Direction, for the Conceiving of God, that it should principally be done, Per Viam Remotionis, by way of Remotion of all Imperfection from him. Thus Alcinous, πρῶτον μὲν ἀπὸ τῶν ἐν ἡμῶν ἀρᾶσεων, The first way of Conceiving of God, is by Remotion or Abstraction. We add in the last place, That Finite things put together can never make up Infinite, as may appear from that Instance of Humane Longevity proposed, for if one should Amplify that never so much, by adding of more and more Past Time or years to it; yet would he never thereby be able, to arrive at Eternity without beginning. God differs not from these Imperfect Created things, in Degrees only, but in the Whole Kind. And though Infinite Space may perhaps be here Objected, as a thing taken for granted, which being nothing but Extension or Magnitude, must therefore consist or be made up of Finite Parts, yet as was it before declared, we have

have no certainty of any more than this ; that the *Finite World* might have been made Bigger and Bigger *Infinitely* or *Without End*, which Infinity of Magnitude, is but like that of *Number, Potential* ; from whence it may be inferred as well of the one, as the other, that it can never be *Actually Infinite*. Wherefore were there no *Infinitely Perfect Being* in Nature, the Idea thereof could never be made up by any *Amplifying Power* of the Soul, or by the Addition of *Finites*. Neither is that of any moment, which *Gassendus* so much objecteth here to the contrary, that though there were no God or *Infinite Being*, yet might the Idea of him as well be Feigned, by the Mind, as that of *Infinite Worlds*, or of *Infinite Matter*, was by some Philosophers. For *Infinite Worlds* and *Infinite Matter*, are but words Ill Put-together ; *Infinity* being a Real thing in Nature, (and no *Fiction* of the Mind) as well as the *World* or *Matter* ; but yet proper to the Deity only. But it is no wonder, if they who denied a God, yet retaining this Notion of Infinity, should misapply the same, as they did also other Properties of the Deity, to *Matter*.

To conclude this ; Our humane Soul cannot Feign or Create any *New Cogitation* or Conception, that was not before, but only variously compound that which Is : nor can it ever make a *Positive Idea* of an *Absolute Non-Entity*, that is, such as hath neither *Actual* nor *Possible Existence*. Much less could our Imperfect Beings, Create the *Entity* of so *Vast a Thought*, as that of an *Infinitely Perfect Being*, out of *Nothing* ; this being indeed more then for *God Almighty*, or a *Perfect Being*, to Create a Real World out of *Nothing* : because there is no Repugnancy at all in the *Latter*, as there is in the *Former*. We affirm therefore, that Were there no God, the *Idea* of an *Absolutely or Infinitely Perfect Being*, could never have been Made or Feigned, neither by Politicians, nor by Poets, nor Philosophers, nor any other. Which may be accounted another Argument for a Deity.

But that *Religion* is no *Figment* of Politicians, will further unquestionably appear, from that which now shall follow. As the *Religion* of an Oath, is a *Necessary Vinculum* of *Civil Society* ; so *Obligation in Conscience*, respecting the Deity as its Original, and as the Punisher of the Violation thereof, is the very Foundation of all *Civil Sovereignty*. For *Pacts* and *Covenants* (into which some would resolve all *Civil Power*) without this *Obligation in Conscience*, are nothing but meer Words and Breath : and the *Laws* and *Commands* of *Civil Sovereigns*, do not make *Obligation*, but presuppose it, as a thing in Order of Nature Before them, and without which they would be *Invalid*. Which is a Truth so Evident, that the Writer *De Civ*, could not dissemble it, (though he did not rightly understand this *Natural Obligation*) but acknowledgeth it in these words, *Obligatio ad Obedientiam Civilem, cujus vi Leges Civiles Valide sunt, Omni Lege Civili prior est.* — *Quod si quis Princeps Summus, Legem Civilem in hanc Formulam conciperet, Non Rebellabis, nihil efficeret. Nam nisi prius Obligentur Cives ad Obediendum, hoc est, ad Non Rebellandum, Omnis Lex Invalida est ; & j prius Obligentur est Superflua.* The *Obligation* to Civil

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Civil Obedience, by the force of which all the Civil Laws become Valid, is before those Civil Laws. And if any Prince should make a Law to this purpose, That no man should Rebel against him, this would signify nothing, because unless they to whom it is made, were before Obligated to Obey, or not to Rebel, the Law is Invalid; and if they were, then is it Superfluous. Now this Previous Obligation to Civil Obedience, cannot be derived (as the forementioned Writer *De Cive*, and of the Leviathan, supposes) from mens *Private Utility* only, because every man being Judge of this for himself, it would then be Lawful for any Subject, to Rebel against his Sovereign Prince, and to Poyson or Stab him, whensoever he could reasonably persuade himself, that it would tend to his own Advantage; or that he should thereby procure the Sovereignty. Were the Obligation to Civil Obedience, Made only by mens *Private Utility*, it would as easily be Dissolved by the same. It remaineth therefore, that *Conscience* and *Religious Obligation* to Duty, is the only Basis, and Essential Foundation of a Polity or *Common-Wealth*; without which there could be no Right or Authority of Commanding in any Sovereign, nor Validity in any Laws. Wherefore *Religious Obligation* cannot be thought to be the *Fiction* or *Imposition* of Civil Sovereigns, unless Civil Sovereignty it self, be accounted a *Fiction* and *Imposition*; or a thing which hath no Foundation in Nature, but is either wholly Artificial, or Violent.

Moreover had a *Religious Regard* to the Deity, been a meer *Figure* or *Invention* of Politicians, to promote their own Ends, and keep men in Obedience and Subjection under them, then would they doubtless, have so framed and contrived it, as that it should have been every way *Flexible* and *Compliant*; namely by persuading the world, that whatsoever was Commanded by themselves, was agreeable to the *Divine Will*, and whatever was Forbidden by their Laws, was displeasing to God Almighty, and would be Punished by him: God ruling over the World, no otherwise, than by and in, these Civil Sovereigns, as his Vicegerents; and as the only *Prophets* and *Interpreters* of his will to men. So that the *Civil Law* of every Country, and the *Arbitrary Will* of Sovereigns, should be acknowledged to be the only Measure of Just and Unjust (there being nothing Naturally such) the only Rule of *Conscience* and *Religion*. For from Religion thus Modelled, *Civil Sovereigns* might think to have an *Absolute Power*, or an *Infinite Right*, of Doing or Commanding whatsoever they pleased, without exception, nothing being *Unlawful* to them, and their Subjects being always Obligated, in *Conscience*, without the least Scruple, to Obey.

But this is but a meer *Larva* of Religion, and would be but a Mockery of God Almighty; and indeed this is the only Religion that can be called, a *Political Figure*. Neither could the generality of mankind, be ever yet thus persuaded, that the *Arbitrary Will* of Civil Sovereigns, was the only Rule of Justice & Conscience; and that God Almighty could Command nothing, nor Reveal his will concerning Religion, to mankind otherwise than by these, as his *Prophets* and *Interpreters*. True Religion & Conscience, are no such *Waxen things*, Servilely Addicted, to the

the Arbitrary Wills of men; but *Immorigerous, Stiff, and Inflexible*: they respecting the Deity only, his *Eternal or Everlasting Laws*; and his *Revealed Will*; with which whensoever Humane Laws clash (a thing not impossible) they conclude, that then *God ought to be Obeyed, and not Men*. For which Cause the *Prophane Politicians*, declare open war against this *Religion*, as a thing utterly *Inconsistent* with *Civil Sovereignty*; because it introduces a *Fear greater* than the *Fear of the Leviathan*; namely that of Him, who can inflict *Eternal Punishments* after Death; as also because it clashes with that monstrous, *Infinite and Unlimited Power* of theirs, which is such a Thing, as is not attributed by *Genuine Theists*, to God Almighty himself; a Power of making their meer Arbitrary *Will the Rule of Justice*, and not *Justice the Rule of their Will*. Thus does a *Modern Writer of Politicks*, condemn it, for *Seditious Doctrine*, tending to the Dissolution of a *Commonwealth*, That *Subjects may make a Judgment of Good and Evil, Just and Unjust*; or have any other *Conscience* besides the *Law of the Land*.^{Lev. p. 168;} As also this, That *Subjects may Sin in obeying the Commands of their Sovereign*. He likewise adds, That it is *Impossible, a Common Wealth should stand, where any other than the Sovereign, hath a Power of giving greater rewards than Life, and of inflicting greater punishments than Death*.^{De Gen. c. 12. Sell. 2. Lev. c. 38 p. 238.} Now *Eternal Life* is a greater reward than the *Life present*, and *Eternal torment* than the *Death of Nature*. Wherefore God Almighty being the *Dispenser of Eternal Rewards and Punishments*; this is all one as if he should have said, It is impossible a *Common Wealth* should stand, where the *Belief of a God*, who can Punish with *Eternal Torments* after this *Life*, is entertained. Thus does the same *Writer* declare, That if the *Superstitious Fear of Spirits* (whereof God is the Chief) and things depending thereupon, were taken away, men would be much more fitted than they are, for *Civil Obedience*: And that they who assert the *Immortality of Souls*, or their capability of receiving punishments after Death; fright men^{Lev. p. 8.} from obeying the *Laws of their Countrey*, with *Empty names*, as men fright *Birds* from the *Corn*, with an *Empty Dublet, a Hat, and a Crooked Stick*. And accordingly He concludes, that *Civil Sovereigns* do not only make *Justice*, but *Religion* also; and that no *Scripture* or *Divine Revelation* can Oblige, unless it be first made *Law*, or stamped with their Authority. Now since that which can make *Religion* and *Gods*, must it self needs be greater than all *Gods*, it follows according to the Tenour of this Doctrine, that the *Civil Sovereign* is in Reality, the *Supreme Numen*: Or else at least, that the *Leviathan* (the King over all the Children of Pride) is the *Highest Deity*, next to *Senseless Omnipotent Matter*; the One of these being the *Atheists Natural*, the Other their *Artificial God*. Nevertheless we shall here observe by the way, that whilst these *Atheistick Politicians*, thus endeavour, to Swell up the *Civil Sovereign*, and to bestow upon him, an *Infinite Right*, by removing to that end out of his way; *Natural Justice, Conscience, Religion*, and *God himself*; they do indeed thereby absolutely devest him of all *Right and Authority*; since the Subject is now no longer Obliged in *Conscience* to Obey him, and so in stead of *True Right and Authority*, they leave him nothing but meer *Brutish Force*. Wherefore since *Theism* and *True Religion* are thus plainly disowned and

disclaimed by these Politicians, as altogether Inconsistent with their Designs, they cannot be supposed to have been the *Figments of Civil Sovereigns*, or the meer *Creatures of Political Art*. And thus have we abundantly confuted, those three *Atheistick Pretences*, to salve the *Phænomenon of Religion*; from *Fear*, and the *Ignorance of Causes*, and the *Fiction of Politicians*.

But since besides those *Ordinary Phænomena* before mentioned, which are no way *Salvable* by *Atheists*, there are certain other *Phænomena Extraordinary*, that either immediatly prove a *God and Providence*, or else that there is a Rank of *Understanding Beings Invisible*, Superiour to men, from whence a *Deity* may be afterwards inferred; namely these *Three Especially*, *Apparitions*, *Miracles*, and *Prophecies*: (Where the *Atheists* Obstinately denying Matter of *Fact* and *History*, will needs impute these things, either to *Jugling Fraud* and *Knavery*; or else to mens own *Fear* and *Phancy*, and their *Ignorance* how to distinguish *Dreams*, and other strong *Imaginations* from *Vision* and *Sense*; or Lastly to certain *Religious Tales* or *Legends*, allowed by the *Publick Authority of Civil Sovereigns*, for *Political Ends*;) we shall here Suggest something briefly, to vindicate the *Historick Truth* of those *Phænomena*, against *Atheists*.

First therefore, as for *Apparitions*, Though there be much of *Fabulosity* in these Relations, yet can it not reasonably be concluded, that there is nothing at all of *Truth* in them: since something of this kind, hath been averred in all Ages, and many times attested by persons of *Unquestionable Prudence*, and *Unsuspected Veracity*. And whereas the *Atheists* impute the *Original* of these things, to mens Mistaking both their *Dreams*, and their *Waking Phancies*, for *Real Visions* and *Sensations*; they do hereby plainly contradict one Main Fundamental Principle of their own *Philosophy*, that *Sense* is the only *Ground of Certainty*, and the *Criterion* of all *Truth*: for if *Prudent* and *Intelligent* persons may be so frequently mistaken, in confounding their own *Dreams* and *Phancies* with *Sensations*, how can there be any *Certainty* of knowledge at all from *Sense*? However, they here derogate so much both from *Sense*, and from *Humane Testimonies*, as that if the like were done in other Cases, it would plainly overthrow all *Humane Life*.

Wherefore other *Atheists*, being apprehensive of this Inconvenience, of denying so many *Sensible Appearances*, and *Testimonies*, or *Relations of Fact*; have chose rather to acknowledge the *Reality of Apparitions*; nevertheless concluding them to be things Caused and Created, by the *Power of Imagination* only; as if the strength of *Imagination* were such, that it could not only Create *Phancies*, but also *Real Sensible Objects*, and that at a distance too from the *Imaginers*, such as whereby the *Sense* of others shall be for the time affected, though they quickly vanish away again. From which *Prodigious Paradox*, we may take notice of the *Fanaticism of some Atheists*, and that there is nothing so monstrously Absurd, which men infected with *Atheistick Incredulity*, will not rather entertain into their Belief,

Belief, than admit of any thing that shall the least hazard or endanger, the *Existence of a God*. For if there be once any *Invisible Ghosts* or *Spirits* acknowledged, as *Things Permanent*, it will not be easie for any to give a reason, why there might not be one *Supreme Ghost* also, presiding over them all, and the whole world.

In the last place therefore, we shall observe, that *Democritus* was yet further convinced, by these Relations of *Apparitions*; so as to grant that there was a certain kind of *Permanent Beings* and Independent upon Imagination, *Superiour* to men, which could Appear in different Forms, and again disappear at pleasure, called by him *Idols* or *Images*; he supposing them to be of the same nature, with those *Exuvius Effluves*, that stream continually from the surface of Bodies: only he would not allow them to have any thing Immortal at all in them, but their *Concretions* to be at length all Dissolvable, and their Personalities then to vanish into nothing. Thus *Sextus* the Philo- Adv. Math. P. 311.
 losopher, ἀμείβετο· εἰδὼς ὅτι φησὶ ὡς περὶ αὐτῶν τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, καὶ τὰ πᾶσι τοῖς μὲν εἶναι ἀγαθῶν, τὰ δὲ κακοποιῶν· ἔνθεν καὶ ἐκείνοι ἐνέλογον τυχεῖν εὐδαιμονίας· εἶναι δὲ ταῦτα μέγιστα καὶ ὑπερμεγέθη, καὶ διδοσθαι μὲν, καὶ ἀφαιρεθῆναι, περιεμαίεσθαι τε τὰ μέγιστα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, διαφέροντα καὶ φωνῆς ἀρίστην. *Democritus affirmeth, that there are certain Idols or Spectres, that do often approach to men, some of which are Beneficent and some Maleficent. Upon which account, he wissheth, that it might be his good hap, to meet with fortunate Idols. And he addeth, that these are of a Vast bigness, and very Longeve, but not Incorruptible, and that they sometimes do fore-signifie unto men future events, both Visibly appearing to them and sending forth audible voyces.* Now though *Democritus* were much blamed for this Concession of his by his Fellow-Atheists, as giving thereby, too great an advantage to Theists; yet in his own opinion, did he sufficiently secure himself against the Danger of a God from hence, by supposing all these *Idols* of his, to be Corruptible, they being indeed nothing but certain *Finer Concretions* of *Atoms*, a kind of *Aereal* and *Æthereal Animals*; that were all Body, and without any Immortal Soul, as he supposed men also to be: so that a God could be no more proved from them, than from the *Existence* of men. For thus he adds in *Sextus*, ὅτιν τῶν αὐτῶν φαντασθαι λαλόντες οἱ παλαιοὶ, ὑπενόουν εἶναι θεόν, μεγέθους ἄλλα ὥστε ταῦτα οὐκ οὐδὲν τῷ ἀφαιρεθῆναι φύσει ἔχοντες. *Men in ancient times, having a sense of these Apparitions or Idols, fell from thence into the opinion of a God; although there be besides these Idols, no other God, that hath an Incorruptible Nature.* However, though *Democritus* continued thus grossly Atheistical, yet was he further convinced, than our Modern Atheists will be, that the Stories of *Apparitions* were not all *Fabulous*; and that there are not only *Terrestrial*, but also *Aerial* and *Æthereal Animals*; nor this Earth of ours alone Peopled and Inhabited, whilst all those other vast Regions above, lie Desert, Solitary, and Waste. Where it may be observed again, that divers of the Ancient Fathers, though they agreed not so far with *Democritus*, as to make the *Angeli-cal Beings*, to be altogether *Corporeal*, yet did they likewise suppose them to have their certain *Subtile Æthereal* or *Aerial Bodies*. In which respect *St. Austin* in his 115. Epistle, calleth Angels *Æthereos*, and De-

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vils, *Aereos Animantes*. Thus *Pfellow* in his Dialogue, *ἡ δὲ ἀνεργὴς δαίμων*, αἱ δὲ οὐ σώματα, ἢ γυναικί, τὸ δαίμονιον ἔστι φύλον, μετασώματόν διγν, ἢ ἐμφὶ σώματι διατίτρουφι. Καὶ τὸ τό ἐστι μετ' ἐκ τῶν αὐτῶν μαθεῖναι τῶν σμινῶν πατρῶν. Καὶ βασιλεῖς ὁ δὲ οὐδὲν, ὁ δαίμων μένοντα ἢ τοῖς ἀρχεῖσις ἀγγέλοις, ἐνέιναι σώματα διαλένται, οὐα πτα πιδύματα λεπτά ἢ αἰράδι ἢ ἀχερῶντα, ἢ ἔξως. But you are to know, that Demons or Devils, are not altogether Incorporeal, but that they are Joynd to Bodies, and so Converſe with Bodies, which may be learn'd alſo from the Fathers, the Divine Baſil contending, that there are Bodies, not only in Devils, but alſo in the pure Angels themſelves, as certain Subtile, Atry, Deſecate Spirits. Where afterwards he ſhows, how the *σώμῳσις ἀγγέλοις σώμα*, that Body which is Connate with Angels, differs from that which Devils are united to, in reſpect of the Radiant Splendour of the one, and the Dark Fuliginous Obſcurity of the other. Moreover that Devils are not without Bodies, he endeavours further to confirm, from the words of our Saviour, that they ſhall be Punished with Fire, which (ſaith he) were a thing impoſſible, were they All of them Incorporeal. And ſome perhaps will attempt to prove the ſame concerning Angels too, from thoſe other words of our Saviour, where ſpeaking of the Reſurrection State, he affirmeth, that they who ſhall be accounted worthy thereof, ſhall neither marry nor be given in marriage, but be *ἰσὺ ἄγγελοι*, Equal to the Angels: which Comparative Expreſſion of men, as to their Bodies, with Angels; would be thought not ſo proper, were the Angels abſolutely devoid of all Body. But of this we determine not.

To this Phenomenon of Apparitions, might be added thoſe Two others of *Magicians* or *Wizards*, *Demoniacks* or *Energumeni*; both of theſe proving alſo, the Real Exiſtence of Spirits, and that they are not meer Phancies, and Imaginary Inhabitants of mens Brains only, but Real Inhabitants of the World. As alſo, that among thoſe Spirits there are ſome Foul, Unclean, and Wicked Ones; (though not made ſuch by God, but by their own Apoſtacy) which is ſome confirmation of the Truth of Chriſtianity, the Scripture inſiſting ſo much upon theſe Evil Demons or Devils, and declaring it to be one deſign of our Saviour Chriſt's coming into the World, to oppoſe theſe Confederate Powers of the Kingdom of Darkneſs, and to reſcue mankind from the Thralldom and Bondage thereof. As for *Wizards* and *Magicians*, Perſons who aſſociate and confederate themſelves in a peculiar manner with theſe Evil Spirits, for the gratification of their own Revenge, Luſt, Ambition, and other Paſſions; beſides the Scriptures, there hath been ſo full an attestation given to them, by perſons unconcerned in all Ages, that thoſe our ſo confident Exploders of them, in this preſent Age, can hardly eſcape the ſuſpicion, of having ſome Hankring towards Atheiſm. But as for the *Demoniacks* and *Energumeni*; It hath been much wondred, that there ſhould be ſo many of them in our Saviour's time, and hardly any or none, in this preſent Age of ours. Certain it is from the Writings of *Joſephus*, in ſundry places, that the *Phariſaick Jews*, were then generally poſſeſſed with an Opinion of theſe *δαμονιζόμενοι*, *Demoniacks*; men Poſſeſſed with Devils, or Inſeſted by them. And that this was not a meer Phraſe or Form of Speech only amongst them, for perſons very ill-affected

affected in their Bodies, may appear from hence, that *Josephus* declares it as his opinion, concerning the *Demons* or *Devils*, that they were *πενθῶν ἀνθρώπων πνεύματα* τὴς ζῆσι ἐσδυνάμενα, the *Spirits* or *Souls* of *wicked men* deceased, getting into the *Bodies* of the *Living*. From hence it was that the *Jews* in our Saviour's time were not at all Surprised with his casting out of *Devils*, it being usual for them also then to Exorcise the same, an Art which they pretended to have learn'd from *Solomon*. Of whom thus *Josephus*, περιέχει δ' αὖν *Am. 3. d.*
 τὰς μαθὼν ὁ Δαὶς, καὶ τὴν τῇ δ' αὐτοῦ δαίμονων τέχνῳ, εἰς ἀφίλῃαν καὶ θερά. *Lib. 8. c. 11*
 πρὸς τοὺς ἀνθρώπους· ἐποδοὺς τῇ συνταξάμενον, οἷς περιγροῦται τὰ νοσήμα-
 τα, καὶ τρεῖς τ' ἐξουσίᾳ κατέστη, οἷς ἐσδύμενα, τὰ δαίμονια ὡς μη-
 κτ' ἐκινεῖται, ἐκδιώκει. καὶ αὕτη μέγχε τὴν ἡ θεράπεια πλεον ἐχέει.
God also taught Solomon, an Art against Demons and Devils, for the
benefit and Cure of men. Who composed certain Incantations, by
which diseases are cured, and left forms of exorcisms, whereby Devils are
expelled and driven away. Which Method of curing, prevails much a-
mongst us, at this very day. Notwithstanding which, we think it not
 at all probable, what a late *Atheistical Writer* hath asserted, that the
 heads of the *Jews* were then all of them so full of *Demons* and *De-*
vils, that they generally took all manner of Bodily Diseases, such as
 Feavers and Agues, and Dumbness and Deafness, for *Devils*. Though
 we grant that this very thing, was imputed by *Plotinus* afterward to
 the *Gnosticks*, that they supposed all Diseases to be *Devils*, and there-
 fore not to be cured by Physick, but expelled by Words or Charms.
 Thus he, *En. 2. Lib. 9. c. 14.* οὐκ ἔστιν ὁ πρὸς τοὺς δαίμονας ἐ-
 ρεῖν, καὶ ταῦτα ἔχειν λόγῳ φέροντες δύνασθαι, καὶ ἐκχυλίσματα, συμ-
 νότοι μὲν ἂν ἴσται δόξαν ὅτι τὴς πολλοῖς, οἱ τὰς αὐτὰς τοῖς μαγίς δυ-
 νάμεις θαυμαζοῦσι, τὴς μὴ τοῖς ἀφροσύνας ἢ ἂν πείθων, ὡς ἢ αἱ νόσοι τὰς
 αἰτίας ἔχουσιν, ἢ πλυσμοῦ, ἢ ἐσθλαῖς &c. διὰ τὸν καὶ αἱ θεράπεια αὐτῶν,
 γὰρ ἐξ ὧν ἐνέουσιν ἢ φαρμάκων δεδιόται, διὰ τὸν καὶ τὴν νόσον καὶ αἰμα-
 τισμῶν καὶ ἐσθλαῖς ἢ ἰάσαστο· ἢ πρὸς τὴν τῶν δαίμονων, καὶ τὴν φαρμάκων πύ-
 κωσιν· τίνεσθαι. Now when they affirm Diseases to be *Demons* or *Devils*,
 and pretend that they can expel them by words, undertaking to do the same;
 they hereby indeed render themselves considerable to the vulgar, who
 are wont not a little to admire the powers of *Magicians*. But they will
 not be able to persuade wise men, that Diseases have no natural Causes;
 as from Repletion, or Inanition, or Putrefaction, or the like: Which is
 a thing manifest from their cure, they being oftentimes removed by pur-
 gation, and bleeding, and abstinence. Unless perhaps these men will say,
 that the Devil is by this means Starved, and made to Fly away. Nor
 can we think that the *Jews* in our Saviour's time, either sup-
 posed all Mad-men to be *Demoniacks*, or all *Demoniacks* Mad-
 men (though this latter seems to be asserted by an Eminent Wri-
 ter of our own) we reading of *Devils* cast out from others besides
 Mad men; and of a woman which had a Spirit of Infirmity only, and
 was bowed together, and could not lift up her self, which is said by our
 Saviour Christ to have been Bound by Satan. Wherefore the sense of
 the *Jews* formerly seems to have been this, that when there was any
 unusual and extraordinary Symptoms, in any bodily Distemper, but
 especially that of *Madness*, this being look'd upon as something more
 than Natural, was imputed by them to the Possession or Infestation
 of

of some Devil. Neither was this proper to the Jews only at that time, to suppose Evil Demons to be the Causes of such bodily diseases, as had extraordinary Symptoms, and especially Madneß; but the Greeks and other Gentiles also were embued with the same Perswasion; as appeareth from *Apollonius Tyanens* his curing a *Laughing Demoniack* at *Athens*, he ejecting that Evil Spirit, by threats and menaces, who is said at his departure, to have tumbled down a Royal Porch in the City with great noise. As also, from his freeing the City of *Ephesus* from the Plague, by stoning an old Ragged Beggar, said by *Apollonius* to have been the Plague, which appeared to be a Demon, by his changing himself, into the form of a *Shagged Dog*.

But that there is some Truth in this Opinion, and that at this very day, *Evil Spirits* or *Demons*, do sometimes really Act upon the Bodies of men, and either Inſlict or Augment bodily Distempers and Diseases, hath been the Judgment of two very experienced Physicians, *Sennertus* and *Fernelius*. The Former in his Book, *De Mania. Lib. 1. cap. 15.* writting thus, *Etsi sine ulla Corporis Morbosa Dispositione, Deo permittente, hominem Obsidere & Occupare Dæmon possit, tamen quandoque Morbis, & præcipue Melancholicis, sese immiscet Dæmon; & forsân frequentius hoc accidit, quam sæpe creditur.* Although the Devil may, by Divine permission, Possess men without any Morbid Disposition, yet doth he usually intermingle himself with Bodily Diseases, and especially those of Melancholy; and perhaps this cometh to pass oftner, than is commonly believed or suspected. The other in his, *De Abditæ rerum Causis*, where having attributed real Effects upon the bodies of men, to Witchcraft and Enchantment, he addeth; *Neque solum morbos, verum etiam Dæmonas, scelerati homines in corpora amittunt. Hi quidem visuntur Furoris quadam specie distorti; hoc uno tamen à Simplici Furorè distant, quod summè ardua obloquantur, præterita & occulta remittunt, assidentiumque arcana referent.* Neither do these wicked Magicians, only inſlict Diseases upon mens Bodies; but also send Devils into them; By means whereof they appear distorted with a kind of fury and madneß, which yet differs from a Simple Madneß (or the Disease so called) in this, that they speak of very high and difficult matters, declare things past unknown, and discover the Secrets of those that sit by. Of which he subjoyns two Notable Instances, of Persons well known to himself, that were plainly *Demoniacal*, Possessed, or Affected by an Evil Demon; one whereof shall be afterwards mentioned. But when *Maniacal* Persons, do not only discover Secrets, and declare things Past, but Future also, and besides this, speak in Languages, which they had never learnt, this puts it out of all doubt and question, that they are not meer Mad men or Maniaci, but *Demoniacks* or *Energumeni*. And that since the time of our Saviour Christ, there have been often such, may be made evident from the Records of credible Writers. *Psellus* in his Book *περὶ ἐνεργέας δαιμονίων*, *De Operat. Dem.* avers it, of a certain *Maniacal* Woman, That though she knew nothing but her own Mother tongue, yet when a Stranger who was an *Armenian* was brought into the Room to her, she spake to him presently in the *Armenian* Language, *ὑμῖς ὃ πάντες ἡμεν, ὅτι καὶ ἁρμενίων ἐφθγγέτο, καὶ καὶ μὴδέν τι μὴδ' ἐς εἴην ἀφιστάμεν τοτοῖς, μηδὲ κελεύει· εἰς ἃ πλὴν ὅδε, We all stood amazed,*

self, that Evil Demons (or Devils) do sometimes enter into the very Bodies of men, afflicting and tormenting them after an unheard of manner; but that at other times, though they do not enter into, and possess their whole body, yet partly by exagitating and disturbing the profitable humours thereof, partly by traducing the noxious into the principal parts, or else by by obstructing the Veins and other Passages with them, or disordering the structure of the Members, they cause innumerable Diseases. There are many other Instances of this kind, recorded by Modern Writers unexceptionable, of Persons either wholly *Demoniacal* and Possessed by Evil Demons (this appearing from their discovering Secrets, and speaking Languages, which they had never learnt) or else otherwise so Affected and Infested by them, as to have certain Unusual and Supernatural Symptoms; which for brevities sake, we shall here omit: However we thought it necessary, thus much to insist upon this Argument of *Demoniacs*, as well for the Vindication of Christianity, as for the Conviction of Atheists; we finding some so staggering in their Religion, that from this one thing alone of *Demoniacs* (they being so strongly possessed, that there neither is, nor ever was any such) they are ready enough to suspect, the whole Gospel or New Testament it self, of *Fabulosity* and *Imposture*.

We come now to the *Second Head* proposed, of *Miracles* and *Effects Supernatural*. That there hath been some thing *Miraculous* or *Above Nature*, sometimes done even among the *Pagans*, (whether by *Good* or *Evil Spirits*;) appears not only from their own *Records*, but also from the *Scripture* it self. And it is well known, that they pretended (besides *Oracles*) to *Miracles* also, even after the times of Christianity; and that not only in *Apollonius Tyanæus*, and *Apuleius*, but also in the Roman Emperours themselves; as *Vespasian* and *Adrian*; but especially in the Temple of *Esculapius*; thus much appearing from that Greek Table therein hung up at Rome, in which amongst other things this is Recorded, That a blind man being commanded by the Oracle, to kneel before the Altar, and then passing from the Right side thereof, to the Left, to lay five fingers upon the Altar, and afterwards lifting up his hand, to touch his eyes therewith; all this being done accordingly, he recovered his sight, the people all applauding, that great Miracles were done, under the Emperour Antoninus, &c. But we have in the Scripture an account of *Miracles* both greater in Number, and of a higher Nature; done especially by *Moses*, and our Saviour Christ and his Apostles.

Wherefore it seems, that there are Two Sorts of *Miracles* or *Effects Supernatural*. First, such as though they could not be done by any Ordinary and Natural Causes here amongst us, and in that respect may be called *Supernatural*, yet might notwithstanding be done, God Permitting only, by the Ordinary and Natural Power of other Invisible Created Spirits, Angels or Demons. As for example, If a Stone or other Heavy body, should first ascend upwards, and then hang in the Air, without any Visible either Mover or Supporter, this would be to us a *Miracle* or *Effect Supernatural*; and yet according to Vulgar Opinion, might this be done, by the Natural Power of
Created

Created Invisible Beings, Angels or Demons; God only permitting, without whose special Providence it is conceived, they cannot, thus intermeddle, with our humane affairs. Again, If a perfectly Illiterate Person, should readily speak *Greek*, or *Latine*, this also would be to us a *Miracle* or *Effect Supernatural*, for so is the Apostles speaking with Tongues accounted; and yet in *Demoniacks*, is this sometimes done, by *Evil Demons*, God only Permitting. Such also amongst the *Pagans*, was that *Miraculum Cotis*, (as *Apuleius* calls it) that *Miracle of the Whetstone*, done by *Accius Navius*, when at his command, it was divided into Two, with a *Razor*. But Secondly there is another sort of *Miracles*, or *Effects Supernatural*, such as are above the *Power* of all *Second Causes*, or any *Natural Created Being* whatsoever, and so can be attributed to none, but *God Almighty* himself, the *Author of Nature*, who therefore can Controul it at pleasure.

As for that late *Theological Politician*, who writing against *Miracles*, denies as well those of the Former, as of this Latter Kind, contending that a *Miracle* is nothing but a Name; which the Ignorant Vulgar gives, to *Opus Naturæ Insolitum*, any *Unwonted work of Nature*, or to what themselves can assign no Cause off; as also that if there were any such thing done, Contrary to *Nature* or *Above* it, it would rather Weaken than Confirm, Our Belief of the Divine Existence; We find his Discourse every way so Weak, Groundless, and Inconsiderable; that we could not think it here to deserve a Confutation.

But of the Former Sort of those *Miracles*, is that to be understood, *Deuter. the 13.* If there arise among you a Prophet or dreamer of Dreams, and giveth thee a Sign or a Wonder, and the Sign or Wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee saying; Let us go after other Gods, and serve them; thou shalt not hearken to the words of that Prophet or Dreamer of Dreams, for the Lord your God Proveth you, to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul. For it cannot be Supposed, that God Almighty would himself, purposely Inspire any man to exhort others to Idolatry, and immediately assist such a one, with his own *Supernatural Power*, of doing *Miracles*, in Confirmation of such Doctrine. But the meaning is, that by the suggestion of Evil Spirits, some False Prophets might be raised up, to tempt the Jews to Idolatry; or at least, that by Assistance of them, such *Miracles* might be wrought, in Confirmation thereof, as those sometimes done by the Egyptian Sorcerers or Magicians, God himself not interposing in this case, to hinder them, for this reason, that he might hereby, Prove and Try their Faithfulness towards him. For as much as both by the Pure Light of Nature, and God's Revealed Will, before confirmed by *Miracles, Idolatry*, or the Religious Worship of any but God Almighty, had been sufficiently condemned. From whence it is evident, that *Miracles* alone, (at least such *Miracles* as these,) are no sufficient Confirmation of a True Prophet, without consideration had of the Doctrine taught by him. For though a man should have done never so many true and real *Miracles*, amongst the Jews, and yet should perswade to Idolatry, he was by them confidently to be condemned to death, for a false Prophet.

Accordingly in the New Testament, do we read, that our Saviour Christ forewarned his Disciples, That *False Prophets and False Christs* should arise, and show great Signs or Wonders, in so much that if it were possible, they should seduce the very Elect. And St. Paul foretelleth, concerning the Man of Sin, or Anti-Christ, That his coming should be after the working of Satan, with all Power, and Signs, and Wonders (or Miracles) of a Lye. For we conceive that by *ἡγεῖται ἰσχυρῶς* in this place, are not properly meant, Feigned and Counterfeit Miracles, that is, meer Cheating and Jugling tricks; but True Wonders and Real Miracles (viz. of the Former Sort mentioned) done for the Confirmation of a Lye, as the Doctrine of this Man of Sin, is there afterwards called; For otherwise how could his coming be said to be, According to the Working of Satan, with all Power? In like manner also in St. John's Apocalypse, where the coming of the same Man of Sin and the Mystery of Iniquity, is again described, we read Chapter 13. of a Two Horned Beast like a Lamb, That he shall do great wonders and deceive those that dwell on the Earth, by means of those Miracles, which he hath power to do, in the sight of the Beast. And again Chapter 16. Of certain unclean Spirits like Frogs, coming out of the mouth of the Dragon, and of the Beast, and of the False Prophet, which are the Spirits of Devils working Miracles, that go forth to the Kings of the Earth. And Lastly Chapter 19. Of the False Prophet, that wrought Miracles before the Beast. All which seem to be understood, not of Feigned and Counterfeit Miracles only, but of True and Real also, Effected by the Working of Satan, in Confirmation of a Lye, that is, of Idolatry, False Religion and Imposture; God Almighty permitting it, partly in way of Probation or Trial of the faithfulness of his own servants; and partly in way of Just Judgment and Punishment upon those, who receive not the Love of the Truth, that they might be saved; as the Apostle declareth. Wherefore those Miracles pretended for divers Ages past, to have been done, before the Relicks of Saints, and Images, &c. were they all True, could by no means justify or warrant, that Religious Worship, by many given to them; because True and Real Miracles, done in order to the promoting of Idolatry, are so far from justifying that Idolatry, that they are themselves Condemned by it, to be *ἡγεῖται ἰσχυρῶς*, the Miracles of a Lye, done by the Working of Satan.

But as for the Miracles of our Saviour Christ, had they been all of them only of the Former Kind, such as might have been done, God permitting, by the Natural Power of Created Spirits, and their Assistance, yet for as much as he came in the Name of the Lord, teaching neither Idolatry, nor any thing contrary to the clear Light and Law of Nature, therefore ought he by reason of those Miracles, to have been received by the Jews themselves, and owned for a True Prophet, according to the Doctrine of Moses himself. Who both in the 13. and 18. Chapter of Deuter. plainly supposeth, that God would in no other Case, permit any False Prophet, to do Miracles, by the assistance of Evil Spirits, save only in that of Idolatry, and, (which is always understood, of what is plainly Discoverable by the Light of Nature

to be *False*, or *Evil*.) - The reason whereof is manifest, because if he should, this would be an *Invincible Temptation*; which it is inconsistent with the *Divine Goodness*, to expose men unto. And our Saviour Christ, was unquestionably, that *One Eximious Prophet*, which God Almighty by *Moses* promised to send unto the Israelites, upon occasion of their own desire made to him at *Horeb*, *Let me not hear again, the voice of the Lord my God, nor let me see this great Fire any more, that I die not*. Whereupon the Lord said, *They have well spoken that which they have spoken, I will raise them up a Prophet from among their Brethren, like unto thee, and put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him; and whosoever will not hearken to the words, which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him*. Which is all one as if he should have said; I will no more speak to them with Thunder and Lightning, nor reveal my will with a Terrible Voice out of Flaming Fire, but the next great Manifestation of my self, or further *Revelation of my Will*, shall be, by a *Prophet*, from amongst their own Brethren, I putting my words into his mouth, and speaking to them by him. Whose words they shall be as much obliged to hearken to, as if I had spoken them (as before) from the top of the Fiery Mount. And that they may have no Colour for their Disbelieving this great Prophet especially, or their disobeying of him, I plainly declare, that whosoever cometh in *my Name*, and does *True* and *Real Miracles*, shall be acknowledged undoubtedly for a *True Prophet* sent by me, and accordingly Believed and Obeyed; and none rejected under the Notion of *False Prophets*, but only such, as either, do not *Real Miracles*, or else if they do, come in the name of *Other Gods*, or Exhort to *Idolstry*. Nevertheless, our Saviour Christ, wrought other *Miracles* also, of a higher Nature, by the Immediate Power of *God Almighty* himself; as for example, when before himself, he raised *Lazarus*, who had been dead four days, to life; since it cannot be conceived, to be in the Power of *Created Spirits* (whether Bad or Good) when ever they please, to bring back the Souls of men deceased to their Bodies again, or change the Laws of *Nature* and *Fate*. However it must not be thought, that God will ever set this *Seal* of his to a Lye, or that which is plainly contrary to the *Light* and *Law of Nature*.

The conclusion is, that though all *Miracles* promiscuously, do not immediately prove the *Existence of a God*, nor Confirm a *Prophet*, or whatsoever *Doctrine*; yet do they all of them evince, that there is a Rank of *Invisible Understanding Beings*, Superiour to men, which the Atheists commonly deny. And we read of some such *Miracles* also, as could not be wrought, but by a Power *Perfectly Super-Natural*, or by *God Almighty* himself. But to deny and disbelieve all *Miracles*, is either to deny all Certainty of *Sense*, which would be indeed to make *Sensation* it self *Miraculous*; or else monstrously and unreasonably to derogate from *Humane Testimonies* and *History*. The Jews would never have so stiffly and pertinaciously adhered to the Ceremonial Law of *Moses*, had they not all along believed it, to have been unquestionably confirmed by *Miracles*; and that the Gentiles should at first have entertained the Faith of Christ without *Miracles*, would it self have been The *Greatest of Miracles*:

The Last Extraordinary Phenomenon proposed, was that of *Divination, Oracles, Prophecies, or Predictions* of Future Events, otherwise Unforeknowable to men : which either Evince a God, or at least that there are *Understanding Beings Superiour* to men. For if there be *Presention* or *Foreknowledge* of such Future Events, as are to *Humane Understanding* alone, altogether Unforeknowable, then is it certain, that there is some more *Perfect Understanding, or Knowledge*, in the World, than that of men. And thus is that Maxim of the Ancient *Pagan Theists*, in the Genuine and proper sense thereof, unquestionably true, *Si Divinatio est Dei sunt, If there be Divination, or Presention of Future Events, (Undiscoverable by men) then are there Gods* : which in their Language, was no more than to say, *Understanding Beings Superiour* to men.

Wherefore we must here distinguish of *Oracles* and *Predictions*, after the same manner as we did before of *Miracles*, that they may be of Two Kinds. First, such as might proceed, only from the *Natural Presaging Power* of Created Spirits Superiour to men, whether called *Angels* or *Demons*. For these being supposed to have not only clearer understandings than men, and a greater insight into Nature, but also by reason of their *Agility* and *Invisibilty*, opportunity of knowing things remotely distant, and of being privy to mens *Secret Machinations* and *Consultations*; it is easily conceivable, that many *Future Events* nigh at hand, which cannot be foreknown by men, may be (probably at least) foreseen by them; and that without any *Miraculous Divine Revelation*, their Causes being already in Being. As men learned in Astronomy, can foretel Eclipses of the Sun and Moon, which to the Vulgar are altogether Unforeknowable. And as Princes or States-men, that are furnished with great Intelligence, Foreign and Domestick, can presage more of War and Peace, either at home or abroad, and of the Events of Kingdoms, than Ignorant Plebeians. And such were those Predictions, which *Democritus*, though otherwise much addicted to *Atheism*, allowed of; *Cicero* Writing thus of him, *Plurimum Locis, graviter auctor Democritus, Præsentionem rerum futurarum comprobat*; Democritus a grave Writer, doth in many places approve of the Presention of Future Events. The reason whereof was, because he supposed certain *Understanding Beings* Superiour to men, called by him *Idols*, which having a larger Comprehension of things, and other advantages of Knowledge, could therefore foretel many Future Events that men were ignorant of. And though perhaps it may be thought, that *Democritus* would not have entertained this Opinion, of the *Foreknowledge* of *Humane Events*, had he not asserted the *Necessity* of all humane Actions and Volitions, but held *Liberty of Will*, as *Epicurus* afterwards did; (as if this were Inconsistent with all manner of Presage and Probable or Conjectural Foreknowledge;) yet is it certain, that there is not so much *Contingency* in all Humane Actions, by reason of this *Liberty of Will*, as heretofore was by *Epicurus*, and still is by many supposed; it being plain, that men act according to an *Appearance of Good*, and that in many cases and circumstances, it may be Foreknown, without any

any Divine Revelation, what such or such persons would do. As for example, that a voluptuous Person, having a strong Temptation to satisfy his Sensual Appetite, and that without incurring any inconvenience of shame or punishment, would readily clothe with the same. Besides which, such *Invisible Spirits*, as *Angels* or *Demons*, may sometimes Predict also, what themselves Cause and Effect.

Secondly, there is another Sort of *Predictions* of *Future Events*, which cannot be imputed to the *Natural Presaging Faculty* of any such *Created Spirits*, but only to the *Supernatural Prescience* of *God Almighty*, or a *Being Infinitely Perfect*. As when Events remotely distant in time, and of which there are yet no immediate Causes actually in Being; which also depend upon many circumstances and a long Series of things, any one of which being otherwise, would alter the case; as likewise upon much Uncertainty of Humane Volitions, which are not always necessarily linked and concatenated with what goes before, but often loose and free; and upon that Contingency, that arises from the *Indifferency* or *Equality* of Eligibility in Objects; Lastly, such things as do not at all depend upon External Circumstances neither, nor are caused by things *Natural Antecedent*, but by some *Supernatural Power*; I say, when such Future Events as these, are foretold, and accordingly come to pass, this can be ascribed to no other but such a Being, as Comprehends, Sways, and Governs all; and is by a peculiar Privilege or Prerogative of its own Nature, *Omniscient*. *Epicurus*, though really, he therefore rejected *Divination*, and *Prediction* of Future Events, because he denied *Providence*; yet did he pretend this further reason also against it, because it was a thing Absolutely *Inconsistent* with *Liberty of Will*, and *Destruction* of the same; ἡ μαντικὴ ἀντιπαρῶν ὁ δὲ ἔ, ὑπερτικὴ, ἔδωκε πρὸς ἡμᾶς ἡδὲ τὰ γέγονα. *Divination is a thing which hath no Existence, nor possibility in nature: and if there were such a thing, it would take away all Liberty of Will, and leave nothing in mens own Power.* Thus also *Carneades* in *Cicero* maintained, *Ne Apollinem quidem futura posse dicere, nisi ea quorum Causas Natura ita contineret, ut ea fieri necesse esset.* That *Apollo* himself, was not able to foretel, any future Events, other than such as had *Necessary Causes* in *Nature antecedent*. And some Christian Theists of latter times, have in like manner, denied to *God Almighty*, all *Foreknowledge* of *Humane Actions*, upon the same pretence, as being both *Inconsistent* with mens *Liberty of Will*, and *Destructive* thereof. For say they, If mens Actions be *Free* then are they *Unforeknowable*, they having no *Necessary Causes*; and again, if there be any *Foreknowledge* of them, then can they not be *Free*, they being *ipso facto* *Necessitated* thereby. But as it is certain, that *Prescience* does not destroy the *Liberty of mens Will*, or impose any *Necessity* upon it; mens Actions being not therefore *Future*, because they are *Foreknown*; but therefore *Foreknown* because *Future*; and were a thing never so *Contingent*, yet upon supposition that it will be *Done*, it must needs have been *Future* from all *Eternity*: So is it extreme *Arrogance* for men, because themselves can *Naturally Foreknow* nothing, but by some *Causes Antecedent*, as an *Eclipse* of the *Sun* or *Moon*; therefore to presume to measure the knowledge of *God Almighty*, according to the

Diog. Laert. lib.
I. Epic.

the same Scantling, and to deny him the *Prescience* of Humane Actions; not considering that as his Nature is Incomprehensible, so his Knowledge may well be looked upon, by us, as such too; that which is *Past our finding out*, and *Too Wonderful for us*. However it must be acknowledged for an Undoubted Truth, that no Created Being, can Naturally and Of it self, Foreknow any *Future Events*, otherwise, than in and by their Causes Antecedent. If therefore we shall find, that there have been *Predictions* of such Future Events, as had no *Necessary Antecedent Causes*; as we cannot but grant, such Things therefore to be *Foreknowable*; So must we needs from thence infer, the *Existence of a God*, that is, a Being *Supernatural*, *Ininitely Perfect*, and *Omniscient*; since such Predictions as these could have proceeded from no other Cause.

That there is *Foreknowledge of Future Events*, to men Naturally Unforeknowable, hath been all along the Persuasion of the Generality of Mankind. Thus Cicero, *Vetus opinio est, jam usque ab Heroicis aetate temporibus, eaque & Populi Romani, & omnium Gentium firmata consensu, Versari quendam inter homines Divinationem, quam Graeci μαντινὴν appellant, id est Praesensionem & Scientiam rerum Futurarum.* This is an Old opinion derived down all along from the Heroick times (or the Mythical Age) and not only entertained amongst the Romans, but also confirmed by the consent of all Nations, that there is such a thing as Divination, and Presension or Foreknowledge of Future Events. And the same Writer elsewhere in the Person of Balbus; *Quamvis nihil tam irridet Epicurus, quam Praedictionem rerum Futurarum, mihi videtur tamen vel maxime confirmare, Deorum Providentia consuli rebus humanis. Est enim profecto Divinatio: qua multis locis, rebus, temporibus apparet, cum in privatis tum maxime in publicis. Multa cernunt Auspices, multa Augures provident, multa Oraculis providentur, multa Vaticinationibus, multa Somniis, multa portentis. Alibique Epicurus derideat nihil magis, than the Prediction of Future things; yet does this seem to me to be a great confirmation of the Providence of the Gods over humane affairs. Because there is certainly Divination, it appearing in many Places, Things, and Times; and that not only Private but especially Publick. Soothsayers foresee many things, the Augurs many: many things are declared by Oracles, many by Prophecies, many by Dreams, and many by Portents. And indeed that there were even amongst the Pagans, Predictions of Future Events, not discoverable by any Humane Sagacity, which accordingly came to pass, and therefore argue a Knowledge superiour to that of men, or that there are certain Invisible understanding Beings or Spirits; seems to be undeniable from History. And that the Augurs themselves were sometimes not Unassisted by these *Officious Genii*, is plain from that of *Attium Navius* before mentioned, as the circumstances thereof are related by Historians; that *Tarquinius Priscus* having a mind to try what there was in this skill of Augury, *Dixit ei se cogitare quiddam: id posse fieri consuluit. Ille augurio actō, posse respondet. Tarquinius autem dixit se cogitasse eotem novacula posse praecidi; tum Attium jussisse experiri: ita eotem in Comitium illatam, inspellante & Rege & Populo, novacula esse discissam* Told Navius, that he Thought of something, and he would know*

would know of him, Whether it could be done or no. Navius having performed his Auguring Ceremonies, replied, that the thing might be done. Whereupon Priscus declared, what his Thought was, namely, that a Whetstone might be cut in two with a Razor. Navius willed them to make trial: wherefore a Whetstone being brought immediately into the Court; it was in the sight of the King and all the People, divided with a Razor. But the Predictions amongst those Pagans, were for the most part only of the Former Kind, such as proceeded meerly from the Natural Presaging Faculty of these Demons; this appearing from hence, because their Oracles were often exprested *Ambiguously*, so as that they might be taken either way; those Demons themselves, it seems, being then not confident of the Event: as also because they were sometimes plainly mistaken in the Events. And from hence it was, that they seldom Ventured to foretel, any Events remotely distant, but only what were nigh at hand, and shortly to come to pass; and therefore might be Probably Conjectured of, from things then in being. Notwithstanding which, we acknowledge, that there are some Few Instances of Predictions amongst the Pagans, of the other Kind. Such as that intimated by Cicero in his Book of Divination, where he declareth the Doctrine of Diodorus concerning *Necessity and Contingency*; *non necesse fuisse Cypselum regnare Corinthi, quanquam id Millesimo ante anno, Apollinis Oraculo editum esset, that it was not Necessary, Cypselus the Tyrant, should reign at Corinth, though that were a thing Predicted by Apollo's Oracle, a thousand years before.* As also this recorded by Varro, of Vellius Valens, an Augur in the Time of Romulus, who when Rome was a building, from the flying of Twelve Vultures, presaged that the continuance of that City would be for Twelve Hundred years: which seems to have been accordingly fulfilled, in the year of our Lord Four hundred fifty and five, immediately after the death of the Third Valentinian (whom some make to be the last Real Emperour of the West or Rome) when Gensericus the Vandal, took the City the second time, and fired it. But above all, that of the *Sibyls*; of whose Prophecies such things are recorded by Pagan Writers, as makes it very suspicious, that they did foretel the coming of our Saviour Christ, and the times of Christianity; but were these and the like Pagan Prophecies, Real, then must they needs have had some higher Original, than the Natural Presaging Faculty of their Demons, especially those of the *Sibyls*; who for ought we know, might be as well assisted Super-Naturally, to predict our Saviour Christ, amongst the Pagans in the West; as Balaam was in the East.

But here the Scripture triumpheth over Paganism, and all its Oracles and Divinations; there being contained in it so many unquestionable Predictions of Events to follow a long time after, and such as can be imputed to nothing but the *Supernatural Foreknowledge and Omniscience* of God Almighty. As for example, those concerning the Messiah, or our Saviour Christ, delivered by Jacob, Moses, David, Isaiah, Jeremy, Daniel, and most of the Prophets; foretelling sundry particular circumstances of his coming, and that grand Event which followed after, of the Gentiles or Pagans so general Reception and

Entertainment

Entertainment of Christianity; that is, the *Belief of the Messiah*, promised to the Jews; together with the shaking off of their *Gods and Idols*. Amongst which Scripture Prophecies, concerning our Saviour Christ, we must needs reckon for one, and none of the least considerable neither, that of *Daniel's Weeks*, or of Four hundred and ninety years, to commence from the *Going forth of the Word*, or the Decree made by *Artaxerxes* the Son of *Xerxes*, in the seventh year of his Reign, for the return of the People of Israel, Priests and Levites to Jerusalem; and to terminate in the Death of the *Messiah*, and the Preaching of the Gospel to the Jews only: though we are not ignorant, how some learned men, both of former and latter times, have stretched their wits, they sometimes using no small violence, to divert this Prophecy another way. For that these Prophecies concerning our Saviour Christ, could have no other Original, than the immediate *Supernatural Revelation* of God Almighty, is Evident from the thing it self; it being such as depended on no Natural Causes, much less upon those *Constellations*, of the *Astrological Atheists*, but only upon his own Secret Will, and Counsel.

But besides these Prophecies concerning our Saviour Christ, there are others contained in the Scripture, concerning the *Fates and Successions* of the chief Kingdoms, Empires, and Politics of the World; as of the Rise of the *Persian Monarchy*; of its *Fall and Conquest* by the *Macedonian Alexander*; of the *Quadripartite Division* of this Greekish Empire after *Alexander's* death; of the *Succession* of the *Seleucids* and *Lagides*, a Prophetick History, so agreeable with the Events, that it was by *Porphyrus* pretended to have been written after them; and lastly of the Rise and Continuance of the *Roman Empire*. For notwithstanding the endeavours of some, to pervert all those Scripture Prophecies, that extend to the present times, it is clearly demonstrable, that this was *Daniel's Fourth*, Ten horned Beast; or the Legs and Toes of *Nebuchadnezzar's* Statue, that *Fourth Empire strong as Iron*, which came at length to be broken or divided, into Ten or many Principalities, called in the Prophetick Language and according to the *Eichon, Hornes*; amongst whom was to start up, another Horn with Eyes, speaking great words against the most High, and making War with the Saints and prevailing against them, for a Time, Times, and Half a Time. Which Prophecy of *Daniels*, is the Ground-work of *St. John's Apocalypse*, it being there further insisted upon, filled up, and enlarged, with the addition of several particulars; so that both *Daniel* and *John*, have each of them from their respective ages, set down a Prophetick Calendar of Times, in a continued Series, (the former more Compendiously and Generally, the latter more Copiously and Particularly) to the very end of the World.

And thus do we see plainly, that the *Scripture-Prophecies* Evince a Deity; neither can these possibly be imputed by Atheists, as other things, to mens Fear and Fancy, nor yet to the *Fiction of Politicians*. Nor do they only Evince a Deity, but confirm Christianity also; partly as predicted by them in its several circumstances, a grand one whereof was the *Gentiles Reception* of it; and partly as it self predicting

dicting Future Events, this *Spirit of Prophecy* being the *Testimony of Jesus*. Both which Scripture-Prophecies, Of Christ in the Old Testament; and From him in the New, are of equal, if not greater force to us in this present Age, for the Confirmation of our Faith, than the *Miracles* themselves recorded in the Scripture, we having now certain knowledge our selves, of many of those Events; and being no way able to suspect, but that the *Prophecies* were writtē long before.

To conclude, all these *Extraordinary Phenomena*, of *Apparitions*, *Witchcrafts*, *Possessions*, *Miracles*, and *Prophecies*, do Evince that *Spirits*, *Angels* or *Demons*, though *Invisible* to us, are no *Phancies*, but *Real* and *Substantial* Inhabitants of the World; which favours not the *Atheistick Hypothesis*; but some of them, as the Higher kind of *Miracles*, and *Predictions*, do also immediately enforce the acknowledgment of a *Deity*: a Being superiour to *Nature*, which therefore can check and controul it; and which comprehending the whole, fore-knows the most *Remotely distant*, and *Contingent Events*.

And now have we not only fully Answered and Confuted, all the *Atheistick Pretences* against the *Idea of God*, tending to disprove his *Existence*; but also occasionally proposed, several *Solid* and *Substantial* Arguments for a *Deity*: as, That all *Successive things*, the *World*, *Motion*, and *Time*, are in their own Nature absolutely incapable of an *Ante-Eternity*, and therefore there must of necessity, be something else of a *Permanent Duration*, that was Eternal without Beginning; That no *Atheist* according to his Principles, can possibly give any account of the Original of his own *Soul* or *Mind*; That the *Phenomenon* of *Motion* cannot be Salv'd without an *Incorporeal Principle*, presiding over the whole; That the τὸ ἄρτι καὶ νῦν, *The Artificial, Regular, and Orderly Frame of things*, together with the *Harmony* of the whole, *Demonstrate* an *Understanding* and *Intending Cause* of the World, that Ordered things for *Ends* and *Good*. Besides, that there are several other *Phenomena*, both *Ordinary* and *Extraordinary*, which *Atheists* being no way able to Salve, are forced to deny.

True indeed, some of the ancient Theists, have themselves affirmed, that there could be no *Demonstration of a God*, which Assertion of theirs, hath been by others misunderstood into this sense, as if there were therefore no *Certainty* at all to be had of *God's Existence*, but only a *Conjectural Probability*; no *Knowledge* or *Science*, but only *Faith* and *Opinion*. Whereas the true meaning of those ancient Theists, who denied that there could be any *Demonstration of a God*, was only this, that the *Existence of a God* could not be *Demonstrated A Priorē*, himself being the *First Cause* of all things. Thus doth *Alexander Aphrodisius*, in his *Physical Doubts and Solutions*, after he had propounded an Argument for a God, according to *Aristotelick Principles*, from *Motion*, declare himself; ἡ δὲ εἰς τὴν ἀνάληψιν, ἡ γὰρ οὐκ ἔστι πρῶτης ἀρχὴ ἀπο- L. 1. c. 2. δὲ τὴν οὐσίαν, ἀλλὰ δὲ ἀπὸ τῆς οὐσίαν τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ἀρχαίαν, καὶ τὴν πρὸς ταῦτα συμφωνίαν ἀναλὺς χαίρειν οὐκ ἔστι τὴν οὐσίαν οὐκ ἔστι. That this Argument or Proof of his was in way of *Analysis* only: it being not *Pos-*
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Strom. L. 1.
p. 381.

sible that there should be a Demonstration of the First Principle of all. Wherefore (saith he) we must here fetch our Beginning from things that are After it, and manifest; and thence by way of Analysis, Ascend to the Proof of that First Nature which was Before them. And to the same purpose Clemens Alexandrinus, having first affirmed, ὡς δυσμεταχρηστέωτος ὁ Θεὸς τοῦ λόγου· ἡμεῖς δὲ ἀρχὴ πάντων προσημασμένωτος δυσλέεωτος, πᾶντος περὶ ἡμετέρας πρὸς ἀποδείξεωτος ἀρχὴ δυσδιδάσκωτος, ὥς καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις ἀπὸ αὐτῆς τῆς γενέσεως, καὶ γινώσκωτος ἔσται. That God is the most difficult thing of all to be discoursed of. Because since the Principle of every thing is hard to find out, the First and most antient Principle of all, which was the Cause to all other things, of their being made, must needs be the hardest of all to be declared or manifested; he afterwards subjoyns, ἀλλὰ οὐδὲ ἐντιστάμενος λαμβάνειν τῇ ἀποδείξεωτος· αὐτὴν γὰρ οὐκ ἐκ προηγουμένου καὶ γνωστέωτος συνίσταται· τῷ δὲ ἀγνώσκωτος ὁδὸν προσημασμένωτος. But neither can God be apprehended by any Demonstrative Science. For such Science is from things Before in order of Nature, and More Knowable; whereas nothing can exist Before that which is altogether Unmade. And certain it is, that it implies a Contradiction, that God or a Perfect Being should be thus Demonstrated, by any thing before him as his Cause. Nevertheless it doth not therefore follow, that there can be no Certainty at all had of the Existence of a God, but only a Conjectural Probability; no Knowledge, but Faith and Opinion only. For we may have a Certain Knowledge of things, the δύνωτος whereof cannot be Demonstrated A Priorē, or from Antecedent Necessary Causes; As for example, That there was something Eternal of it Self, without Beginning; is not at all Demonstrable by any Antecedent Cause, it being Contradictory to such a thing to have a Cause. Nevertheless upon supposition only, that something doth Exist, which no man can possibly make anydoubt of, we may not only have an Opinion, but also certain Knowledge, from the Necessity of Irrefragable Reason, That there was never Nothing, but something or other did Always Exist from Eternity, and without Beginning. In like manner, though the Existence of a God or Perfect Being, cannot be Demonstrated A Priorē, yet may we notwithstanding, from Our very Selves (whose Existence we cannot doubt of) and from what is contained in our own Minds, or otherwise consequent from him, by undeniable Principles of Reason, Necessarily infer His Existence. And whensoever any thing is thus necessarily inferred, from what is undeniable and indubitable, this is a Demonstration, though not of the δύνωτος, yet of the ἔστωτος of it; That the thing is, though not Why it is. And many of the Geometrical Demonstrations are no other.

It hath been asserted by a late Eminent Philosopher, that there is no possible Certainty to be had of any thing, before we be Certain of the Existence of a God Essentially Good: because we can never otherwise free our minds from the Importunity of that Suspicion, which with irresistible force may assault them; That our selves might possibly be so made, either by Chance, or Fate, or by the pleasure of some Evil Demon, or at least of an Arbitrary Omnipotent Deity, as that we should be Deceived in all our most Clear and Evident Perceptions; and therefore in Geometrical Theorems themselves, and even in our

Common

Common Notions. But when we are once assured of the Existence of such a God as is *Essentially Good*, who therefore neither will nor can Deceive; then and not before, will this *Suspicion* utterly vanish, and Our selves become *Certain*, that our *Faculties of Reason and Understanding* are not *False and Imposturous*, but *Rightly Made*. From which Hypothesis it plainly follows, that all those Theists who suppose, God to be a meer Arbitrary Being, whose Will is not determined by any *Nature of Goodness* or *Rule of Justice*, but it self is the first *Rule of both*, (they thinking this to be the *Highest Perfection, Liberty, and Power*) can never be reasonably *Certain*, of the Truth of any thing, not so much as that Two and Two are Four; because so long as they adhere to that perwasion; they can never be assured, but that such an *Arbitrary Omnipotent Deity*, might designedly make them such, as should be deceived in all their *Clearest Perceptions*.

Now though there be a *Plausibility of Piety*, in this Doctrine, as making the knowledge of a *God Essentially Good*, so necessary a *Pre-cognitum* to all other Science, that there can be no *Certainty of Truth* at all without it, yet does that very *Supposition*, that our *Understanding Faculties* might possibly be so made, as to deceive us in all our *Clearest Perceptions*, (where soever it is admitted) render it utterly Impossible, ever to arrive to any *Certainty concerning the Existence of a God Essentially Good*; for as much as this cannot be any otherwise proved, then by the use of our *Faculties of Understanding, Reason, and Discourse*. For to say, that the *Truth of our Understanding Faculties*, is put out of all Doubt and Question, as soon as ever we are assured of the *Existence of a God Essentially Good*, who therefore cannot deceive; whilst this *Existence of a God*, is in the mean time it self no otherwise proved, than by by our *Understanding Faculties*; that is, at once to prove the *Truth of God's Existence* from our *Faculties of Reason and Understanding*, and again to prove the *Truth of those Faculties*, from the *Existence of a God Essentially Good*; this I say is plainly to move round in a *Circle*; and to prove nothing at all: a gross oversight, which the forementioned Philosopher seems plainly guilty of.

Wherefore according to this Hypothesis, we are of necessity condemned, to *Eternal Scepticism*, both concerning the *Existence of a God*, when after all our *Arguments and Demonstrations* for the same, we must at length gratifie the Atheists with this *Confession*, in the Conclusion; That it is *Possible* notwithstanding, there may be *None*; but also concerning all other things, the *Certainty* whereof is supposed to depend; upon the *Certainty of the Existence of such a God as cannot Deceive*.

So that if we will pretend to any *Certainty* at all, concerning the *Existence of a God*, we must of necessity explode this *New Sceptical Hypothesis*, of the *Possibility* of our *Understandings* being so made, as to Deceive us in all our *Clearest Perceptions*, by means whereof, we can be *Certain* of the *Truth of nothing*, and to use our utmost endeavour to remove the same. In the First place therefore we affirm, That no *Power* how great soever, and therefore not *Omnipotence* it

self, can make any thing to be indifferently either *True* or *False*, this being plainly to take away the *Nature* both of *Truth* and *Falshood*, or to make them nothing but *Words* without any Signification. *Truth* is not *Faſtious*; it is a thing which cannot be *Arbitrarily Made*, but *Is*. The *Divine Will* and *Omnipotence* it ſelf (now ſuppoſed by us) haſt no *Imperium* upon the *Divine Underſtanding*, for if *God* underſtood only by *Will*, he would not underſtand at all. In the next place we add, that though the *Truth* of *Singular Contingent Propoſitions*, depends upon the *Things* themſelves Exiſting without, as the *Measure* and *Archetype* thereof; yet as to the *Univerſal* and *Abſtraſt Theorems* of *Science*, the *Terms* whereof are thoſe *Reaſons* of *Things*, which Exiſt no where but only in the *Mind* it ſelf (whole *Noemata* and *Ideas* they are) the *Measure* and *Rule* of *Truth* concerning them, can be no *Foreign* or *Extraneous* thing, Without the mind, but muſt be *Native* and *Domieſtick* to it, or contained Within the mind it ſelf; and therefore can be nothing but its *Clear* and *Diſtinct Perception*. In theſe *Intelligible Ideas* of the *Mind*, whatſoever is Clearly Perceived to *Be*, *Is*; or which is all one, is *True*. Every *Clear* and *Diſtinct Perception* is an *Entity*, or *Truth*; as that which is Repugnant to *Conception* is a *Non-Entity* or *Falshood*. Nay, The very *Eſſence* of *Truth* here, is this *Clear Perceptibility* or *Intelligibility*; and therefore can there not be any *Clear* or *Diſtinct Perception* of *Falshood*. Which muſt be acknowledged by all thoſe who though granting *False Opinions*, yet agree in this, that there can be no *False Knowledge*. For the *Knowledge* of theſe *Univerſal Abſtraſt Truths*, is nothing but the *Clear* and *Diſtinct Perception* of the ſeveral *Ideas* of the mind, and their *Necceſſary Relations* to one another; Wherefore to ſay that there can be no *False Knowledge*, is all one as to ſay that there can be no *Clear* and *Diſtinct Perceptions* of the *Ideas* of the mind, *False*. In *False Opinions*, the *Perception* of the *Underſtanding Power* it ſelf, is not *False*, but only *Obscure*. It is not the *Underſtanding Power* or *Nature* in us that Erreth, but it is *We Our Selves* who Err, when we raſhly and unwarily aſſent to things, not *Clearly Perceived* by it. The upſhot of all is this, that ſince no *Power* how great ſoever, can make any thing indifferently to be *True*; and ſince the *Eſſence* of *Truth* in *Univerſal Abſtraſt things*, is nothing but *Clear Perceptibility*; it follows, that *Omnipotence* cannot make any thing that is *False* to be clearly Perceived to *Be*; or Create ſuch *Minds* and *Underſtanding Faculties*, as ſhall have as *Clear Conceptions* of *Falshoods*, that is, of *Non-Entities*, as they have of *Truths* or *Entities*. For example, no *Rational Underſtanding Being* that knows what a *Part* is, and what a *Whole*, What a *Cauſe* and what an *Effect*, could poſſibly be ſo made, as clearly to *Conceive* the *Part* to be greater than the *Whole*, or the *Effect* to be before the *Cauſe*, or the like. Wherefore we may preſume with Reverence to Say, that there could not poſſibly be a world of *Rational Creatures* made by *God*, either in the *Moon*, or in ſome other *Planet*, or elſe where, that ſhould *Clearly* and *Diſtinctly Conceive*, all things contrary to what are clearly Perceived by us; nor could our *Humane Faculties* have been ſo made, as that we ſhould have as *clear Conceptions* of *Falshoods* as of *Truths*. *Mind* or *Underſtanding Faculties*, in *Creatures* may be made more or leſs,

less, Weak, Imperfect, and Obscure, but they could not be made *False*, or such as should have Clear and Distinct Conceptions of that which *Is Not*, because every Clear Perception is an *Entity*, and though Omnipotence can make *Something* out of *Nothing*, yet can it not make *Something* to be *Nothing*, nor *Nothing Something*. All which is no more, than is generally acknowledged by Theologers, when they affirm that God Almighty himself, cannot do *things Contradictory*; there being no other reason for this assertion, but only this, because *Contradiction* is *Repugnant* to *Conception*. So that *Conception* and *Knowledge* are hereby made to be the *Measure* of all *Power*; even *Omnipotence* or *Infinite Power* it Self being determined thereby; from whence it follows, that *Power* hath no *Dominion* over *Understanding*, *Truth*, and *Knowledge*, nor can *Infinite Power* make any thing whatsoever to be *Clearly Conceivable*. For could it make *Contradictory* things clearly *Conceivable*, then would it Self be able to Do them; because whatsoever can be *Clearly Conceived* by any, may unquestionably be Done by *Infinite Power*.

It is true indeed, that Sense considered alone by it self, doth not reach to the *Absoluteness* either of the Natures, or of the Existence of things without us, it being as such, nothing but *Seeming*, *Appearance*, and *Phancy*. And thus is that Saying of some ancient Philosophers to be understood, that *πάντα φαίνεται ἀληθές*, Every Phantasia is True; namely because Sense and Phancy reach not to the *Absolute Truth* and *Falseness* of things, but Contain themselves only within *Seeming* and *Appearance*; and every *Appearance* must needs be a true *Appearance*. Notwithstanding which, it is certain, that Sense often represents to us Corporal things, otherwise than indeed they are, which though it be not a *Formal*, yet is it a *Material Falsity*. Wherefore Sense in the Nature of it, is not *Absolute*, but *πρὸς τι*, or *πρὸς τινι*, *Relative to the Sentients*. And by Sense alone, without any mixture of Reason or Understanding, we can be certain of no more, concerning the things without us, but only this, that they *So Seem to us*. Hence was that of the ancient Atomick Philosophers, in Plato, ἢ σὺ δι-
 γνοῖς; Καὶ οὐκ ἔστι δὲ οὐδὲν σὺ φαντασάμενος χρῶμα, τοῦτον ἢ καὶ ἕτερον ἢ
 ἕτερον. Neither you nor any man else can be certain, that every other man
 and Brute Animal hath all the very same Phantasms of Colours, that
 himself hath. Now were there no other Perception in us, but that
 of Sense, (as the old Atheistick Philosophers concluded Knowledge to
 be Sense,) then would all our Humane Perceptions be merely *Seeming*,
Phantastical and *Relative*; and none of them reach to the *Absolute*
Truth of things. Every one in Protagoras his Language would then
 πρὸς αὐτὸν μόνον δεξιᾶν, Think or Opine only his Own things; all his
 Truths being *Private* and *Relative* to himself. And that Protagorean
 Aphorism were to be admitted also, in the Sense of that Philosopher,
 that, πᾶντων χρημάτων μέτρον ἀνθρώπου, Every man is the Measure of
 all things to himself; and, That no one man's Opinion was righter than
 another's, but τὸ φανόμενον ἑκάστῳ, That Which Seemed to Every one, was
 to him True, to whom it Seemed; all Truth and Perception, being but
Seeming, and *Relative*. But here lies one main difference betwixt
Understanding or *Knowledge*, and *Sense*; that whereas the Latter is
 Phantastical

Phantastical and Relative only; the Former reacheth beyond Phancy and Appearance to the Absoluteness of Truth. For as it hath been already declared, whatsoever is clearly and distinctly Perceived in things Abstract and Universal, by any one Rational Being in the whole world, is not a Private thing, and True to Himself only that perceived it, but it is, as some Stoicks have called it, ἀληθὲς καὶ κοινόν, a Publick, Catholick, and Universal Truth: it obtains every where, and as Empedocles sang of Natural Justice;

— Διὰ τ' ἀπειράτου
Λιθῆτος ἰσχυρὸς τίταται, διὰ τ' ἀπλήτου αἵματος.

It is extended throughout the Vast Ether, and through Infinite Light or Space; and were there indeed Infinite Worlds, all thickly peopled with Rational Animals; it would be alike True, to every one of them. Nor is it Conceivable, that Omnipotence it self, could create any such Understanding Beings, as could have Clear and Distinct Perceptions of the contrary, to all that is Perceived by us, no more than it could Do things Contradictory. But in all Probability, because Sense is indeed, but Seeming, Phantastical, and Relative, this is the Reason that some have been so prone and inclinable, to suspect the like, of Understanding, and all Mental Perception, too, that this also is but Seeming and Relative; and that therefore mens Minds or Understandings might have been so made, by an Arbitrary Omnipotent Deity, as clearly and distinctly to Perceive, every thing that is False. But if notwithstanding all that hath been said, any will still ling over, the Old Song again; That all this, which hath been hitherto declared by us, is indeed True, if our Humane Faculties be True, or Rightly Made; but we can go no further than our Faculties; and whether these be True or no no man can ever be certain; We have no other Reply to make, but that this is an over Stiff and Heavy Adherence to a Prejudice of their own Minds; that not only Sense, but also Reason and Understanding, and all Humane Perception, is meerly Seeming, or Phantastical, and Relative to Faculties only, but not reaching to the Absoluteness of any Truth; and that the Humane Mind, hath no Criterion of Truth at all within it self.

Nevertheless it will probably be here further Objected; That this is too great an Arrogance, for Created Beings, to pretend to an Absolute Certainty of any thing, it being the Sole Privilege and Prerogative of God Almighty, to be Infallible, who is therefore Styled in Scripture, ὁ μόνος σοφός, The Only Wise; To which we briefly answer; that the Deity is the first Original Fountain, of Truth and Wisdom, which is said to be, The Brightness of the Everlasting Light, the Unspotted Mirror of the Power of God, and the Image of his Goodness. The Divine Word, is the Archetypal Pattern of all Truth; it is Ignorant of Nothing, and knoweth all things Infallibly. But Created Beings, have but a Derivative Participation hereof, their Understandings being Obscure, and they Erring in many things, and being Ignorant of more. And it seems to be no Derogation from Almighty God to suppose, that Created Minds by a Participation of the Divine Mind,

Mind, should be able to know Certainly; that Two and Two make Four; that Equals added to Equals will make Equals; that a Whole is greater than the Part; and the Cause before the Effect; and that nothing can be Made without a Cause; and such like other *Common Notions*, which are the *Principles* from whence all their knowledge is derived. And indeed were Rational Creatures, never able to be *Certain* of any such thing as this at all; what would their Life be but a meer *Dream* or *Shadow*? and themselves but a *Ridiculous* and *Pompous Piece* of *Phantastick Vanity*? Besides it is no way Congruous to think, that God Almighty should make *Rational Creatures* so as to be in an utter *Impossibility*, of ever attaining to any *Certainty* of his own *Existence*; or of having more than an *Hypothetical Assurance* thereof, If our *Faculties* be *True* (which possibly may be otherwise,) then is there a God. We shall conclude this Discourse against the *Cartesian Scepticism*, with that of *Origens*, *μόνον τῷ ὀντι, πῶς αὖτε ἔστιν, Knowledge is the only thing in the World, which Creatures have, that is in its own Nature firm; they having here something of Certainty, but no where else.*

Wherefore we having now, that which *Archimedes* required, Some Firm Ground and Footing to stand upon, such a *Certainty of Truth* in our *Common Notions*, as that they cannot *Possibly* be *False*; without which nothing at all could be proved by *Reason*; we shall in the next place endeavour, not to shake or disettle any thing thereby; (which was the Undertaking of that *Geometrician*) but to Confirm and Establish the *Truth* of God's *Existence*, and that from the very *Idea* of him; hitherto made good and defended, against all the Assaults of *Atheists*.

It is well known, that *Cartesius* hath lately made a Pretence to do this, with *Mathematical Evidence* and *Certainty*, and he dispatches the business briefly after this manner; *God* or a *Perfect Being*, includeth *Necessary Existence* in his very *Idea*; and therefore he is. But though the *Inventor* of this Argument, or rather the *Reviver* of that which had been before used by some *Scholasticks*, affirmeth it to be as Good a *Demonstration*, for the *Existence* of a *God*, from His *Idea*, as that in *Geometry*, for a *Triangles* having *Three Angles* equal to *Two right*, is from the *Idea* of a *Triangle*; yet nevertheless it is certain, that by one means or other, this Argument hath not hitherto proved so *Fortunate* and *Successful*, there being many who cannot be made sensible of any Efficacy therein, and not a few who Condemn it for a meer *Sophism*. As for our selves, we neither have any mind, to quarrel with other mens Arguments *Pro Deo*, nor yet would we be thought, to lay stress in this Cause, upon any thing which is not every way *Solid* and *Substantial*. Wherefore we shall here endeavour, to set down the Utmost that *Possibly* we can, both *Against* this Argument, and *For it*, *Impartially* and *Candidly*; and then when we have done, leave the *Intelligent Readers*, to make their own Judgement concerning the Same.

Against it in this manner; First: Because we can Frame an *Idea*,
in

in our own minds, of an *Absolutely Perfect Being*, including Necessary Existence in it, it will not at all follow from thence, that therefore there is such a *Perfect Being* Really Existing without our minds; we being able to frame in our minds the *Ideas* of many other things, that never were, nor will be. All that can be certainly inferred from the *Idea* of a *Perfect Being* seems to be this, that if it contain nothing which is *Contradictory* to it, then it is *Not Impossible* but that there might be such a Being actually Existing. But the strength of this Argument, not lying merely in this, that because we have an *Idea* of a *Perfect Being*, therefore it is; but because we have such an *Idea* of it, as includeth *Necessary Existence* in it, which the *Idea* of Nothing else besides doth; therefore may it be here further Objected in this manner. That though it be very true, that a *Perfect Being* doth include *Necessary Existence* in it, because that cannot be every way *Perfect*, whose *Existence* is not *Necessary* but *Contingent*; yet will it not follow from hence, that therefore there is such a *Perfect Being Actually Existing*; but all that can be deduced from it, will be no more than this, That whatsoever hath no *Necessary* and *Eternal Existence*, is no *Absolutely Perfect Being*; and again, That If there be any *Absolutely Perfect Being*, then was its *Existence* always *Necessary* and will be always such; that is, it did both Exist Of it self, from all Eternity without Beginning, and must needs Exist to Eternity *Incorruptibly*; it being never able to cease to be. It seems indeed no more to follow, That because a *Perfect Being* includes necessary Existence in its *Idea*, therefore there is such a *Perfect Being Actually Existing*; than because a *Perfect Being* includes *Necessary Omniscience* and *Omnipotence* in it, that therefore there is such a *Perfect Omniscient* and *Omnipotent Being*: all that follows in both cases, being only this; that If there be any Being *Absolutely Perfect*, then it is both Omniscient and Omnipotent, and it did Exist of It Self necessarily, and can never Cease to be. Wherefore here lies a Fallacy in this Argumentation, when from the *Necessity* of *Existence* affirmed only *Hypothetically* or upon a *Supposition* of a *Perfect Being*, the Conclusion is made concerning it *Absolutely*. As some would prove the Necessity of all humane Events, as for example of *Adam's Sinning*, in this manner, that it always was True before, that either *Adam* would eat the forbidden fruit, or not eat it, and If he would eat it, he would Certainly eat it, and not Contingently; and again, If he would not eat it, then would he Certainly and Necessarily not Eat it; wherefore whether he will eat it or not eat it, he will do either, Necessarily and not Contingently. Where it is plain, that an *Absolute Necessity*, is wrongly inferred in the Conclusion, from an *Hypothetical* one in the Premises. In like manner, when upon supposition of an *Absolutely Perfect Being*, it is affirmed of it, that its *Existence* must not be *Contingent* but *Necessary*, and from thence the Conclusion is made *Absolutely*, that there Is such a *Perfect Being*, this seems to be the very same Fallacy. From the *Idea* of a *Perfect Being*, including *Necessary Existence* in it, it follows undeniably, that If there be any Thing *Absolutely Perfect*, it *Must Exist* Necessarily, and not Contingently, but it doth not follow, that there *Must* of Necessity Be such a *Perfect Being Existing*; these two Propositions carrying a very different sense from one

one another. And the Latter of them, that there must of Necessity be a *God or Perfect Being Existing* seems to be a thing altogether *Indemonstrable*, it implying that the *Existence of God or a Perfect Being* may be proved *A Priori*, or from some *Antecedent Necessary Cause*; which was before declared to be a thing *Contradictory* and *Impossible*.

And now in *Justice* are we *obliged*, to plead the best we can also on the Defensive side. Thus therefore; the Idea of *God* or an *Absolutely Perfect Being* including in it, not an *Impossible*, nor a *Contingent*, but a *Necessary Schesis* or *Relation to Existence*, it follows from thence, *Absolutely* and without any *If* and *And*, that he doth Exist. For as of things *Contradictory*, having therefore in the Idea of them, an *Impossible Schesis* to Existence, we can confidently conclude that they never were nor will be; And as of other things *not Contradictory* or *Impossible*, but *Imperfect* only, which therefore have a *Contingent Schesis* to Existence, we can Pronounce also that *Possibly* they Might be or might not be: in like manner, a *Perfect Being* including in the Idea of it a *Necessary Schesis* to Existence or an *Impossible* one to *Non-Existence*, or containing Existence in its very *Essence*; we may by Parity of reason conclude concerning it, that it is neither *Impossible* to Be; nor yet *Contingent* to Be or not to Be; but that it *Certainly Is*, and *Cannot but Be*; or that it is *Impossible* it should Not Be. And indeed when we say of *Imperfect Beings*, implying no *Contradiction* in them, that they may *Possibly* either Be or not Be, we herein tacitly suppose the *Existence of a Perfect Being*, because nothing which is Not, could be *Possible to be*, were there not something actually in Being, that hath sufficient Power to Cause or Produce it. True indeed, we have the Ideas of many things in our minds, that never were, nor will be; but these are only such as include no *Necessary* but *Contingent Existence* in their Nature; and it does not therefore follow, that a *Perfect Being* which includes *Necessity of Existence* in its Idea, may notwithstanding Not Be. Wherefore this *Necessity of Existence* or *Impossibility of Non-Existence* contained in the Idea of a *Perfect Being*, must not be taken *Hypothetically* only or *Consequentially*, after this manner, that *If* there be any Thing *Absolutely Perfect*, then its Existence both was and will be *Necessary*; but *Absolutely*; that though *Contradictory* things cannot *Possibly Be*, and things *Imperfect* may *Possibly* either Be or Not Be, yet a *Perfect Being* cannot But Be; or it is *Impossible* that it should Not Be. For otherwise were the force of the Argumentation merely *Hypothetical*, in this manner, *If* there be a *Perfect Being*, then its Existence both was and will be *Necessary*; this would plainly imply that a *Perfect Being*, notwithstanding that *Necessity of Existence* included in its Nature, might either Be or Not Be; or were *Contingent to Existence*, which is a manifest *Contradiction*, that the same thing should Exist both *Contingently* and *Necessarily*. And this *Hypothetical Absurdity*, will more plainly appear, if the Argument be expressed in other words, as that *Necessity of Existence*, and *Impossibility of Non-Existence*, and *Actual Existence*, belong to the very *Essence of a Perfect Being*, since it would be then ridiculous to go about, to evade in this manner, That *If* there be a *Perfect Being*, then it Is, and cannot But Be. Which *Identical Proposition*, is true of every thing, else,

istence (if not from the Latter alone) will it according to Reason follow, that *He Actually Is*. If *God* or a *Perfect Being*, in whose *Essence* is contained *Necessary Existence*, be *Possible*, or no way *Impossible* to have been; then *He is*; because upon supposition of his *Non-Existence*, it would be *Absolutely Impossible*, that he should ever have been. It does not thus follow, concerning *Imperfect Beings*, that are *Contingently Possible*, that if they be *Not*, it was therefore *Impossible* for them ever to have been; for that which is *Contingent*, though it be *Not*, yet might it for all that, *Possibly Have been*. But a *Perfect Necessarily Existent Being*, upon the bare supposition of its *Non-Existence*, could no more *Possibly Have been*, than it could *Possibly Hereafter be*: because if it might *Have been*, though it be *not*, then would it not be a *Necessary Existent Being*. The sum of all is this, A *Necessary Existent Being*, if it be *Possible*, it *Is*; because upon supposition of its *Non-Existence*, it would be *Impossible* for it ever to have been. Wherefore *God* is either *Impossible* to have been, or else *He Is*. For if *God* were *Possible*, and yet be *Not*, then is he not a *Necessary*, but *Contingent Being*, which is contrary to the *Hypothesis*.

But because this *Argumentation* may perhaps run the same Fate also with the former, and by reason of its Subtlety, do but little Execution neither, if not be accounted *Sophistical* too; men being generally prone to Distrust, the *Firmness* and *Solidity*, of such *Thin* and *Subtle Cobwebs*, (as these and the like may seem to be) or their Ability to Support the Weight of so Great a Truth; and to suspect themselves to be *Illuquated* and *Circumvented* in them; therefore shall we lay no stress upon this neither, but proceed to something which is yet more *Plain* and *Downright*, after this manner. Whatsoever we can frame an *Idea* of in our minds, implying no manner of *Contradiction*, this either *Actually Is*, or else If it be *Not*, it is *Possible* for it to Be. But If *God* be *Not*, He *Is not Possible* hereafter to Be, therefore He *Is*. The Reason and Necessity of the *Minor* is evident, because if *God* be *not*, and yet *Possible* hereafter to be, then would he not be an *Eternal* and *Necessarily Existent Being*, which is *Contradictory* to his *Idea*. And the Ground of the *Major*, upon which all the weight lies, hath been already declared, where we proved before, That If there were no *God* or *Perfect Being*, we could never have had any *Conception* or *Idea* of him in our Minds, because there can be no *Positive Conception* of an *Absolute Nothing*, that which hath neither *Actual* nor *Possible Existence*. Here the Posture of the Argument is only inverted; Because we have an *Idea of God*, or a *Perfect Being*, implying no manner of *Contradiction* in it, therefore must it needs have some kind of *Entity* or other, either an *Actual* or *Possible One*; but *God* if he be *Not*, is not *Possible* to Be, therefore He doth *Actually Exist*.

But perhaps this *Argumentation* also how firm and solid soever, may prove less Convictive of the *Existence* of a *God* to the Generality: because whatever is *Received*, is *Received* according to the *Capacity* of the *Recipient*: and though a *Demonstration* be never so good in it self, yet is it more or less such to Particular Persons, according to their ability to comprehend it; Therefore shall we in the next place Form

yet a *Plainer Demonstration*, for a God from the *Idea* of him, including *Necessary Existence* in it. It being First Premised, That unquestionably *Something or other*, did Exist from all Eternity without beginning. For it is certain that Every thing could not be *Made*, because *Nothing* could come from *Nothing*, or be Made by It self, and therefore if once there had been *Nothing*, there could never have been *Any thing*. Whence it is undeniable, that there was always *Something*, and consequently that there was *Something Unmade*, which Existed of It self from all Eternity. Now all the Question is, and indeed this is the only Question betwixt *Theists* and *Atheists*; since Something did certainly Exist of It self from all Eternity, What that thing is, whether it be a *Perfect* or an *Imperfect* Being? We say therefore, that whatsoever Existed of It self, from Eternity, and without Beginning; did so Exist *Naturally* and *Necessarily*, or by the *Necessity* of its own *Nature*. Now nothing could Exist of It self from Eternity, *Naturally* and *Necessarily*, but that which containeth *Necessary* and *Eternal Self Existence*, in its own *Nature*. But there is nothing which containeth *Necessary Eternal Existence*, in its own *Nature* or *Essence*, but only an *Absolutely Perfect* Being; all other *Imperfect* things, being in their *Nature*, *Contingently Possible*, either to Be or Not be. Wherefore since something or other, must and doth Exist of it self *Naturally* and *Necessarily* from Eternity *Unmade*, and nothing could do this but what included *Necessary Self Existence* in its *Nature* or *Essence*, it is certain that it was a *Perfect Being*, or *God*, who did Exist of Himself from Eternity, and nothing else, all other *Imperfect* things which have no *Necessary Self-Existence* in their *Nature*, deriving their Being from Him. Here therefore are the *Atheists* infinitely *Absurd* and *Unreasonable*, when they will not acknowledge, that which containeth *Independent Self Existence*, or *Necessity* of *Existence* (which indeed is the same with an *Impossibility* of *Non-Existence*) in its *Nature* and *Essence*, that is, a *Perfect Being*, so much as to Exist at all; and yet in the mean time assert, that which hath no *Necessity* of *Existence* in its *Nature*, the most *Imperfect* of all *Beings*, *Inanimate Body* and *Matter*, to have Existed of It self *Necessarily* from all Eternity.

We might here add, as a farther Confirmation of this *Argument*, what hath been already proved, that no *Temporary Successive Being* (whose *Duration* is in a *Continual Flux*, as if it were every moment *Generated* a new) and therefore neither our *Own Souls*, nor the *World*, nor *Matter Moving*, could possibly have Existed from Eternity, and Independently upon any other thing, but must have had a *Beginning*, and been Caused by something else, namely by an *Absolutely Perfect Being*, whose *Duration* therefore is *Permanent*, and without any *Successive Generation*, or *Flux*.

But besides all these *Arguments*, we may otherwise from the *Idea* of *God* (already declared) be able both exactly to state the *Controversie* betwixt *Theists* and *Atheists*, and satisfactorily to decide the same. In order whereunto, there is yet something again to be Premised; namely this, that as it is certain *Every thing was not Made*, but Something Existed of it Self from Eternity *Unmade*; so is it

it likewise certain, That Every thing was not *Unmade* neither, not Existed of *It self* from *Eternity*, but something was *Made*, and had a *Beginning*. Where there is a full Agreement betwixt *Theists* and *Atheists*, as to this one Point, no *Atheist* asserting every thing to have been *Unmade*, but they all acknowledging themselves to have been Generated, and to have had a *Beginning*; that is, their own *Souls* and *Personalities*, as likewise the *Lives* and *Souls* of all other Men and Animals. Wherefore since *Something* certainly Existed of *It self* from *Eternity*, but other things were *Made*, and had a *Beginning*, (which therefore must needs derive their being from that which Existed of *It self* *Unmade*,) here is the *State* of the *Controversie* betwixt *Theists* and *Atheists*, Whether that which Existed of *It self* from all *Eternity*, and was the *Cause* of all other things, were a *Perfect Being* and *God*, or the most *Imperfect* of all things whatsoever, *Inanimate* and *Senseless matter*. The Former is the Doctrine of *Theists*, as *Aristotle* affirmeth of those Ancients, who did not write *Fabulously* Concerning the First Principles, οὐκ εἰκελῶς, καὶ ἰσχυρῶς τις, τὸ γὰρ πρῶτον τὸ ἄριστον πρῶτον, καὶ οἱ μάγιστ' αὖ τῶν ὑστέρων ὁ σαρπῶν; οὐκ ἠμετεροῦλης τὸ καὶ Ἀναξάγορας, Ἀσ namely, *Pherecydes*, and the *Magi*, and *Empedocles* and *Anaxagoras*, and many others; that they agreed in this, That the first Original of all things was the *Best*, and *Most Perfect*. Where by the way we may observe also, that according to *Aristotle*, the Ancient *Magi* did not acknowledge a *Substantial Evil Principle*, they making that which is the *Best* and *Most Perfect* Being, alone by it self, to be the First Begetter of all. This I say is the *Hypothesis* of *Theists*, that there is *One Absolutely Perfect Being*, Existing of *It self* from all *Eternity*, from whence all other lesser *Perfections*, or *Imperfect Beings* did gradually *Descend*, till at last they end in *Senseless Matter* or *Inanimate Body*. But the *Atheistical Hypothesis* on the contrary, makes *Senseless Matter* the most *Imperfect* thing, to be the *First Principle* or the only *Self-Existent* Being, and the *Cause* of all other things, and Consequently all *Higher Degrees* of *Perfections*, that are in the world, to have *Clombe up*, or *Emerged* by way of *Ascent* from thence; as *Life*, *Sense*, *Understanding*, and *Reason*, from that which is altogether *Dead* and *Senseless*. Nay, as it was before observed, there hath been amongst the ancient Pagans, a certain kind of *Religious Atheists*, such as acknowledging Verbally a *God*, or *Soul* of the world, presiding over the whole, supposed this notwithstanding to have first *Emerged* also, out of *Senseless Matter*, *Night* and *Chaos*; and therefore doubtless to be likewise *Dissolvable* again into the same. And of these is that place in *Aristotle* to be understood, βασιλῆς καὶ ἄρχῃ πάντων ὁ τὸς πρῶτος οἶον Νύκτα, καὶ Ὀυρανόν, ἢ Χάος, ἢ καὶ Ὀκεανόν, ἀλλὰ τὸ δια. They suppose, not the First things, as *Night*, and the *Heaven*, and *Chaos*, and the *Ocean*, but *Jupiter* (or *God*) to *Rule* and *Govern* all. Where it is intimated, that the *Heaven*, *Night*, *Chaos*, and the *Ocean*, according to these, were *Seniors* to *Jupiter*, or in *Order of Nature* before him; they apprehending, that things did *Ascend* upward, from that which was most *Imperfect*, as *Night* and *Chaos*, to the more *Perfect*, and at length to *Jupiter* himself; the *Abundant Soul*, who governeth the whole world, as our *Soul* doth our *Body*. Which same Opinion is afterwards again taken notice of and reprehended by *Aristotle* in these words, ἐκ ἐπειδὴ δ' ὑπολαμβάνειν ὅδ' ὅτις προηέλει τοὺς τῷ

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ὅλα ἀρχὴς ἢ τῆς, καὶ ζῶον καὶ φυτὸν ἐκ ἀσέλγους ἢ αὐτὰ τὰ πλεονεχῶς ἀνέρωπτον· ὃ ἀνέρωπτον γυνῆ, καὶ ἐκ ἐκ σπέρματος πρῶτον. Nor would he think rightly, who should resemble the Principles of the Universe, to that of Animals and Plants : wherefrom Indeterminate and Imperfect things (as Seeds) do always arise the more Perfect. For even here also is the case otherwise, then they suppose ; For it is a man, that generates a man ; nor is the Seed the First.

The Controversie being thus clearly Stated betwixt Theists and Atheists, it may now with great ease, and to the full Conviction of all Minds Unprejudiced, and Unprepossessed with false Principles, be determined. It being on the one hand, undeniably evident, that Lesser Perfections may Naturally Descend from Greater, or at least from that which is Absolutely Perfect, and which Virtually containeth all : but on the other hand utterly Impossible, that Greater Perfections and Higher Degrees of Being, should Rise and Ascend out of Lesser and Lower, so as that which is the most Absolutely Imperfect of all things, should be the First Fountain and Original of All. Since no Effect can possibly transcend the Power of its Cause. Wherefore it is certain that in the Universe, things did not thus Ascend and Mount, or Climb up from Lower Perfection to Higher, but on the contrary, Descend and slide down from Higher to Lower, so that the first Original of all things, was not the most Imperfect, but the most Perfect Being. But to speak more particularly, it is certain, notwithstanding all the vain pretences of Lucretius and other Atheists, or Semi-Atheists, to the contrary ; that Life and Sense could never possibly spring, out of Dead and Senseless Matter, as its only Original, either in the way of Atoms, (no Composition of Magnitudes, Figures, Sites and Motions, being ever able to produce Cogitation) or in the way of Qualities, since Life and Perception can no more result from any Mixture of Elements, or Combinations of Qualities of Heat and Cold, Moist and Dry, &c. than from Unqualified Atoms. This being undeniably Demonstrable, from that very Principle of Reason, which the Atheists are so fond of, but, misunderstanding abuse, (as shall be manifested afterward) that Nothing can come from Nothing. Much less could Understanding and Reason in men, ever have Emerged out of Stupid Matter, devoid of all manner of Life. Wherefore we must needs here freely declare, against the Darknesh of that Philosophy, which hath been Sometimes unwarily entertained by such as were no Atheists, That Sense may Rise from a certain Modification, Mixture, or Organization, of Dead and Senseless Matter ; as also that Understanding and Reason, may result from Sense : the plain consequence of both which is, that Senseless Matter may prove the Original of all things, and the only Numen. Which Doctrine therefore is doubtless, a main piece of the Philosophy of the Kingdom of Darknesh. But this Darknesh hath been of late in great measure dispelled, by the Light of the Atomick Philosophy restored, as it was in its first Genuine and Virgin State, Undeveloped as yet by Atheists, this clearly Showing how far Body and Mechanism can go, and that Life and Cogitation can never Emerge out from thence ; it being built upon that Fundamental Principle, as we have made it evident in the first Chapter, that Nothing can come from Nothing. And Strato and

and the Hylozoick Atheists, were so well aware and so sensible of this, that all Life and *Understanding* could not possibly be *Generated* or *Made*, but that there must be some *Fundamental* and *Substantial* or *Eternal Unmade Life and Knowledge*; that they therefore have thought necessary, to attribute *Life*, and *Perception*, (or *Understanding*,) with *Appetite*, and *Self-moving Power*, to all *Matter* as such, that so it might be thereby fitly Qualified to be the *Original* of all things. Than which Opinion as nothing can be more *Monstrous*; so shall we else where Evince the *Impossibility thereof*. In the mean time, we doubt not to averr, that the *Argument* proposed, is a *Sufficient Demonstration* of the *Impossibility of Atheism*; which will be further manifested in our Answer to the *Second Atheistical Objection* against a *Divine Creation*, because *Nothing can come from Nothing*.

But this *Controversie* betwixt Theists and Atheists, may be yet more Particularly Stated, from the *Idea* of God, as including *Mind* or *Understanding* in it *Essentially*, *Viz.* Whether *Mind* be *Eternal* and *Unmade*, as being the *Maker* of all; or else Whether all *Mind* were it self *Made* or *Generated*, and that out of *Senseless Matter*? For according to the Doctrine of the Pagan Theists, *Mind*, was *πρωτιστεον, ή κτιστεον*, *The Oldest of all things*, *Senior to the World and Elements*; and by Nature hath a *Princely and Lordly Dominion over all*. But according to those Atheists, who make *Matter* or *Body* devoid of all *Life* and *Understanding*, to be the *First Principle*, *Mind* must be *υστερον*, *A Post-Nate thing*, *Younger than the world*; a *Weak, Umbratil, and E-vanid Image*, and next to *Nothing*.

And the *Controversie* as thus Stated, may be also Clearly and Satisfactorily decided. For First, we say, That as it is certainly True, That If there had been once *Nothing* at all, there could never have been Any thing; So is it true likewise, that If once there had been no *Life*, in the whole Universe, but all had been *Dead*, then could there never have been any *Life* or *Motion* in it; and If once there had been no *Mind*, *Understanding* or *Knowledge*, then could there never have been any *Mind* or *Understanding* produced. Because, to suppose *Life* and *Understanding*, to rise and spring up, out of that which is altogether *Dead & Senseless*, avits only *Original*, is plainly to Suppose, *Something to come out of Nothing*. It cannot be said so of other things, as of the Corporeal World and Matter, that If once they had not been, they could never Possibly have been; because though there had been no World nor Matter, yet might these have been produced, from a *Perfect Omnipotent Incorporal Being*, which in it self *Eminently* containeth all things. *Dead and Senseless Matter* could never have *Created* or *Generated Mind and Understanding*, but a *Perfect Omnipotent Mind*, could Create *Matter*. Wherefore because there is *Mind*, we are certain, that there was some *Mind* or other from *Eternity* without Beginning; though not because there is *Body*, that therefore there was *Body* or *Matter* from *Eternity Unmade*. Now these Imperfect Minds of ours, were by no means Themselves *Eternal* or without Beginning, but from an *Antecedent Non-Existence* brought forth into Being; but since no *Mind* could spring out of *Dead and Senseless Matter*, and all *Minds* could

could not Possibly be *Made*, nor one produced from another Infinitely; there must of necessity be an *Eternal Unmade Mind*, from whence those *Imperfect Minds* of ours were derived. Which *Perfect Omnipotent Mind*, was as well the *Cause* of all other things, as of humane Souls.

But before we proceed to any further Argumentation, we must needs take notice here, that the Atheists suppose no small part of their strength, to lie in this very thing, namely their disproving a God, from the *Nature of Understanding and Knowledge*; nor do they indeed swagger in any thing more than this. We have already set it for the *Eleventh Atheistick Argument*, That *Knowledge being the Information of the Things themselves Known, and all Conception the Adion of that which is Conceived, and the Passion of the Conceiver; the World and all Sensible things, must needs be before there could be any Knowledge or Conception of them, and no Knowledge or Conception before the World as its Cause*. Or more briefly thus, The world could not be made by *Knowledge and Understanding*, because there could be no *Knowledge or Understanding* of the world, or of any thing in it, before it was made. For according to these Atheists, *Things made Knowledge, and not Knowledge Things*; they meaning by *Things* here, such only as are *Sensible and Corporeal*: So that *Mind and Understanding*, could not be the *Creator* of the world and these *Sensible things*, it self being the meer *Creature* of them; a *Secondary, Derivative, Result* from them, or a *Phantastick Image* of them: the *Tonngest* and most *Creaturely* thing in the whole world. Whence it follows, that to Suppose *Mind and Understanding*, to be the *Maker* of all things, would be no better Sense, than if one should suppose, the *Images* in *Ponds and Rivers*, to be the *Makers* of the *Sun, Moon and Stars*, and other things represented in them. And upon such a Ground as this, does a Modern Writer presume to determine, that *Knowledge and Understanding*, are not to be attributed to *God Almighty*, because they imply *Imperfection*, and *Dependence* upon *Corporeal things* without;

De Cree Rel. Quoniam Scientia & Intellectus in nobis nihil aliud sunt, quam suscitatus à Rebus Externis Organa prementibus Animi Tumultus, non est putandum aliquid tale accidere Deo. Signum enim est Potentiæ ab alio dependentis. Which is again Englished thus; *Knowledge and Understanding, being in us nothing else but a Tumult in the Mind, raised by External things, that press the Organical parts of mans Body; there is no such thing in God, nor can they be attributed to him, they being things which depend upon Natural Causes*. Where this Writer thus denying *Knowledge and Understanding* to God, upon pretence that it speaks *Imperfection* and *Dependence* upon *External Corporeal things*, (it being nothing but a *Tumult* raised by the *Motions and Pressures* of them) he must needs Absolutely deny the *First Principle* of all things, to be any *Knowing Understanding Nature*; unless he had asserted some other kind of *Knowledge*, distinct from that of men, and clearly attributed the Same to *God Almighty*. Hitherto the sense of Atheists.

De Cree Rel.
c. 15. Scilicet 14.

Lev. cap. 31.

Now we shall for the present, only so far forth concern ourselves in Confuting this *Atheistick Doctrine*, as to lay a Foundation thereby, for

for the *Demonstration* of the *Contrary*, Namely the *Existence* of a *God*, or a *Mind Before the World*, from the *Nature* of *Knowledge* and *Understanding*. First, therefore it is a *Sottish Conceit* of these *Atheists*, proceeding from their not attending to their own *Cogitations*; that not only *Sense* but also *Knowledge* and *Understanding* in *Men*, is but a *Tumult*, raised from *Corporeal things* without, pressing upon the *Organs* of their *Body*; or else as they declare themselves more distinctly, nothing but the *Activity* of *Sensible Objects* upon them, and their *Passion* from them. For if this were true, then would every thing that *Suffered* and *Reacted Motion*, especially *Polite Bodies*, as *Looking-Glasses*, have something both of *Sense* and of *Understanding* in them. It is plain that there comes nothing to us, from *Bodies* without us, but only *Local Motion* and *Pressure*. Neither is *Sense* it self, the *meer Passion* of those *Motions*, but the *Perception* of their *Passions*, in a way of *Phancy*. But *Sensible things* themselves (as for example, *Light* and *Colours*) are not *Known* or *Understood* either by the *Passion*, or the *Phancy of Sense*, not by any thing meerly *Foreign* and *Adventitious*, but by *Intelligible Ideas* Exerted from the *Mind* it self, that is, by something *Native* and *Domestick* to it: nothing being more true, than this of *Boetius*, that, *Omne quod Scitur, non ex Sua, sed ex Comprehendentium Natura, Vi, & Facultate Cognoscitur, Whatsoever is Known, is Known not by its own Force and Power, but by the Force and Power, the Vigour and Activity of that thing it self which Knows or Comprehends it*. Wherefore besides the *Phantasms* of *Singular Bodies*, or of *Sensible things* Existing without us, (which are not meer *Passions* neither) it is plain that our *Humane Mind* hath other *Cogitations* or *Conceptions* in it, namely the *Ideas* of the *Intelligible Natures* and *Essences* of things, which are *Universal*, and by and under which it understands *Singulars*. It is a *Ridiculous Conceit* of a *Modern Atheistical Writer*, that *Universals* are nothing else but *Names*, attributed to many *Singular Bodies*, because whatsoever *It* is *Singular*. For though whatsoever Exist without the *Mind*, be *Singular*, yet is it plain, that there are *Conceptions* in our *Minds*, *Objectively Universal*. Which *Universal Objects* of our *Mind*, though they Exist not as such any where without it, yet are they not therefore *Nothing*, but have an *Intelligible Entity* for this very reason, because they are *Conceivable*, for since *Non-Entity* is not *Conceivable*, whatsoever is *Conceivable*, and an *Object* of the *Mind* is therefore *Something*. And as for *Axiomatical Truths*, in which something is affirmed or denied, as these are not all *Passions* from *Bodies* without us, (for what *Local Motions* could Impress this *Common Notion*, upon our *Minds*, That *Things* which agree in one *Third*, agree amongst themselves, or any other?) so neither are these things only gathered by *Induction* from repeated and reiterated *Sensations*, we clearly apprehending at once, that it is *Impossible* they should be otherwise. Thus *Aristotle* Ingeniously; ἐν τῷ Ἀριστοτέλει δὲ αἰσθητικῶς ἔστι, ὅτι καὶ ἐν αἰσθητικῶι, ὅτι τὸ τετραγώνον δύο ἰσότης ἔχει τὰς γωνίας, ἐννοῦμεν ἂν ἀποδείξαι, καὶ οὐ κατὰ τὴν αἰσθητικὴν αἰσθητικῶι μὲν γὰρ ἀνάγκη κατὰ ἕκαστον, ἢ ὃ ἑκατέρωτ' αὐτῶν γινώσκῃν ἔσθ'. It is evident, that there is no knowledge (of the *Universal Theorems* of *Geometry*) by *Sense*. For if we could perceive by *Sense*, that the *Three Angles* of a *Triangle*, were equal to *Two Rights*; yet

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should we not rest satisfied in this, as having therefore a sufficient Knowledge hereof; but would seek further after a Demonstration of it: Sense reaching only to Singulars, but Knowledge to Universals. When from the Universal Idea of a Triangle, which is neither here, nor there, nor any where, without our Mind, but yet hath an Intelligible Entity; we see a plain necessity that its Three Angles must be Equal to two Right, then do we know the Truth of this Universal Theorem, and not before: as also we Understand, that every Singular Triangle, (so far as it is true) hath this Property in it. Wherefore the Knowledge of this and the like Truths, is not derived from Singulars, nor do we arrive to them in way of Ascent, from Singulars to Universals, but on the contrary having first found them in the Universals, we afterwards Descending apply them to Singulars: so that our Knowledge here is not After Singular Bodies, and Secundarily or Derivatively From them; but in order of Nature, Before them, and Proleptical to them.

Now these Universal Conceptions, some of which are also Abstract (as Life, Sense, Reason, Knowledge, and the like) many of them are of such things, whose Singulars do not at all fall under Sense, which therefore could never possibly be Impressed upon us, from Singular Bodies by Local Motion: and again some such, as though they belong to Corporeal and Sensible things; yet, as their Accuracy cannot be reached to by Sense, so neither did they ever Exist in that Matter of this lower world which here encompasseth us, and therefore could not be stamped upon us from without; as for example the Ideas of a Perfect Strait Line, and a Plain Superficies, or of an exact Triangle, Circle, Sphere, or Cube; no Material thing here amongst us being terminated in so Strait Lines, but that even by Microscopes there may be discovered much Irregularity and Deformity in them; and very probable it is, that there are no Perfectly Strait Lines, no such Triangles, Circles, Spheres, or Cubes, as answer to the Exactness of our Conceptions, in any part of the whole Material Universe, nor never will be. Notwithstanding which, they are not Absolute Non-Entities, since we can Demonstrate things concerning them, and though they never were nor will be, yet are they Possible to Exist, since nothing can be Conceived, but it either Is, or else is Possible to be. The Humane Mind therefore hath a Power of framing Ideas and Conceptions, not only of what Actually Is, but also of things which never were, nor perhaps will be, they being only Possible to be. But when from our Conceptions, we conclude of some things, that though they are Not, yet they are Possible to be; since nothing that Is not, can be Possible to be, unless there be something Actually in Being, which hath sufficient Power to produce it; we do Implicitely suppose, the Existence of a God or Omnipotent Being thereby, which can make whatsoever is Conceivable, though it yet be not, to Exist; and therefore Material Triangles, Circles, Spheres, Cubes, Mathematically Exact.

The Result of what we have hitherto said is this, that Since Singular Bodies, are not the only Objects of our Mind and Cogitation, it having also Universal and Abstract Ideas, of the Intelligible Natures or Essences of things; (some of which are such, whose Singulars do not

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at all fall under Sense; others though they belong to Bodies, yet Sense can never reach to them, nor were they ever in Matter) moreover since our Mind can conceive, of things which no where *Actually Exist*, but are only *Possible*; and can have such a *Demonstrative Science* of *Universal Truths*, as Sense can never ascend to: That therefore *Humane Knowledge and Understanding* it self, is not the meer *Image* and *Creature* of *Singular Bodies* only; and so *Derivative*, or *Essypal* from them, and in order of Nature *Junior* to them; but that as it were hovering aloft over all the *Corporeal Universe*, it is a thing *Independent upon Singular Bodies*, or *Proleptical* to them, and in Order of Nature, Before them.

But what Account can we then Possibly give, of *Knowledge and Understanding*, their Nature and Original? Since there must be *Notion*, That which is *Intelligible*, in order of Nature, before *Nouns*, or *Intelleſſion*? Certainly no other than this, that the *First Original Knowledge*, is that of a *Perfect Being*, *Infinitely Good and Powerful*, *Comprehending* it self; and the utmost Extent of its own *Fecundity* and *Power*, that is, the *Possibilities* of all things; their *Ideas*, with their several Relations to one another; all *Necessary and Immutable Truths*. Here therefore is there a *Knowledge before the world*, and all *Sensible things*, that was *Archetypal* and *Paradigmatical* to the same. Of which one *Perfect Mind* and *Knowledge*, all other *Imperfect Minds* (being Derived from it) have a certain *Participation*; whereby they are enabled to *Frame Intelligible Ideas*, not only of Whatsoever doth actually Exist, but also of such things, as never Were, nor Will be, but are Only *Possible*; or Objects of *Divine Power*.

Wherefore since it is certain, that even *Humane Knowledge and Understanding* it self, is not a meer *Passion* from *Sensible Things* and *Singular Bodies* Existing without (which is the only Foundation of that fore-mentioned *Atheistick Argument*, that *Things Made Knowledge*, and not *Knowledge Things*) and consequently it must needs have some other *Original*: moreover since *Knowledge and Understanding*, apprehend things *Proleptically* to their Existence, (*Mind* being able to frame *Conceptions* of all *Possible Entities*, and *Modifications*) and therefore in their Nature, do plainly Suppose the *Actual Existence* of a *Perfect Being*, which is *Infinitely Fecund and Powerful*, and could produce all things *Possible* or *Conceivable*; the *First Original Knowledge* or *Mind*, from whence all other *Knowledges* and *Minds* are derived, being that of an *Absolutely Perfect and Omnipotent Being*, *Comprehending* it Self, and the *Extent* of its own *Power*, or of its *Communicability*, that is, the *Ideas* of all *Possibilities* of things, that may be Produced by it, together with their *Relations* to one another, and their *Necessary Immutable Truths*; accordingly as *Wisdom and Understanding* are described to be, *ἀγνῶσις τῆς θεοῦ δυνάμεως, ἀλλήλων τῆς πνεύματος* *negrore deus, inter se et tu deus in se, et cum et a se* *αὐτῷ*, The *Breath* (or *Vapour*) of the *Power* of *God*, and an *Efflux* (or *Emanation*) from the *Glory* of the *Almighty*, a clear *Mirror* (or *Looking Glass*) of his *Active Energy* or *Virtue*, and the *Image* of his *Goodness*: I say, the Result of all is this, that the *Nature* of *Knowledge*

Now if there be *Eternal Truths*, which were never Made, and could not *But Be*, then must the *Rationes Rerum*, the *Simple Reasons* of things also, Or their *Intelligible Natures and Essences*, out of which those *Truths* are compounded, be of *Necessity Eternal* likewise. For how can this be an *Eternal Truth*, that the *Diameter of a Square is Incommensurable* with the *Sides*, if the *Rationes*, the *Reasons of a Square, Diameter, and Sides*, or their *Intelligible Essences*, were not themselves *Eternal*? These are therefore called by *Plato* (a man of much Meditation, and no Contemptible Philosopher) not only, ἀεὶ ταῦτα καὶ ὡς αὐτὰς ἔχοντα, *Things which are always the same, and Unchangeable*, but also, τὰ μὴ γινόμενα, ἀλλ' αἰεὶ ὄντα, *Things which were never Made, but always Are*, and sometimes μὴτε γινόμενα, μὴτε ἀπολλύμενα, *Things that were neither Made nor can be Destroyed*, sometimes τὰ ἀγένητα καὶ ἀφθάρτα, *Things Ingenerable and Incorruptible*. Of which *Cicero* thus, *Hec Plato negat Gigni, sed Semper Esse, & Ratione & Intelligentiā Contineri*. These things *Plato* affirmeth to have been never Made, but always to Be, and to be contained in Reason and Understanding. And though perhaps it may seem strange, even *Aristotle* himself also, notwithstanding his so often clashing with *Plato's* Ideas, here Really agreeth in the main, that the *Forms and Species*, or the Universal *Intelligible Essences of Things*, which are the proper and immediate *Objects of Science*, were *Eternal and never Made*. Thus in his *Metaphysics*, τὸ αἰετὸν ἐστί τις αἰεὶ ὡς αὐτὸν ὁμοῦ γινώσκται, *No man makes the Form, or Species of a thing, nor was it ever Generated*; and again, τὸ σφαιρὸν οὐκ ἐστὶ γένεσις, *There is no Generation of the Essence of a Sphere*; and, οὐκ ἔστι γένεσις καὶ φθορὰς τὰ αἰετὰ, *The Forms or Species of things are without any Generation or Corruption*. And he sometimes calleth these *Objects of Science*, ἀίθετος οὐσίαν or φύσιν, *An Immutable Essence or Nature*. Lastly, where he writeth against the *Heracliticks*, and those other *Scepticks*, who denied all *Certainty of Science*; he first discovers the Ground of their Error herein to have been this, that they supposed *Singular Bodies*, or *Sensibles* existing Without, to be the Only Things, or *Objects of the Mind*, or Knowledge, αἱ οὐκ ἔστι δόξαι τὰ αἰετὰ, ὅτι αὐτὰ τῶν αἰσθητῶν ἐκείνων, τὰ δ' ὄντα ὑπέλαθον οὐκ αἰετὰ εἶναι, ἀλλὰ ἐν τῶν τοιούτων πολλὴν ἢ τὴν ἀεὶ καὶ φύσιν εὐνοεῖν — ἔν τῃ πίστει βρῶντες τὰ αἰσθητὰ κατεμάχοντο τῶν φύσιν, καὶ οὕτως τὴν μεταβάλλουσαν ἐστὶν ἀλλοδύναμον, οὐ γὰρ τὸ πάστις πάντα μετέβαλλον, ὡς ἀνέλεστον ἀλλοδύνην. *The Original of these mens mistake was this, because Truth is to be look'd for in Things, and they conceiv'd the only things to be Sensibles, in which it is certain there is much of the Indeterminate Nature. Wherefore they perceiving all the Nature of Sensibles, to be Moveable, or in perpetual Flux and Mutation, since nothing can possibly be verified or constantly affirmed concerning that which is not the same but Changeable, concluded that there could be no Truth at all nor Certainty of Science; those Things which are the only Objects of it, never continuing the same.* And then he subjoyns in way of Opposition to this *Sceptical Doctrine* of theirs, and the forementioned Ground thereof, αἰετὸς οὐσίαν ὑπολαμβάνειν καὶ εἶναι οὐκ αἰετὸν, ἢ ὅτι κινεῖται ὑπὲρ ὅτι φθορὰ ἐστὶ γένεσις τὸ παρεστῶτον. *We would have these men therefore to know, that there is another kind of Essence of Things, besides that of Sensibles, to which belongeth neither*

neither Motion, nor Corruption, nor any Generation at all. By which Essences of things, that have no Generation nor Corruption, he could understand nothing else, but those *Intelligible Natures, Species, and Ideas* which are the *Standing and Immutable Objects of Science*. And certain it is, that there could be no constant and *Immutable Science* at all, were there no other Objects of the Mind, but Singulars and Sensibles, because these are all *Mutable*. Wherefore the *Proper and Immediate Objects of the Geometrical Science*, are no *Singular and Material Triangles, Squares, Spheres and Cubes, &c.* not only because none of these are found *Mathematically Exact*, and because Geometricians in all the Several distant ages and places of the world, could not have the same *Singular Bodies* before them, but also because they do none of them continue *Immutably the Same*: all Corporeal things, being more or less in perpetual Motion and Mutation; Whereas that of which any *Geometrical Theorem* is Verified and Demonstrated, must be *Immutably and Unalterably the Same*. The *Triangles and Circles, Spheres and Cubes of Euclid, Archimedes, Pappus, Apollonius*, and all other Ancient and Modern Geometricians, in all the distant places and Times of the World, were both *Indivisibly One and the Same*, and also perfectly *Immutable and Incorruptible*, the Science of Geometry being such. For which Cause it is affirmed also, of these *Mathematical Things*, by the forementioned Aristotle, that they are *No Where* as in a Place; as all *Singular Bodies* are, ἀπουσιάζει τὸν τόπον ἕκαστον ἰδίῳ. διὸ καὶ οὐκ ἐστὶν τινος· τὰ δὲ μαθηματικὰ, ὅτι οὐκ ἐστὶν ἀβυστὸν τοῦ τόπου. It is absurd to make *Mathematical Things* to be in a Place, as *Solid Bodies* are, for Place belongeth only to *Singulars*, which are therefore separable from one another by Place: but *Mathematical things* are not *Any where*. Because they being *Universal and Abstract*, are only in *Minds*: nevertheless for the same Reason are they also *Every Where*, they being in every *Mind* that apprehends them. Lastly, these *Intelligible Essences and Ideas of Things*, are called also by Philo, ἀναγκαιόταται οὐσίαι, The Most Necessary Essences, as being not only *Eternal*, but having likewise *Necessary Existence* belonging to them: for though there be no *Absolute Necessity* that there should be Matter or Body, yet is there an *Absolute Necessity* that there should be *Truth*.

Met. L. 12.
a. 3.

If therefore there be *Eternal Intelligibles* or *Ideas*, and *Eternal Truths*, and *Necessary Existence* do belong to them; then must there be an *Eternal Mind Necessarily Existing*, since these *Truths and Intelligible Essences of Things* cannot possibly be any where but in a *Mind*. For by the *Essences of things*, when they are said to be *Eternal*, must not be meant their very *Substances*, as if every thing were in it self *Eternal and Uncreated*; or that God in Creation, did only as a Modern Writer abusively Expresseth it, Sartorū instar, vestire Essentia rerum novā Existentiā, Cloath the antecedent *Essences of things*, with a new *Garment of Existence*; but only their *Esse Cognitum*, their *Possible and Intelligible Natures*, as they were *Objects of Infinite Power, and Understanding*, before they were Made. There must be a *Mind Senior to the world*, and all *Sensible Things*, and such as at once Comprehends in it, the *Ideas of all Intelligibles*, their *Necessary Schemes and Relations* to one another,

ther;

ther, and all their *Immutable Truths*: a Mind, which doth not *ἐν μὲν ὥρῃ, ἐν δὲ ὥρῃ*, (as Aristotle writeth of it) *sometimes Understand and sometimes not Understand*, as if it were sometimes *Awake* and sometimes *Asleep*, or like an Eye sometimes *Open* and sometimes *Shut*, but *ἐν ἑαυτῇ*, Such a Mind as is *Essentially Act and Energy*; and hath no Defect in it. And this as we have already declared, can be no other than the *Mind* of an *Omnipotent*, and *Ininitely Perfect Being*, *Comprehending It Self* and the *Extent* of its own *Power*, or how far it self is *Communicable*, that is, all the *Possibilities* of things, that may be made by it, and their respective *Truths*; *Mind* and *Knowledge* in the very Nature of it, supposing the *Actual Existence* of an *Omnipotent* or *Ininitely Powerful Being*, as its *Nature* or *Intelligible*; It being nothing but the *Comprehension* of the *Extent* of *Infinite* or *Divine Power*, and the *Measure* of the same.

And from hence it is Evident also, that there can be but *One only Original Mind*, or no more than *One Understanding Being Self Existent*; all other *Minds* whatsoever *Partaking* of one *Original Mind*; and being as it were *Stamped* with the *Impression* or *Signature* of one and the same *Seal*. From whence it cometh to pass, that all *Minds* in the several *Places* and *Ages* of the *World*, have *Ideas* or *Notions* of Things *Exactly Alike*, and *Truths Indivisibly the Same*. *Truths* are not multiplied, by the *Diversity* of *Minds* that apprehend them; because they are all but *Æthyal Participations* of one and the same *Original* or *Archetypal Mind*, and *Truth*. As the same *Face* may be *Reflected* in several *Glasses*; and the *Image* of the same *Sun* may be in a thousand *Eyes* at once beholding it; and *One* and the same *Voyce* may be in a thousand *Eares* listening to it; so when *Innumerable Created Minds*, have the same *Ideas* of Things, and *Understand* the same *Truths*; it is but *One* and the same *Eternal Light*, that is *Reflected* in them all; (that *Light* which enlighteneth *Every man*, that cometh into the *World*;) or the same *Voyce* of that *One Everlasting Word*, that is never *Silent*, *Reechoed* by them. Thus was it concluded by *Themistius*, that one man by *Teaching*, could not *Possibly* beget in the *Mind* of another, the very same *Notions*, *Conceptions* and *Knowledges*, which himself had in his own *Mind*, *ἐπεὶ μὴ ταῦτα ὡς τὸ νόημα τὸ διδόντα καὶ τὸ λαμβάνον*, Were not the *Minds* both of the *Teacher* and of the *Learner* as it were *Printed* and *Stamped* alike. As also that men could not *Possibly* so confer together as they do, presently apprehending one anothers meaning, and raising up the very same senses in their *Minds*, and that merely by *Occasion* of *Words* and *Sounds*, *ἐπεὶ μὴ ἂν ἐκ τῆς αὐτῆς ἀκουστικῆς*, Were there not some *One Mind* which all men did *Partake* of. As for that *Anti-Monarchical Opinion*, of *Many Understanding Beings*, or *Minds*, *Self Originated*, and *Independent*, (none of which therefore could be *Omnipotent*) it is neither *Conceivable*, how such should all agree in the same *Truths*, there being no *Common Measure* of *Truth* betwixt them, no more than any *Common Rule* of their *Wills*; nor indeed how they should have any *Knowledge* or *Understanding* at all, properly so called, that being the *Comprehension* of the *Possibilities* of things, or of the *Extent* of *Infinite Power*, whereas according to this *Hypothesis*, there is no *Infinite Power* at all, the *Power* of each of those *Many* supposed *Principles*

ples or Deities, being Limited and Finite, and therefore indeed not Creative of any thing neither, since that which could Create one thing, could Create all, and consequently would have all depending upon it. We conclude therefore, That from the Nature of *Mind* and *Knowledge*, it is *Demonstrable*, That there can be but *One Original* and *Self-Existent Mind*, or *Understanding Being*, from which all other *Minds* were derived. And now have we, more Copiously than we designed, Confuted the First *Atheistical Argument*, we having not only asserted the *Idea of God*, and fully Answered and refuted all the *Atheistical Pretences* against the same; but also from this very *Idea of God*, or a *Perfect Being*, Demonstrated his *Existence*. We shall dispatch the following *Atheistical Objections* with more brevity.

WE come in the next place, to the *Achilles* of the *Atheists*; their *Invincible Argument*, against a *Divine Creation* and *Omnipotence*, because *Nothing could come from Nothing*. It being concluded from hence, that whatsoever *Substantially* or *Really It*, was from all *Eternity Of It Self* *Unmade* or *Uncreated by any Deity*. Or else thus; By *God* is alwayes Understood, a *Creator* of some *Real Entity* or other out of *Nothing*; but it is an *Undoubted Principle* of *Reason* and *Philosophy*, an *Undeniable Common Notion*, That *Nothing can be made out of Nothing*, and therefore there can be no such *Creative Power* as this. And here we shall perform these *Three Things*; First, we shall show That in some Senses, this is indeed an *Unquestionable Truth*, and *Common Notion*, That *Nothing can come from Nothing*, and what those Senses are. Secondly, We shall make it evident, that in the Sense of this *Atheistical Objection*, it is *Absolutely False*, That *Nothing can come from Nothing*; or be made out of *Nothing*; and that a *Divine Creation* and *Omnipotence*, can be no way Impugned from the forementioned Principle rightly Understood. Thirdly and Lastly, We shall prove, That as from this Principle or *Common Notion*, *Nothing out of Nothing*, there can be no Execution at all done against *Theism*, or a *Divine Creation*; so from the very Same rightly Understood, the *Impossibility* of all *Atheism* may be *Demonstratively Proved*, it bringing Something out of *Nothing* in an *Impossible Sense*; as also the *Existence* of a *God* Evinc'd.

We grant therefore in the First place, that this is in some Sense an *Undoubted Principle* of *Reason*, or an *Undeniable Common Notion*, that *Nothing can come from Nothing*. For First, it is *Unquestionably True*, That *Nothing which once was not, could ever Of It self come into Being*; or That *Nothing could bring it Self out of Non-Existence into Being*; That *Nothing can take Beginning of Existence from it Self*; or That *Nothing can be Made or Produced without an Efficient Cause*. And from hence, as hath been already Intimated, is it *Demonstratively Certain*, that every thing was not Made, but that there is something *Necessarily Self Existent*, and which could not But Be. For had every thing been

been Made, then must something of Necessity, have been Made out of Nothing by It Self; which is Impossible.

Again, As Nothing which was Not, could ever Of It self come into Being, or be Made, without an *Efficient Cause*, so is it certain likewise, that Nothing can be *Efficiently Caused* or Produced, by that which hath not in it at least *Equal*, (if not *Greater*) *Perfection*, as also *Sufficient Power* to Produce the same. We say Nothing which was not, could ever be brought into Being, by that which hath not Formally, *Equal Perfection* in it; because Nothing can Give what it hath not, and therefore so much of the *Perfection* or *Entity* of the Effect, as is greater than that of the supposed Cause; so much thereof must needs come from Nothing, or be made without a Cause. Moreover whatsoever hath *Equal Perfection* to another thing, could not therefore Cause or Produce that other thing; because it might either have no *Active Power* at all, as Matter hath not, it being merely *Passive*, or else no *Sufficient Active* and *Productive Power*. As for Example, though it be not Impossible, That Motion which once was not, should be Produced; yet is it Impossible, that it should be ever Produced, without a *Sufficient Cause*. Wherefore if there were once no Motion at all in the whole world, nor no Life or Self Active Power in any thing, but all were Dead; then is it certain, that there could never possibly arise, any Motion or Mutation in it to all Eternity. There being no *Sufficient Cause*, to Produce the Same; since nothing can produce Motion, but that which hath Life or Self-Activity in it; and if Motion or any thing else, should begin to be, without a *Sufficient Cause*, then must it needs be Caused by It Self, or Of It Self come into Being; which is a thing Impossible. Now no Imperfect Being whatsoever, hath a *Sufficient Emanative Power* to Create any other Substance, or Produce it out of Nothing; the utmost that can be done by Imperfect Beings, is only to Produce new *Accidents* and *Modifications*: as Humane Souls can Produce new *Cogitations* in themselves, and new *Local Motion* in Bodies. No Imperfect Being is Substantially *Emanative*, or can Produce another Substance out of *Non-Existence*. Therefore for any Substance, to be brought into Being, by an Imperfect Substance, which hath not *Sufficient Emanative* or *Creative Power*, is a thing plainly Impossible; it being all one as to say, That a Substance might Of It self, come out of Nothing into Being. And thus is it granted, that no Substance could be Created, or brought out of Non Existence, into Being, but by the sole *Efficiency* of an *Absolutely Perfect* Being, which hath both *Greater Perfection*, (it Eminently Containing all things in it) and also a *Sufficient Emanative* or *Creative Power*.

And now have we given an Account, of Two Senses, wherein it is Impossible, For Any thing to come from Nothing; One, For a thing which was not, to bring it Self into Being, or to be Made without an *Efficient Cause*. Another, For a thing to be *Efficiently Caused*, by that which hath not at least *Equal Perfection* in it, or a *Sufficient Emanative* or *Productive Power*. Both which Senses of this Axiom respect the *Efficient Cause*, and thus was it frequently

ly understood by divers of the Ancients , and particularly by *Cicero*. We shall now propound a Third Sense , wherein this Axiom is also Verified, *That Nothing can be Made out of Nothing*, respecting chiefly the *Material Cause*. For since no Imperfect, Natural Being, hath any *Creative Power* , or can Efficiently produce any New Substance or Real Entity, which was not before, into Being, but only act upon *Pre-existing Matter*, by Motion, and Modify the same; and since *Matter*, as such, being merely *Passive*, cannot Cause any thing, that was not before, or will not result from the *Composition* or *Modification* of it; it follows undeniably, that in all *Natural Generations* and *Productions* out of *Pre-existent Matter*, (without a *Divine Creation*) there can never be any New Substance or Real Entity brought out of Non-Existence into Being. And this was that very thing, and no other, which the Ancient *Physiologists* meant, when (as *Aristotle* tells us) they so much insisted upon this Principle, τὸ γινόμενον οὐκ ἐκ τοῦ οὐκ ὄντος γινώσκειν ἀδύνατον, *That it was Impossible that any Real Entity, should be (Naturally) Made or Generated out of Nothing; Or*, as it is also otherwise expressed, οὐδὲν ἐκ τοῦ γινώσκειν οὐδὲ φθίσεσθαι οὐκ ἔστιν ἔντα, *That no Real Entity was either Generated or Corrupted*. That is, That in *Natural Generations*, *Corruptions*, and *Alterations*, (where God is supposed not *Miraculously* to interpose) there is no *Creation* of any New Substance or Real Entity out of Nothing, nor *Annihilation*, or *Destruction* of any into Nothing.

We are not ignorant, that the Generality of *Modern Writers*, have interpreted this Doctrine, of the Old *Physiologists* in *Aristotle*, into quite different Sense; as designing therein to take away all *Divine Creation* out of Nothing; (or Non-Existence) they making all things to have sprung out of *Matter* (existing Of it self from Eternity) either *Without a God*; or else rather (because *Parmenides* and *Empedocles*, and other Asserters of this Doctrine, were undoubted Theists) *With Him*. So that God could not Create any New Entity out of Nothing, but only make things out of *Pre-existing Unmade Matter*, as a Carpenter doth a House, or a Weaver a Piece of Cloth. And thus is it Commonly taken for granted, that no Pagan Philosopher ever went so far, as to acknowledge a *Divine Creation* of any thing out of Nothing, in the Sense of *Christian Theologians*. And here we grant indeed that besides the *Stoicks*, there have been some other *Philosophick Theists* amongst the Pagans, of this Perswasion; That Nothing was nor could be made by God, otherwise, than out of Something *Pre-Existing*: as *Plutarchus Charonensis* for one, who in a place already Cited positively affirmeth, ὅτι μὴ κτίσται ὑπὸ θεοῦ γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδὲν ἐκ τοῦ οὐκ ὄντος, ὅτι γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδὲν ἐκ τοῦ οὐκ ὄντος, ἀλλὰ ὑποκείμενον αἰεὶ τῇ δημιουργῇ. *That though the world were indeed made by God, yet the Substance or Matter, out of which it was Made, was not Made*. And then he subjoins this very Reason for it, ὅτι γὰρ οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδὲν ἐκ τοῦ οὐκ ὄντος, ἀλλὰ ἐκ τοῦ μὴ κτίσται, μὴδ' ἰκανῶς ἐχούσης, ὡς οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδὲν ἐκ τοῦ οὐκ ὄντος. *Because there can be no Making of any thing out of Nothing, but only out of Something Pre Existing, not rightly Ordered or Sufficiently disposed; as in a House, Garment, or Statue*. From which conceit of *Plutarch's*, though he were otherwise Ingenious, it may well be supposed, that the

the *Dull Ætiotic Air* had too much Effect upon him. However neither *Plutarch* nor the *Stoicks*, as we conceive, are for this to be accounted *Absolute* and *Downright Atheists*, but only *Imperfect, Mungrel, and Spurious Theists*. And therefore were *Atheists* never so much able to prove, that there could be no *Creation* out of *Nothing* *Præ-Existing*, which they cannot at all do, yet would not this overthrow *Theism* in general, there being a *Latitude* therein. Nevertheless it will undeniably appear, from what shall follow, that those *Ancient Italic, and Pythagorick*, were so far from intending here any such thing, to deduce all things out of *Matter*, either *Without, or With a God*; as that they plainly designed the very *Contrary*; namely to prove that no *New Real Entity* could be *Made* out of *Matter*, and particularly that *Souls* could not be *Generated* out of the same; which therefore of necessity, must, according to them, have another *Divine Original*, and be *Made by God*, not out of *Matter*, but out of *Nothing* *Præ-Existing*: since it could not be supposed by any, that all *Souls* *Existed Of Themselves* from *Eternity Unmade*. And indeed all those *Pagan Philosophers* who asserted the *Incorporiety* of *Souls*, must of necessity in like manner; suppose them not to have been *Made*, out of *Præ-Existing Matter*, but by *God* out of *Nothing*. *Plutarch* being only here to be excepted, by reason of a certain odd *Hypothesis* which he had, that was peculiarly his own; of a *Third Principle*, besides *God* and *Matter*, a *Disorderly Soul, or Evil Demon Self-Existent*, who therefore seems to have supposed all *Particular Humane Souls*, to have been made, neither out of *Nothing*, nor yet out of *Matter* or *Body* *Præ-Existing*, but out of a certain strange *Commixture*, of the *Substance* of that *Evil Soul*, and *God*, blended together: upon which account, does he affirm *Souls* to be, not so much *æκὸς Θεοῦ*, not so much, *the work of God*, as a *Part of him*. And now let any one Judge, whether upon *Plutarch's* account, there be not yet further reason, to complain of this *Ætiotic Air*. Wherefore we conclude, that those old *Physiologists* in *Aristotle*, who insisted so much upon that Principle, That no *Real Entity* could be *Made* or *Generated* out of *Nothing*, acted only as *Physiologists* therein, and not as *Theologers* or *Metaphysicians*, they not opposing a *Divine Creation* out of *Nothing* *Præ-Existing*, but only contending that no *New Entity* could be made out of *Matter*, and that in *Natural Generations* and *Corruptions* there was no *Creation* or *Annihilation* of any thing.

But what the true scope and meaning of these *Physiologists* indeed was, will more plainly appear, from that Use or Improvement, which themselves made of this *Philosophick Principle*, and this was *Twofold*. For *First*, It is certain that upon this Foundation, they all of them Endeavoured to Establish, a Peculiar kind of *Physiology*, and some *Atomology* or other, either an *Homœomery*, or an *Anomœomery*, a *Similar* or *Dissimilar Atomology*. For *Anaxagoras* looking upon this *Maxim* of the *Italic Philosophers*, That *Nothing* could be *Physically* made out of *Nothing*, or no *Real Entity* *Generated* or *Corrupted*, as an Undoubted Principle of Reason, and being also not able to Conceive otherwise, of the *Forms* and *Qualities* of *Bodies* than that they were *Real Entities*, distinct from the *Substance* of *Matter*, or its *Modifica-*

tions; concluded that therefore in *Generations, Corruptions and Alterations*, these were not created out of *Nothing*, and *Annihilated* into *Nothing*, but that every thing was *Naturally made*, in *περὶ παλαιῶν καὶ νεωτέρων*, out of *Pra-Existent and In-Existent Things*, and consequently that there were in all things, *Dissimilar Atoms and Particles* of every Kind, though by reason of their *Parvitude* *Insensible* to us, and every thing seemed to be, only that, which was most *Predominant and Conspicuous* in it. To wit, That *Bone* was made out of *Bony Atoms*, and *Flesh* out of *Fleshy*, *Hot* things out of *Hot Atoms*, and *Cold* things out of *Cold*, *Black* out of *Black*, and *White* out of *White*, &c. and *Nothing* out of *Nothing*, but every thing out of *Pra-Existing Similar Atoms*. Thus was the sense of *Anaxagoras* plainly declared by *Aristotle*, That *because Contraries were made out of one another, they were therefore before In-Existent*. For since every thing must of necessity be made, either out of *Something*, or out of *Nothing*, and all *Physiologers* agree, That it is *Impossible*, for any thing to be made out of *Nothing*; it follows unavoidably, that what forever is *Generated* must be *Generated* out of things *Pra-Existing and In-Existing*, though by reason of their *Parvitude* *Insensible* to us; That is, out of *Similar or Homogenial Atoms*, of which there are some of all kinds in *Every thing*; every thing being mingled in every thing. Here therefore have we, the *Anaxagorean Homœomery*, or *Similar Atomology*, built upon this *Principle of Reason*, as its *Foundation*, That *Nothing can Naturally be Made or Generated out of Nothing*.

But the *Italicks* or *Pythagoricks*, as well before *Anaxagoras* as after him, (with whom also hitherto concurred, *Leucippus*, *Democritus*, and *Epicurus*, those *Atheizers* of the *Italick Physiology*) did with much better Reason, from the same *Fundamental Principle* conclude, that since these *Forms and Qualities* of *Bodies*, were unquestionably *Generated and Corrupted*, they were therefore no *Entities Really Distinct* from the *Substance of Matter*, or its *Modifications*, but only different *Dispositions or Modifications* of the *Insensible Parts* thereof, Causing in us *Different Phantasms*: and this was the *First Original* of the *Dissimilar Atomology*. In *Matter or Body*, therefore as such, there was nothing else to these *Philosophers* conceivable, but only *Magnitude of Parts, Figure, Site, and Motion, or Rest*: and these were those few *Elements*, out of which *In-Existing*, and variously *Combined* together, they supposed all those *Forms and Qualities* of *Bodies*, (commonly so called) in *Generations* to result, without the *Production* of any *New Real Entity* out of *Nothing*. For as out of a few *Letters* in the *Alphabet* of every *Language*, Differently placed and *Combined*, do Result innumerable *Syllables, Words, and Sounds*, signifying all the several things, in *Heaven and Earth*; and sometimes from all the very same *Letters*, neither more nor fewer, but only *Transposed*, are begotten very *Different Phantasms of Sounds* in us; but without the *Production* of any *New Real Entity* out of *Nothing*: in the very same manner, from those *Fewer Letters* in the *Alphabet* of the *Corporeal Nature*, Variously combined, or from the different *Modifications of Matter*, in respect of *Magnitude of Parts, Figure, Site, & Motion*, are Made up and *Spelled* out, all those *Syllables* of *Things* that are in the whole *World*;

World, without the Production of any New *Real Entity*. Many times the very same Numerical Matter, neither more nor less, only differently *Modified*, Causing very different *Phantasms* in us, which are therefore vulgarly supposed to be *Forms* and *Qualities* in the Things; as when the same water, is successively changed and transformed into Vapour, Snow, Hail, and Ice. And to this very purpose is the forementioned Similitude elegantly pursued by the *Epicurean* Poet, in these following Verses,

*Quin etiam refert nostris in Versibus ipsis,
Cum quibus & quali sint Ordine quæque locata.
Namque eadem Cælum, Mare, Terras, Flumina, Solem,
Significant, eadem Fruges, Arbuscæ, Animantes.
Sic ipsi in rebus item jam Materiai
Concursus, Motus, Ordo, Positura, Figura,
Cum permutantur, mutari Res quoque debent.*

*L. 1. p. 197
Lamb.*

For were those supposed *Forms* and *Qualities*, produced in *Generations* and *Alterations*, *Entities Really distinct* from the *Substance* of *Matter*, or its different *Modifications*, in respect of the *Magnitude*, *Figure*, *Site*, and *Motion* of *Parts*; (there being no such things before *In-Existing* as *Anaxagoras* supposed,) then would they *Materially* proceed from *Nothing*, which is a thing Impossible. And this *Dissimilar Atomology* of the ancient *Italicks*, so far as to these *Material Forms* and *Qualities*, Seems to be Undoubtedly the only true *Physiology*, it being built upon this sure Principle of Reason, That because *Nothing* can give what it hath not, therefore no New *Substance* or *Real Entity*, can be *Materially* produced, in the *Generations* and *Alterations* of *Nature*, as such; but only *Modifications*. As when an *Architect* builds a House, or a *Weaver* makes a piece of Cloth, there is only a different *Modification* of the *Pre-Existing Matter*.

This is the *First Improvement*, which the Ancient *Italick Philosophers* made, of this Principle, That *Nothing* can be (*Physically* and *Materially*) *Generated out of Nothing*; or that no *Real Entity* is *Naturally Generated* or *Corrupted*; That therefore the *Forms* and *Qualities* of *Bodies*, were no *Real Entities*, but only *Different Modifications*. But besides this, there was also another thing, which these *Philosophers* principally Aimed at herein, as a *Corollary* deducible from the same Principle, concerning *Souls*; that since the *Souls* of *Animals*, Especially *Humane*, are unquestionably *Entities Really distinct* from *Matter*, and all its *Modifications*; (no *Magnitudes*, *Figures*, *Sites* and *Motions*, being ever able to beget *Cogitation* or *Consciousness*, much less a *Power of Understanding Eternal Verities*) that therefore these could not be *Generated* out of *Matter*, nor *Corrupted* into the same. Because *Forms* and *Qualities* are *Continually Generated* and *Corrupted*, made out of *Nothing*, and *Reduced to Nothing* again; therefore are they no *Entities Really distinct* from *Matter*, and its different *Modifications*: but because *Souls*, at least *Humane*, are unquestionably *Entities Really distinct* from *Matter*, and all its *Modifications*; therefore can they not possibly be *Generated* out of *Matter*,

ter, nor Corrupted into the same. For if *Humane Souls* were Generated out of *Matter*, then must some *Real Entity* be *Materially* produced out of *Nothing*, there being *Nothing* of *Life* and *Cogitation* in *Matter*; which is a Thing Absolutely Impossible. Wherefore these Philosophers concluded concerning *Souls*, that being not Generated out of *Matter*, they were *Insinuated* or *Introduced* into *Bodies*, in *Generations*. And this was always a Great Controversie, betwixt *Theists* and *Atheists*, concerning the *Humane Soul*, as *Lucretius* expelleth it;

Nata sit, an contra Nascentibus Insinuetur,

Whether it were Made or Generated out of *Matter*, (that is indeed out of *Nothing*) or else were *Ingenit*, From Without, *Insinuated* into *Bodies* in *Generations*? Which latter Opinion of theirs, supposes *Souls* as well to have Existed Before the *Generations* of all *Animals*, as to Exist After their Deaths and Corruptions; there being properly *Nothing* of them Generated but only their Union with those particular *Bodies*, So that the *Generations*, and *Corruptions* or *Deaths* of *Animals*, according to this Hypothesis, are nothing but an *Anagrammatical Transposition* of Things in the Universe, *Pre- and Post-Existent Souls*, being sometimes united to one *Body*, and sometimes to another. But it doth not therefore follow, because these Ancient Philosophers held *Souls* to be thus *Ingenerable*, and to have *Pre-Existed* before the *Generation* of *Animals*; that therefore they supposed all *Souls* to have Existed Of Themselves from *Eternity Unmade*: this being a Thing which was never asserted, any more by *Theist* than *Atheist*; since even those *Philosophick Theists*, who maintained *Aeternitatem Animorum*, The *Eternity* of *Humane Minds* and *Souls*, together with the *Worlds*, did notwithstanding, assert their *Essential Dependence* upon the *Deity*, like that of the *Lights* upon the *Sun*; as if they were a kind of *Eternal Effulgency*, *Emanation* or *Eradiation* from an *Eternal Sun*. Even *Proclus* himself, that Great Champion for the *Eternity* of the *World* and *Souls*, in this very Cause, when he writes against *Plutarch's Self-Existent Evil Soul*, expressly declaring, that *ἡ ψυχή οὐκ ἔστι τὸ αὐτὸ θεοῦ*, There is no *Self-Existent Soul*; but every *Soul* whatsoever is the *Work Effect* and *Production* of *God*. Wherefore when they affirmed *Souls* to be *Ingenerable*, their meaning was no more than this, that they were not meer *Accidental Things* as *Forms* and *Qualities* are, nor any more Generated out of *Matter*, than *Matter* it self is Generated out of *Something* else; upon which account, as *Aristotle* informs us, *Souls* were called also by them, *ἀρχαί*, *Principles*, as well as *Matter*, they being both of them *Substances* in the Universe alike *Original*; that is neither of them Made out of the other. But they did not suppose them to be *ἀγενεταί*, *Ingenerate* or *Unmade* in the other Sense, as if they had been *Self-Originated*, and *Independent*, as *Plutarch's Second* and *Third Principles*; his *Evil Soul*, and *Matter* were by him Imagined to be: but so doubtless as that if the *World* had had any beginning, they should then have been all Created together with it, out of *Nothing Pre-Existing*. But as for the perpetual Creation of new *Souls*, in the Successive Generations of *Animals*, this indeed is a thing

thing which those Philosophers were extremely abhorrent from, as thinking it Incongruous, that *Souls* which are in *Order of Nature*, *Senior to Bodies*, should be in *Order of Time*, *Juniors* to them; as also not Reasonable, that *Divine Creation*, (as it were Prostituted) should without end, perpetually attend and wait upon *Natural Generations*, and be Intermingled with them.

But as for this *Præ-Existence* of *Souls*, we have already declared our own sence concerning it, in the First Chapter. Though we cannot deny, but that besides *Origen*, several others of the Ancient Fathers, before the Fifth Council, seem either to have Espoused it, or at least to have had a favour and kindness for it; inasmuch that *St. Augustine* himself, is sometimes Staggering in this Point, and thinks it to be a *Great Secret*, whether mens *Souls* Existed before their Generations or no; and some where concludes it to be a matter of *Indifference*, wherein every one may have, his Liberty of opining, either way, without offence. Wherefore all that can be certainly affirmed in this Case, is, that *Humane Souls* could not possibly be *Generated* out of *Matter*, but were some time or other *Created* by God Almighty, out of *Nothing Præ-Existing*, either In *Generations* or Before them. Lastly, as for *Brute Animals*, we must confess, that If they be not mere *Machines* or *Automata*, as some seem inclinable to believe, but *Conscious* and *Thinking Beings*, then from the same Principle of Reason, it will likewise follow, that they cannot be *Generated* out of *Matter* neither, and therefore must be *Derived* from the *Fountain of all Life*, and *Created out of Nothing* by him: who since he can, as easily *Annihilate*, as *Create*; and does all for the Best; no man need at all to trouble himself, about their *Permanency*, or *Immortality*.

And now have we given, a Full and Particular Account, of all the *Several Senses*, wherein this *Axiom* must be acknowledged to be Undeniably True, That *Nothing* can possibly be *Made out of Nothing*, or Come from *Nothing*; namely these Three. First, That *Nothing* which was *Not*, could ever bring it self into Being, or Efficiently Produce it self. Or, That *Nothing* can possibly be *Made*, without an *Efficient Cause*. Secondly, that *Nothing* which was *Not*, could be Produced or brought into Being, by any other *Efficient Cause*, then such, as hath at least, *Equal Perfection* in it, and a *Sufficient Active* or *Productive Power*. For if any thing were made by that, which hath not *Equal Perfection*, then must so much of the Effect as Transcendeth the Cause, be indeed Made without a Cause, (since, *Nothing* can Give what is both not) or be Caused by it self, or by Nothing. Again, to suppose a thing to be Produced by that which hath no *Sufficient Productive Power*, is Really to suppose it also, to be Produced from It self without a Cause, or From *Nothing*. Where it is acknowledged by us, That no *Natural, Imperfect, Created Being*, can Create, or *Emanatively Produce*, a *New Substance* which was not Before, and give it, its *Whole Being*. Hitherto, is the *Axiom Verified* in Respect of the *Efficient Cause*. But in the *Third Place*, it is also True, in respect of the *Material* likewise. Not, That *Nothing* could Possibly be ever *Made*; by any Power whatsoever, but only out of *Præ-Existent Matter*; and Consequently, that *Mat-*
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ter it self could be never Made, but was Self-Existent. For the falsity of this, is sufficiently evident, from what hath been already declared, concerning *Humane Souls*, their being undoubtedly *Substances Incorporeal*, which therefore could never be Generated out of Matter; and it will be further manifested afterwards. But the Third and Last Sense is this; That Nothing which is Materially Made out of things Pre-Existing, (as some are) can have any other Real Entity, then what was either before contained in, or resulteth from the Things themselves so Modified. Or, That there can be no New Entities or Substances, Naturally Generated out of Matter; and therefore that all Natural Generations, are really Nothing else, but Mixtures or New Modifications of Things Pre-Existing.

These, I say, are all the Senses, wherein it is Impossible, That any thing should be Made out of Nothing, or Come from Nothing; and they may be all reduced to this One General Sense, That Nothing can be Made out of Nothing, Causally; Or, That, Nothing cannot Cause Any thing, either Efficiently or Materially. Which as it is undeniably True; So is it so far from making any thing, against a Divine Creation, or the Existence of a God, that the same may be Demonstratively Proved, and Evinc'd from it, as shall be shewed afterward.

But there is another Sense, wherein things may be said to be Made *ex nihilo*, Or, Out of Nothing, when those words are not taken Causally, but only so as to signify the *Terminus A quo*, or Term from which, they are Made, to wit, an Antecedent Non-Existence. And then the Meaning of this Proposition, That Nothing can possibly be Made out of Nothing, will be this, That Nothing which once was Not, could by any Power whatsoever, be afterwards brought into Being. And this is the Sense insinuated, in this Second Atheistick Argumentation, framed according to the Principles, of the Democritick or Epicurean Atheism. That no Real Entity which once was not, could by any Power whatsoever, be Made, or brought out of Non-Existence into Being; and consequently, that no Creative Power out of Nothing, can possibly belong to any thing, though supposed never so Perfect.

In Answer whereunto; we shall perform these Two Things. First, we shall make it appear, that Nothing out of Nothing, taken in this Sense declared, is so far from being a Common Notion, that it is not at all True. And Secondly, we shall prove, that If it were True, yet would it of the Two, make more against Atheism, then it doth against Theism, and therefore ought by no means to be used by Atheists, as an Argument against a Deity. First therefore, it is unquestionably certain, That this cannot be Universally True, That Nothing which once was not, could possibly be Made, or brought out of Non-Existence into Being; because If it were, then could there be no such thing as Making or Causing at all; no Action nor Motion, and consequently no Generation nor Mutation in the Corporeal Universe, but the whole world would be like a Stiff Immoveable Adamantine Rock: and this would doubtless be a better Argument against Motion, then any of Zeno's was. But we have all experience within our selves, of a Power of Producing New
Cogitations,

Cogitations, in our own Minds, new *Intellectual* and *Moral Habits*, as also *New Local Motion* in our Bodies, or at least *New Determinations* thereof, and of *Causing* thereby *New Modifications* in Bodies without us. And therefore are the *Atheists* forced to Restrain the Sense of this Proposition to *Substantial Things* only, that though there may be *New Accidents*, and *Modifications*, Produced out of *Nothing*, yet there can be no *New Substances Made*; however they be not able in the mean time to give any Reason why One of those should be in it self more Impossible than the other, or why no Substance should be *Makable*. But that some are so stagger'd with the Seeming Plausibility of this Argument, is chiefly upon these following Accounts. First, by reason of the *Confusion* of their own *Conceptions*; for because it is certain, That *Nothing can possibly be made out of Nothing*, in one Sense, to wit *Causally*; they not distinguishing Senses, nor being aware of the *Equivocation* that is in this *ἔκ τινος οὐκ ὄντος*, Out of *Nothing*, inadvertently give their assent, to those Words in a Wrong Sense; that no Substance (as *Matter*) could possibly be brought out of *Non-Existence into Being*. Secondly, by reason of their Unskilful Arguing from *Artificial Things*; When because *Nothing can be Artificially Made but out of Pre-Existing Matter*, as a *House* or *Garment*, and the like, (there being nothing done in the Production of these Things, but only a *New Modification*, of what before *Substantially* was) they over hastily conclude, that no Power whatsoever could produce any thing otherwise, then out of *Pre-Existing Matter*, and that *Matter* it self therefore could not possibly be Made. In which Conceit they are again further confirmed from hence, because the Old Physiologists maintained the same thing concerning *Natural Generations* likewise, That nothing was in them produced *ἔκ τινος οὐκ ὄντος*, Out of *Nothing*, neither; or that there was no *New Substance* or *Entity Made* in them, really distinct from the *Pre-Existing Matter* and its *Modifications*; they Unwarily Extending this, beyond the Bounds of *Physics* into *Metaphysics*; and unduly measuring or limiting *Infinite Power* accordingly. Lastly, because it is undeniably certain, concerning Our Selves and all *Imperfect Created Beings*, that none of these can *Create* any *New Substance*, which was not before; men are therefore apt to measure all things by their own scantling, and to suppose it Universally Impossible, according to *Humane Reason*, for any Power whatsoever, thus to *Create*; whence it follows that *Theology* must in this be acknowledged to be Contradictious to the *Principles of Natural Light* and *Understanding*. But since it is certain, that *Imperfect Created Beings* can themselves Produce *Some Things* out of *Nothing Pre-Existing*, as *New Cogitations*, and *New Local Motion*, *New Modifications* and *Transformations* of things Corporeal, it is very reasonable to think, that an *Absolutely Perfect Being* could do something more; that is, *Create New Substances* out of *Nothing*, or give them their Whole Being. And it may well be thought to be as Easie, for God, or an Omnipotent Being, to Make a Whole World, Matter and all, *ἔκ τινος οὐκ ὄντος*, Out of *Nothing*, as it is for us to Create a *Thought*, or to Move a *Finger*, or for the Sun to send out *Rays*, or a *Candle Light*, or lastly, for any Opaque Body, to produce the Image of it self in *Glasses* or *Water*, or to project a *Shadow*; all these *Imperfect Things* being but the

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Energies, Rays, Images, or Shadows, of the Deity. For a Substance which once was not, to be Made by God, or a Being *Ininitely Perfect*; this is not for it to be Made *Out of Nothing*, in the Impossible Sense, it coming from him who is *All*. Nor can it be said to be Impossible, for any thing whatsoever, to be Made by that, which hath not only *Ininitely Greater Perfection*, but also a *Sufficient Active Power* to produce the same, it being *Substantially Emanative*. It is true indeed, that *Infinite Power* it self, cannot do things in their own *Nature Impossible*; and this is therefore the only thing, which the *Atheists* have to prove, That it is in it self *Absolutely Impossible*, for a Substance, (though not for an *Accident* or *Modification*) to be produced out of *Non-Existence* into *Being*. Whereas nothing is in it self *Absolutely Impossible*, but what implies a *Contradiction*: and though it be *Contradictory*, for a Thing to Be and Not Be, at the same time; yet is there no manner of *Contradiction* at all in this, for any *Imperfect Contingent Being* which before was not, afterwards to be. Wherefore this being in it self no way *Impossible*, it must be acknowledged to be a *Due Object* of *Infinite Power*, or that which may be done by a *Perfect Omnipotent Being* existing.

If Nothing could be Made *Ex nihilo*, *Out of Nothing*, in this *Later* Sense, that is, *Nothing which Before was Not*, Afterwards brought into *Being*; then must the Reason hereof be, because no *Substance* or *Real Entity*, can be *Caused* by any other *Substance*, so as to Receive and Derive its *Whole Being* from it; and Consequently whatsoever *Substance* or *Real Entity*, is in the *Whole World*, was not only from *Eternity* without *Beginning*, but also Existed *Of It self Necessarily*, and *Independently* upon any thing else. But First, it hath been already declared, that it is repugnant to the *Humane Faculties*, that any *Temporary Successive Being* whatsoever, or that *Time* it self should be *Eternal* without beginning, because upon that *Hypothesis*, there would always have been an *Infinity of Time Past*; and if so, then would there of necessity have been, *Time Past, which was never Present*. But, to make every *Substantial Thing*, not only to have Existed *from Eternity* without *Beginning* (which yet hath been done by some *Mistaken Theists*) but also to have Existed, *Independently* upon any thing else, as its *Cause*, or *Original*, and therefore *Of it self Necessarily*, this, I say, is it self, to Make *Something to come from Nothing in the Impossible Sense*, to wit, *Causally*. For as when some *Atheists* affirm, That *Nothing could Ever Move It self*, and yet suppose notwithstanding, that there hath been *Motion* from all *Eternity*, they plainly make this *Motion*, (however supposed to be *Eternal*) to *Come from Nothing* in the Impossible Sense: so in like manner, they who suppose *Things* to have Existed *Of themselves Necessarily*, which have no *Self-Existence*, and *Necessary Existence* contained in their *Nature*, (as *Nothing* but a *Perfect Being* hath) do make this *Necessary Existence* of such things, to have *Come from Nothing*. Wherefore though it be certain, that something did Exist *Of It self Necessarily* from all *Eternity*, namely a *Perfect Being* (whose *Necessary Existence* is therefore not from *Nothing*, because *Essentially* included in its own *Nature*) yet is it certain likewise, that there can be but *One Such Thing*; *Necessity of Existence* being *Natural* and

See Enchir.
Met. c. 10.

and *Essential* to no more. But as for all other things, which are in their own Nature, *Contingently Possible* to Be or Not to be, Reason pronounces of them, that they could not Exist *Of themselves Necessarily*, but were *Caused* by Something else; and derived their Original, from that One *Absolutely Perfect*, and *Necessarily Existent Being*. So that *Plato's* Distinction must needs be here allowed of, betwixt *Two Kinds* of Beings, τὸ μὲν αἰὲν ὂν, γένεσις δὲ οὐ ἔχει, *That which always Is, and was never Made, nor had Beginning*; and τὸ γαίμαρον μὲν ὂν δὲ ἔσθ' ἔνθεν, *That which was Made, or had Beginning, but never Truly Is*. It having not a *Permanent* but *Successive* or *Flowing Duration*. Accordingly whereunto, *Aristotle* also affirmeth; *That there is no necessity, all things should be Unmade or Self-Originated*; but *Some things might be Made from others Unmade*.

Lastly, we shall disprove the Truth of this Assertion, That *whatsoever Substantially and Really Is, did Exist of it self from all Eternity Unmade*, after this manner. Because it would follow from thence that not only *Matter*, and *Unqualified Atoms*, (as the *Democritick Atheists* suppose) but also *Souls*, especially *Humane*, must needs have Existed *Of themselves* too, from *Eternity Unmade*. For as no man can be so sottish, as to conceive Himself, or That which Thinketh in him, his Own Soul or Mind, and Personality, to be no Real Entity; Whilst every Clod of Earth is such; so is it certain that *Mind* can never be Generated out of Dead and senseless *Matter* or *Body*, nor Result as a *Modification* thereof, out of *Magnitudes, Figures, Sizes, and Motions*, and therefore must needs be a Thing *Really Distinct* from it, or *Substance Incorporeal*: the *Democritick Atheists* being here grossly deceived, in thinking, that because *Forms and Qualities* of Bodies, may be resolved into those forementioned Elements of *Matter*, and consequently concluded to be no *Entities Really Distinct* from the *Substance* thereof, but only different Modifications of the same, that therefore the like may be said of *Souls* too, the *Rational* not excepted. Wherefore if no *Substance* or *Real Entity* could ever be brought out of *Non-Existence* into *Being*, or be *Caused* by any thing else, then must all *Humane Souls* and *Personalities*, as well as *Matter* and *Atoms*, have existed not only from *Eternity*, without beginning, but also *Of themselves Independently* upon any other thing. But the *Atheists* are so abhorrent from this *Eternity* of *Humane Souls*, that they will by no means admit of their *Post-Existence* or *Immortality*; they apprehending, that if any *Living Understanding Being*, should prove *Immortal*, they could not sufficiently secure themselves against the *Possibility* and *Danger* of a *God*. Some *Theists* indeed have asserted *Æternitatem Animorum*, not only the *Pre-Existence*, but also the *Eternity* of all *Humane Minds*, together with the *World*, as *Cicero* more than once doth; who also in his Book of *Divination* thus further declares himself concerning it; *Animus quia vixit ab omni Æternitate, Versatusque est cum innumerabilibus Animis, omnia quæ in naturâ rerum sunt videt*; *Our Mind*, because it hath existed from all *Eternity*, and *Conversed* with innumerable *Minds*, seeth all things that are in *Nature*: and again, *Cum Animi hominum semper fuerint futurique sint*; *Since the Minds of Men ever were, and ever will be*. Nevertheless none of

these ever maintained, that *Humane Minds* and their distinct *Personalities*, were thus all, *Of Themselves*, Independently upon any thing as their *Cause* or *Original*. And, as it was before Demonstrated, from the Nature of *Knowledge* and *Understanding* (it comprehending the *Possibilities* of all Things, and therefore supposing *Infinite Power*) that there can be but *One Mind*, or *Understanding Being*, Self-Existent, all *Minds* partaking of that *One Mind*; so is it hardly Possible, for any one in good earnest, to Entertain such a Conceit as this, that his *Own Particular Soul, Mind, and Personality*, and consequently all *Humane Souls*, though subject to such *Laws of Fate* as now they are; did not only *Pre-Exist* before their *Respective Bodies*, and were from *Eternity* without Beginning, but also *Existed Of Themselves Necessarily* and *Independently* upon any thing else. Wherefore if *Humane Souls, Minds, and Personalities*, being unquestionably *Substantial Things* and *Really Distinct* from *Matter*, (which therefore could not possibly be *Generated* out of it) did not all *Exist* from *Eternity*, *Of Themselves, Necessarily, and Independently*, it is certain that they must *Derive* their whole *Being*, from the *Deity*, or be *Created Ex nihilo*, *Out of Nothing*, or *Non-Existence* by it. And if *Humane Souls* were unquestionably thus *Created*, it cannot reasonably be doubted, but that *Master* or *Body* it self, was *Created* likewise out of *Nothing*, or *Caused* by the *Deity*: for as much as that which *Created* *One* thing out of *Nothing*, could *Create* every thing; and there is *Really* more of *Substance*, that is, a *Higher Degree of Entity*, in *Minds* and *Souls, Conscious Self-moving, and Understanding Beings*, then in *Senseless Matter, or Unactive Bulk*.

But for as much as this Doctrine of a *Divine Creation* out of *Nothing Pre-Existing*, lies under no small Prejudice upon this Account, because it is so generally taken for granted, that none of the *Pagan Theists*, who are supposed to have kept close to the simple *Light of Nature*, did ever acknowledge in the *Deity*, any such *Creative Power* out of *Nothing*, or that *God* was the *Cause* of any *Substance*, we must of Necessity here declare this, how common soever it be, to be a great *Mistake*. For besides that, *Plato* in his *Sophist* having defined the *Efficient* or *Effective Power* in general, after this manner, ΠΑΝΤΩΣ ΠΑΧΕΩΣ ΕΡΧΑΜΕΝ ΕΙΝΑΙ ΔΥΝΑΜΙΣ, ΕΤΙΣ ΑΝ ΑΙΤΙΑ ΓΙΝΩΣΚΑΙ ΤΙΣ ΜΗ ΠΕΡΙΤΕΡΟΝ ΉΝ ΕΙΣΕΝ ΓΙΝΩΣΚΑΙ, *To be A Power or Causality, whereby that which was Not before, was afterwards Made to Be*; and then dividing this *Efficiency*, into *Divine* and *Humane*, he Immediately Subjoyns concerning the *Former*, ΖΩΑ ΔΕ ΠΑΝΤΑ, &c. ΜΑΤ' ΕΛΛΕΣ ΤΙΟΣ Ή ΔΕΟ ΔΥΝΑΜΕΩΝΤΩ ΦΥΣΤΑΝ ΕΙΣΕΝ ΓΙΝΩΣΚΑΙ ΠΕΡΙΤΕΡΟΝ ΩΝ ΕΙΤΑ; *Shall we not then say, that all Animals and other things, were by the Divine Efficiency alone, After they had Not been, Made to be?* Where thus much at least is certain, that *Plato* did not at all Question the Possibility of a Thing's being *Made* out of *Nothing* in this Sense; that is, brought into *Being*, *After it had Not been*, by a *Divine Power*. But because it may be thought, that he meant this no further, than of the first compages of *Animals*, in which *Notwithstanding* every thing, *Souls* and all, might be *Made* out of *Pre-Existing Matter*; we shall here further add, what in his *Timæus* he declareth concerning the *Soul*, ΤΩ ΨΥΧῶ ΕΧ ΕΣ ΤΩΝ ΕΙΣΕΣΤΩ

ΕΠΙΤΥΧΕΤΕ

postales joyntly concurring. And as for Matter or Body it self, it is certain also, that *Plotinus*, *Porphyrius*, *Iamblichus*, *Hierocles*, *Platonists*, exprelly denied it to have been ἀγέννητον, *Unmade*, or *Proclus* and other *Self-Existent*, and conceived it to have derived its whole *Being* from the Deity; who accordingly is styled by *Proclus*, ἀῤῥήτου αίτια ἢ ὕλης, *The Ineffable Cause of Matter*. In like manner have we already showed, that according to the Chalday Oracles, *Matter* it self was also *Caused* or *Produced* by the Deity, to which purpose is this Verse Cited by *Proclus*, "Εἰς αὐτὸν θεῶν καὶ γένεσις πολλοῦ κίβητος ὕλης. *From whence* (that is, *From the Deity*) *abundantly springs forth the Generation of the Multiform Matter*. The Meeter here requiring, that it should be read αὐτῷ, and not ἀπ' αὐτοῦ, as it is in *Proclus* his Copy. Moreover *Iamblichus* hath recorded in his *Mysteries*, that *Hermes*, and the old Egyptian *Theologers* likewise, held matter not to be ἀγέννητον, that is, *Self-Existent*, *Unmade*, or *Undeived* from the Deity, but to have been *Caused* by it. Whence does *Proclus* conclude it probable, that *Plato* was of the same Perswasion also; as likewise *Orpheus* before had been, he deriving this as is supposed, with other things from the *Egyptians*. It is true indeed, that many of these Philosophers, asserted *Matter*, *Souls*, and the whole *World*, to have been *Eternal* without Beginning, and Consequently not Created, ἐξ οὐ οὐθέν, in that stricter Sense, that is, out of an Antecedent Non-Existence in time. Notwithstanding which, they did suppose them to have received their Whole Being from the Deity, and to have Depended on it, every jot as much, as if having once Not been, they had afterward been *Made by it*. And that which gives to any Substance its *Whole Being*, though from *Eternity*, so that it never was Not; the same upon Supposition, that it once had not been, could unquestionably have Produced it, ἐξ οὐ οὐθέν, *Out of Nothing*, or an Antecedent Non Existence.

Thus Hierocles in Photius; διευκρινεῖν δὲ περὶ αὐτῆς εἰς πλάτων πρότερον ἐμφανὲς ἢ ἀφανὲς διακοσμήσεις, οὐκ ἀμεινότες προϋπάρχοντος γυναικός, &c. *Plato censuit Mundum à Deo, ex nul. lā prius existentē Materiali, produci, &c.*

We have now sufficiently disproved The Truth of that Assertion, That *Nothing could be Made out of Nothing*, in the Atheistick Sense thereof; viz. That *Nothing which before was Not, could afterwards possibly be Made to Be*: Though this should not be Extended so far, as to *Accidental Things*, and *Modifications*, but restrained and confined, only to *Substantials*: That no Substance whatsoever, could have a Newness of Being, or be Caused by any other Substance; but whatsoever Substantial Thing any where Is in the World, the same did Exist Of It self from Eternity, and Independently upon any thing else; nothing but different Modifications being Made or Produced. Which same Assertion, has been also sometimes, otherwise thus expressed; *Nothing can be Made but out of Pre-Existing Substance*; the meaning hereof being this, That *Nothing can be Made*, but *New Accidental Modifications*, of what before Substantially was; no Substance it self being Makeable or Producible by any other Substance, neither in Time (so as to have a Newness or Beginning of Being) nor yet from Eternity. Where the Atheists and some others taking it for granted, that there is no other Substance besides Body, or Matter, do further limit and restrain the Sense of that Proposition in this manner: *Nothing can be Atade but out of Pre-Existing Matter*; that is, *Nothing can be Made, but out of*

of *Corporeal Substance Pre-Existing*. An *Idolum Specus*, (if I may use that Language) which in all Probability had its first Original, chiefly from mens Measuring the Extent of all Power, by their own Production of *Artificial things*. Because forsooth, a *Carpenter* or *Architect* cannot make a *House*, but out of *Pre-Existing Timber, Bricks, and Stones*, nor a *Taylor* a *Garment*, but out of *Pre-Existing Cloth*; nor a *Cook*, *Puddings* or *Pyes*, but out of *Pre-Existing Materials* or *Ingredients*; That therefore no Power whatsoever, no no that of God Almighty, can extend any further, than to the *New Modifying* of *Pre-Existent Matter*, but not to the *Production* or *Causing* of any *Substance*. We shall in the next place make it appear, that were this Assertion True, That No *Substance* or *Real Entity* which once *was Not*, could be *Caused* or *Produced*, yet would it notwithstanding of the Two, more impugn *Atheism*, than *Theism* (it being possible for *Falshoods*, though not for *Truths*, to disagree) for as much as the *Atheists* do really bring More Out of Nothing, or Non Existence, than the *Theists* do; and therefore ought not to make this an Objection against *Theism*. For though according to the *True* and *Genuine Theology*, God or a *Perfect Being* be supposed, to be the *Only Necessary Self-Existent Thing*, and the *Cause* of all other *Substance*, and consequently to have *Produced* all *Imperfect Things*, not only *Souls*, but also *Matter* it self, *ἐξ οὐκ ὄντων*, Out of Nothing, or an Antecedent Non Existence, yet is there, by reason of the Weakness of Humane Understandings, a *Latitude in Theism*. Wherefore some there are, who though imposed upon by that *Idolum Specus*, or imprisoned in it, That *Nothing* can possibly be Made but out of *Pre-Existing Matter*, by the *New Modification* thereof; do notwithstanding devoutly worship a *Deity*, according to their Notion of it, A *Perfectly Understanding Being Unmade*; though not the *Creator* of *Matter*, yet the *Maker* of the *Whole World* out of it, and the *Supreme Governour* of the same; they thus supposing *Two Principles* in the Universe, an *Active* and a *Passive* one, *God* and *Matter*. Besides which, it is not impossible for others to think, that though *Matter* or *Body* be not the only *Substance*, but *Humane Souls* are *Incorporeal*, yet the *Substance* of these *Souls* was not *Created* out of *Nothing* no more than that of *Body*, but they were Made either out of some *Pre-Existing Common Soul*, (as their *Intelligible Matter*) or out of the *Substance* of the *Deity* it self; or else *Existed Of themselves, from Eternity Unmade*: and yet nevertheless may these acknowledge, *One Supreme Understanding Being Self-Existent* also, though neither the *Creator* of *Matter*, nor of *Souls*, yet the *Supreme Governour* and *Orderer* of all. And it is certain, that *Plutarch's God*, was no better than this, and yet was that *Pagan notwithstanding, a Devout Religionist* in his Kind, as well as a *Hearty Moralist*. And such a *Theism* or *Theology*, as either of those forementioned, (though not *Genuine* and *Sincere*, but *Imperfect* and *Mongrel* things) would perhaps be to the *Atheists*, little less *Troublesome* and *Uneasie*, than the *True*. Thus have we shewed, that this Principle, That *Nothing* can come out of *Nothing*, or be Made, otherwise than out of *Pre-Existing Substance* or *Matter*, though it be indeed *Contradictory* to the *True* and *Genuine Theology*, yet is it not absolutely Inconsistent with all manner of *Religion*; there being certain *Spurious* or *Imperfect Forms* of *Theism*, built upon this Foundation. But now on the

the contrary, we shall make it manifest, That this very *Principle*, made use of by the *Atheists*, is in Truth and Reality *Contradictions* to all manner of *Atheism*, and destructive of the same; the *Atheists* Univerſally *Generating* and *Corrupting* Real Entities, and *Substantial* things, that is, Producing them out of *Nothing* or *Non-Exiſtence*, and reducing them to *Nothing* again: for as much as they make all things whatſoever, the bare *Subſtance* of *Matter* only excepted, (which to them is either no *Determinate Thing*, or elſe nothing but meer *Bulk*, or *Reſiſting* and *Diviſible Magnitude*) to come out of *Nothing*, and to go to *Nothing*. Thus does *Ariſtotle* in a place before cited, declare the *Atheiſtick Senſe*, ἐν γὰρ τῆς, ὅτι φασὶν ἔθναι ἀγένετον ἔνα ἃ' περὶ μόνον, ἅλλα πάντα γίνεσθαι; *There are Certain men, who affirm, that Nothing is Unmade, but All things Generated or Made.* Whoſe Senſe is afterwards more diſtinctly thus propoſed by him, τὰ μὲν ἅλλα γίνεσθαι καὶ εἶναι, ἔνα δὲ πᾶσις ἔθναι· ἐν δὲ τῷ μόνῳ ὑπομένειν, ἐξ ὧς τὰ πάντα πάντα μετασχηματίζεσθαι πᾶσιν. *That all other things are Generated and Flow, and none of them firmly It, (they being perpetually Educ'd out of Nothing, and Reduced to Nothing) but that there is only One thing which remaineth; namely that, out of which all the other are Made, by the Transformation thereof.* Which *One thing*, (to wit *Matter*) as the ſame *Ariſtotle* further adds, they affirm'd to be the *Only Subſtance*, and from Eternity *Unmade*, but all other things whatſoever, being but πᾶσι καὶ ἐξ ὧς καὶ διατεταται, *Paſſions, Affections, and Diſpoſitions* thereof, γίνεσθαι καὶ φθίβεσθαι ἀνελεῖναι, *To be Generated and Corrupted Inſinitely; that is, to be Produced out of Nothing or Non-Exiſtence, and Reduced again to Nothing, without end.* And doubtleſs this is the True meaning of that Paſſage in *Plato's Tenth De Legibus*, not underſtood by the *Latine Interpreters*; where being to represent the *Atheiſtick Hypotheſis* of the *System of the Univerſe*; he diſcovereth their Grand *Arcanum*, and that which they accounted, σπουδαῖον ἀποκρυφόν λόγον, *The wiſeſt and moſt myſterious of all Doctrines*; after this manner; λέγειν περὶ τῆς ὡς πάντα ἔθι τὰ περὶ μόνον γινόμενα καὶ γινόμενα, καὶ γινόμενα. τὰ μὲν φύσις, τὰ δὲ τέχνη, τὰ δὲ διὰ τύχης. *Certain men affirm, that All things are Made, and Have been Made, and will be Made; ſome by Nature, and ſome by Art, and ſome by Fortune or Chance.* For unqueſtionably here, *Plato's* λέγειν περὶ τῆς ὡς πάντα ἔθι τὰ περὶ μόνον γινόμενα, *Certain men affirm that All things are Generated or Made, &c.* is the very ſame with *Ariſtotle's*, ἐν γὰρ τῆς, ὅτι φασὶν, ἔθναι ἀγένετον ἔνα ἃ' περὶ μόνον, ἅλλα πάντα γίνεσθαι, *Certain men affirm, that there is Nothing Unmade, but that All things are Made or Generated.* And perhaps this of *Ariſtotle's*, was taken out of that of *Plato's*: Which yet nevertheleſs is ſo to be underſtood, as it is afterwards explained by *Ariſtotle*; All things whatſoever, the bare *Subſtance* of *Matter* only excepted. Wherefore it is certain that either there is no *Real Entity* in the Whole World, beſides the *Bare Subſtance* of *Matter*; that is, beſides *Diviſible* and *Separable Extenſion*, or *Reſiſting Magnitude*, and Conſequently that *Life* and *Cogitation*, *Senſe* and *Conſciouſneſs*, *Reason* and *Underſtanding*, all our own *Minds*, and *Perſonalities*, are no *Real Entities*; or elſe, that there are, according to the *Atheiſtick Hypotheſis*, *Real Entities* Produced out of *Nothing*, and Reduced to *Nothing* again. Whereas

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Theists suppose, all the *Greatest Perfections* in the Universe, as *Life* and *Understanding*, to have been *Eternal* and *Unmade*, in a *Perfect Being*, the *Deity*, and neither brought out of *Nothing* or *Non-Existence*, nor *Reducible to Nothing*; only *Imperfect Beings* to have been *Made out of Nothing*, or *Produced out of Non-Existence*, by this one *Perfect Being* or *Deity*: the *Atheists* on the contrary, supposing the *Lowest* and most *Imperfect* of all *Beings*, *Matter*, *Bulk*, or *Divisible and Resisting Extension*, to be the *Only Self-Existent* and *Unmade Thing*; conclude all the *Greatest Perfections* in the Universe, *Life*, *Cogitation*, and *Understanding*, to be *Made out of Nothing*, or *Non-Existence*, as also to be reduced to *Nothing* again. Indeed the *Hylozoick Atheists*, being *Sensible* somewhat of this *Inconvenience*, of making all *Life* and *Understanding* Out of *Nothing*, and that there must of Necessity be some *Fundamental Life* and *Perception*, which is not *Accidental* but *Substantial*, and which was never *Generated* and cannot be *Corrupted*; have therefore attributed a kind of *Life* and *Perception* to all *Matter* as such. Notwithstanding which, even these also, for as much as they deny to *Matter*, *Animal Sense* and *Consciousness*, suppose all *Animal Life* or *Sense*, and *Conscious Understanding*, to be *Generated* and *Corrupted*, produced out of *Nothing* and *Reduced to Nothing* again. Neither can *Life*, *Cogitation*, and *Understanding*, be reckoned amongst the *Modes* of *Matter*, that is of *Magnitude* or *Divisible and Antitypous Extension*, since they may be *Conceived* without the same: whereas *Modes* cannot be conceived without their *Substance*. *Standing*, *Sitting*, and *Walking*, cannot be *Conceived* without a *Body*, and that first *Organized* too, and therefore are they *Nothing* but different *Modes* of such a *Body*. When that *Humane Body*, which before did *Stand* doth afterwards *Sit*, or *Walk*, no man can think that here is the *Miraculous Production* of any *New Real Entity* out of *Nothing*; nor when the same *Matter* which was *Square* or *Cubical*, is made *Spherical* or *Cylindrical*. But when there is *Life* and *Understanding* which was not before, then is there unquestionably a new *Real Entity* *Produced*. But the *Democritick* and *Epicurean Atheists* themselves, according to the *Tenor* of the *Atomick Philosophy*, acknowledge no other *Modes* of *Matter* or *Body*, but only more or less *Magnitude of Parts*, *Figure*, *Site*, *Motion* or *Rest*. And upon this very account do they explode *Qualities*, considered as *Entities* really distinct from these *Modes*; because in the *Generation* and *Alteration* of them, there would be *Real Entities* made Out of *Nothing*, or without a *Cause*; whereupon they Resolve these *Qualities* into *Mechanism* and *Fancy*. But *Life*, *Cogitation*, and *Understanding*, are things which have more *Real Entity* in them, and can no way be *Salved* by *Mechanism* and *Phancy*; wherefore undoubtedly they are no *Modes* of *Matter* or *Body*, but *Attributes* of another kind of *Substance*, *Incorporeal*. All *Cogitative Beings*, especially *Humane Souls*, and *Personalities*, are unquestionably *Substantial Things*, and yet do the *Atheists* bring these, and consequently *Themselves*, out of *Nothing* or *Non-Existence*, and Reduce them to *Nothing* again. The Conclusion is; that these very *Atheists*, who contend against *Theists*, that *Nothing* can be *Made out of Nothing*, do themselves bring *All things* out of *Nothing* or *Non-Existence*, and perpetually Reduce them to *Nothing* again; according to whose Principles, as once there was

no *Life*, nor *Understanding* at all in the Universe, so may there be none again. They who deny a God, because there can be no *Creative Power* belonging to *Any Thing*, do themselves notwithstanding attribute to *Matter* (though a meer *Passive*, *Sluggish*, and *Unactive* thing) a *Creative Power* of Things Substantial, (as *Humane Souls* and *Personalties*) out of *Nothing*. And thus is that Formidable Argument of the *Atheists*, that there can be no God, because *Nothing* can be made out of *Nothing*; not only proved to be *False*, but also Retorted upon these *Atheists* themselves, they bringing all things besides *Sensess* and *Unqualified Matter*, out of *Nothing*.

We have now declared, First, in what sense this Proposition is unquestionably True, that *Nothing* can be Made out of *Nothing*, or Come from *Nothing*, viz. *Causally*, That *Nothing* which before was *Not*, could afterward be Made, without a *Cause*, and a *Sufficient Cause*. Or more particularly, First, that *Nothing* which before was *Not*, could afterward be brought into *Being* by *Itself*, or without an *Efficient Cause*. Secondly, that *Nothing* which once was *Not*, could be Made or Produced *Efficiently* by any thing, which had not at least *Equal Perfection* in it, and a *Sufficient Active or Productive Power*; and Consequently that no *New Substance* can be Made, but by a *Perfect Being*, which only is *Substantially Emanative*. Thirdly and Lastly, that when things are Made out of *Pre-Existing Matter*, as in *Artificial Productions*, and *Natural Generations*, there can be no new *Real Entity* Produced, but only different *Modifications*, of what before *Substantially* was; the *Material Cause* as such, *Efficiently* Producing *Nothing*. And thus was this Axiom Understood by *Cicero*, That *Nothing* could be Made out of *Nothing*, viz. *Causally*; in his Book *De Fato*, where he reprehendeth *Epicurus* for endeavouring to avoid Fate and to Establish *Liberty of Will*, by that Absurd Fictum, of Atoms Declining Uncertainly from the Perpendicular. *Nec cum hæc ita fiat, est causa, cur Epicurus Fatum extimescat, & ab Atomis petat præsidium, easque De Via deducat; & uno tempore suscipiat res duas inenodabiles, Unam ut sine Causâ fiat aliquid, ex quo exisset, ut De Nihilo quippiam fiat; quod nec ipsi, nec cuiquam Physico placet.* Nor is there for all that, any Reason, why *Epicurus* should be so much afraid of Fate, and seek Refuge in Atoms, he supposing them in their Infinite Descents, to Decline Uncertainly from the Perpendicular, and laying this as a Foundation for Liberty of Will; whereby he plunged himself at once, into Two inextricable difficulties, the First whereof was, the supposing of Something to be made without a Cause, or which is all one, out of *Nothing*; a thing that will neither be allowed by any *Physiologer*, nor could *Epicurus* himself be Pleased or Satisfied therewith. The reason whereof is, because it was a Fundamental Principle of the *Atomick Philosophy*, That *Nothing*, (in this sense) could be Made out of *Nothing*. Moreover we have in the next place declared, in what other Sense, this Proposition, that *Nothing* can be Made out of *Nothing*, is *False*, namely when this Out of *Nothing*, is not taken *Causally*, but so as to signify the *Terminus From which*; that *Nothing* can be Made, out of an *Antecedent Non-Existence*; that no *Real Entity* or *Substance* which before was *not*, could by any Power whatsoever be afterwards brought into being: Or That *No-thing*

thing can possibly be *Made*, but out of *Something Pre-Existing*, by the new *Modification* thereof. And it appears from that of *Cicero*, that the True and Genuine Sense of this Proposition, *De Nihilo nihil fit* ; (according to the Mind of those Ancient Physiologers, who laid so great stress thereupon) was not, that Nothing could by any Power whatsoever, be brought out of *Non-Existence* into *Being* ; but only that *Nothing could be made without a Cause*. Nor did they here by *Cause* mean, the *Material* only ; in this sense, as if *Nothing could Possibly be Made*, but out of *Pre-Existing Matter* ; *Epicurus* being taxed by *Cicero*, for introducing that his *Third Motion of Atoms*, or *Clinamen Principiorum*, out of *Nothing*, or *Without an Efficient Cause*, as indeed all Motion also was, to those *Atomick Atheists*, in this Sense, from *Nothing*. Nevertheless, we have also shewed, That if this Proposition, *Nothing out of Nothing*, in that *Atheistick Sense*, (as level'd against a *Deity*) were, True; yet would it of the Two more impugne *Atheism* it self, than it does *Theism*, the *Atheists* *Generating and Corrupting* All Things, the Substance of Matter only excepted, all *Life*, *Sense*, and *Understanding*, *Humane Souls*, *Minds* and *Personalities*, they Producing these, and consequently Themselves, out of *Nothing*, and resolving them all to *Nothing* again. We shall now in the *Third* and *Last* place, make it manifest, that the *Atheists* do not only bring *Real Entities* and *Substantial things* out of *Nothing* in the *Second* sense, that is out of an *Antecedent Non-Existence*, (which yet is a thing Possible only to *God*, or a *Perfect Being*) but also that they bring them out of *Nothing*, in the *Absolutely Impossible Sense*; that is, suppose them to be *Made* without a *Cause*, or *Nothing to be the Cause of Something*.

But we must prepare the way hereto, by setting down, First, a Brief and Compendious Sum of the whole *Atheistick Hypothesis*. The *Atheists* therefore who contend, that *Nothing* can be *Made* but only *New Accidents* or *Modifications* of *Pre-Existing Substance* ; Taking it for granted, that there is no other Substance besides *Body* or *Matter*, do conclude accordingly, that *Nothing can be Made*, but out of *Pre-Existing Matter* or *Body*. And then they add hereunto, That *Matter* being the only Substance, the only *Unmade Self-Existent thing*, whatsoever else is in the world, besides, the bare Substance of this *Matter*, was *Made* out of it or *Produced* by it. So that there are these Three Things contained, in the *Atheistick Hypothesis* ; First, that No Substance can be *Made* or *Caused* by any thing else, but only new *Modifications*. Secondly, that *Matter* or *Body*, is the Only Substance, and therefore whatsoever is made is *Made* out of *Pre-Existing Matter* ; Thirdly and Lastly, That whatsoever there is else in the whole world, besides the Substance of *Matter*, it is *Made* or *Generated* out of *Matter*. And now we shall demonstrate the *Absolute Impossibility* of this *Atheistick Hypothesis*, from that very Principle of the *Ancient Physiologers*, that *Nothing can be Made out of Nothing*, in the True Sense thereof : it not only bringing *Real Entities* and *Substantial Things*, out of an *Antecedent Non-Existence*, (though nothing but an *Infinitely Perfect Being* neither can thus *Create*) but also Producing them without *A Cause*.

First therefore, when they affirm, *Matter to be the Only Substance*, and all things else whatsoever to be *Made out of that alone*, they hereby plainly Suppose, all things to be *Made*, without an *Efficient Cause*, which is to bring them out of *Nothing*, in an *Impossible Sense*. For though it be not True, that *Nothing can be Made* but out of *Pre-Existing Matter* (and consequently that *God himself* supposed to Exist, could in this respect do no more, than a Carpenter or Taylor doth;) I say, though it be not Universally True, That every thing that is *Made*, must have a *Material Cause* (so that the *Quaternio of Causes in Logick*, is not to be Extended, to all things *Caused* whatsoever;) yet is it certain, that *Nothing*, which once was not, could Possibly be *Made* without an *Efficient Cause*. Wherefore if there be any thing *Made*, which was not before, there must of Necessity besides *Matter*, be some other *Substance* Existing, as the *Efficient Cause* thereof; for as much as *Matter* alone, Could not Make any thing; as *Marble* cannot make a *Statue*, nor *Timber* and *Stones* a *House*, nor *Cloth* a *Garment*. This is our First Demonstration of the *Impossibility* of the *Atheistical Hypothesis*: it supposing all things besides the bare Substance of *Matter*, to be *Made* out of *Matter* alone, without any other *Active Principle* or *Deity*, or to be *Made* without an *Efficient Cause*, which is to bring them from *Nothing*, in an *Impossible Sense*. To which may be added by way of Appendix, that whereas the *Democritick* and *Epicurean Atheists*, admit of no other *Efficient Causality* in Nature, then only *Local Motion*, and allow to *Matter* or *Body*, their only Substance, no *Self-Moving Power*, they hereby make all the *Motion*, that is in the whole world, to be without a *Cause*, and from *Nothing*; *Action* without any Subject, or *Agent*, and the *Efficiency* of all things, without an *Efficient*.

In the next place, should we be so liberal, as to grant to the *Atomick Atheists*, *Motion without a Cause*, or permit *Strato* and the *Hylozoick Atheists*, to attribute to *Matter* a *Self-Moving Power*, yet do we affirm, that this *Matter* and *Motion* both together, could not Possibly Produce any new *Real Entity*, which was not before; *Matter* as such *Efficiently Causing Nothing*, and *Motion* only changing the *Modifications* of *Matter*, as *Figure*, *Place*, *Site*, and *Disposition of Parts*. Wherefore if *Matter* as such, have no *Animal Sense* and *Conscious Understanding*, Essentially belonging to it, (which no *Atheists* as yet have had the Impudence to assert) then can no *Motion* or *Modification* of *Matter*, no *Contexture* of *Atoms*, Possibly beget *Sense* and *Understanding*, *Soul* and *Mind*; because this would be to bring *Something out of Nothing* in the *Impossible Sense*, or to suppose *Something* to be *Made* by It self without a *Cause*. Which may Serve also for a *Confutation* of those *Imperfect* and *Spurious Theists*, who will not allow to *God Almighty*, (whether supposed by them to be *Corporeal* or *Incorporeal*) a *Power of Making* any thing, but only out of *Pre-Existent Matter*, by the new *Modifying* thereof: as a Carpenter makes a *House* out of *Pre-Existing Timber* and *Stone*, and a Taylor a *Garment* out of *Pre-Existing Cloth*. For since *Animal Life*, and *Understanding*, are not by them supposed to belong at all to *Matter* as such, and since
they

they cannot result from any *Modifications* or *Contextures* thereof, it would plainly follow from hence, that God could not Possibly make *Animals*, or Produce *Sense* and *Understanding*, *Souls* and *Minds*, which nevertheless these Theists suppose him to have done; and therefore ought in reason to acknowledge him, not only to be the *Maker* of New *Modifications* of Matter, (and one who Built the world only as a Carpenter doth a House) but also of *Real Entities* distinct from the same.

And this was the very Doctrine (as we have already declared) of the most Ancient *Atomick Physicologers*; not That every thing whatsoever might be Made out of *Pre-Existing Matter*; but on the contrary, that in all *Natural Generations*, there is no *Real Entity* Produced out of the Matter, which was not before in it, but only *New Modifications*; and Consequently that *Souls* and *Minds*, being not meer *Modifications* of Matter; in respect of *Magnitude*, *Figure*, *Site*, and *Motion*, could never be Produced out of it, because they must then of necessity, Come from *Nothing*; that is, be Made either by *Themselves*, without a Cause, or without a *Sufficient Cause*. It hath also been before noted of *Aristotle*, how the Old *Atheistick Materialists*, being assaulted by those *Italic Philosophers* after that manner, that *Nothing* which was not before, in Matter, besides its *Modifications*, could Possibly be Produced out of it, because *Nothing* can Come out of *Nothing*, and consequently that in all *Natural Generations* and *Corruptions*, there is no *Real Entity* Made or Destroyed; endeavoured without denying the words of that Proposition, to Evade after this manner, διὰ τὸ τοῦτο ἔτι γινώσκειν ἔστιν ὁμοίαν, ἔτι ἀπὸλλυμένη, ὡς ἂν τοιαύτης φύσεως ἀπὸ σωζομένης, ἔσται ὃ ἢ σώζεται, &c. That there is indeed *Nothing* Generated or Corrupted (in some Sense) for as much as the same Substance of Matter, always remains, it being never Made nor Destroyed. For as men do not say, that *Socrates* is Made, when he is Made Musical or Handsome, nor Destroyed, when he looseth these Dispositions, because the Subject *Socrates*, was before and still remaineth; so neither is any Substantial thing or *Real Entity* in the world Made or Destroyed in this sense; because Matter which is the Substance of all, perpetually remains, and all other things whatsoever, are but παρὰ τὴν φύσιν αὐτῆς, *Passions and Affections* and *Dispositions* thereof, as Musicalness and Unmusicalness, in respect of *Socrates*. Which is all one as if they should say, that all things whatsoever besides Matter, being but *Accidents* thereof, are Generated out of it and Corruptible into it, without the Production of any *Real Entity* out of *Nothing*, or the Reduction of any into *Nothing*, so long as the Substance of Matter which is the only *Real Entity*, remains always the same. Wherefore though *Life*, *Sense*, and *Understanding*, all *Souls* and *Minds*, be Generated out of Matter, yet does it not follow from thence, that therefore there is any *Real Entity* Made or Produced, because these are *Nothing* but *Accidents* and *Modifications* of Matter. This was the Subterfuge of the Old *Hypothetick Atheists*.

Now it is true indeed, that whatsoever is in the Universe, is either Substance or Accidents, and that the Accidents of any Substance, may be
Generated

Generated and Corrupted, without the Producing of any *Real Entity* out of *Nothing*, and *Reducing* of any into *Nothing*; for as much as the Substance still remains entirely the same. But the Atheists, taking it for granted, that there is no other *Substance* besides *Body* or *Matter*, do therefore fallily suppose, that which is really *Incorporeal Substance*, or else the *Attributes*, *Properties*, and *Modes* thereof, to be the meer *Accidents* of *Matter*, and Consequently conclude these to be *Generable* out of it, without the Production of any *Real Entity* out of *Nothing*. We say therefore, that it does not at all follow, because the same *Numerical Matter*, (as for example a Piece of Wax) may be Successively made *Spherical*, *Cubical*, *Cylindrical*, *Pyramidal*, or of any other Figure; and the same man may Successively, *Stand*, *Sit*, *Kneel* and *Walk*; both, without the Production of Anything out of *Nothing*; or because, a heap of *Stones*, *Bricks*, *Mortar*, and *Timber*, lying altogether disorderly and confusedly, may be made into a *Stately Palace*; and that without the *Miraculous Creation* of any *Real Entity* out of *Nothing*; that therefore the same may be affirmed likewise, of every thing else, besides the bare Substance of *Matter*, as namely *Life* and *Understanding*, *Soul* and *Mind*, that though there be No such thing in *Matter* it self, yet the Production of them out of *Matter*, would be no Production; of *Something* out of *Nothing*. One Ground of which mistake hath been, from mens not rightly considering what the *Accidents* of a Substance are, and that they are indeed *Nothing* but the *Modes* thereof. Now a *Mode* is such a thing, as cannot Possibly be conceived, without that whereof it is a *Mode*; as *Standing*, *Sitting*, *Kneeling* and *Walking*, cannot be conceived without a *Body* Organized, and therefore are but *Modes* thereof; but *Life* and *Cogitation*, may be clearly apprehended without *Body*, or any thing of *Extension*; nor indeed can a *Thought* Be conceived, to be of such a *Length*, *Breadth* and *Thicknes*, or to be *Hewed* and *Sliced* out, into many *Pieces*, all which laid together, as so many *Small Chips* thereof, would make up again, the entireness of that whole *Thought*. From whence it ought to be concluded, that *Cogitation* is no *Accident*, or *Mode* of *Matter*, or *Bulky Extension*, but a *Mode* or *Attribute* of another Substance, Really distinct from *Matter*, or *Incorporeal*. There is indeed *Nothing* else clearly conceivable by us in *Body* or *Bulky Extension*, but only more or less *Magnitude* of *Parts*, *Figures*, *Site*, *Motion*, or *Rest*; and all the *Different Bodies* that are in the whole World, are but several *Combinations* or *Syllables*, made up out of these few *Letters*; but no *Magnitudes*, *Figures*, *Sites*, and *Motions*, can Possibly *Spell* or *Compound*, *Life* and *Sense*, *Cogitation* and *Understanding*, as the *Syllables* thereof; and therefore to suppose these to be *Generated* out of *Matter*, is plainly to suppose some *Real Entity* to be brought out of *Nothing*, or *Something* to be made without a *Cause*, which is *Impossible*.

But that which hath principally confirmed men in this Error is the business of *Sensible Qualities* and *Forms*, as they are vulgarly conceived, to be distinct *Entities*, from those forementioned *Modifications* of *Matter*, in respect of *Magnitude* of *Parts*, *Figure*, *Site*, *Motion*, or *Rest*. For since these *Qualities* and *Forms*, are unquestionably *Generated*

nerated and Corrupted, there seems to be no Reason, why the same might not be as well acknowledged, of *Life, Sense, Cogitation, and Understanding*, that these are but *Qualities or Accidents of Matter* also, (though of another Kind) and consequently may be Generated out of it, without the Making of any Real thing out of Nothing. But the *Democritick and Epicurean Atheists* themselves, have from the Principles of the *Atomick Philosophy*, sufficiently Confuted and Rectified this mistake, concerning Sensible *Qualities*, they exploding and banishing them all, as conceived to be *Entities Really distinct* from the forementioned *Modifications of Matter*, and that for this very reason; Because the Generation of them, would upon this supposition, be the *Production of Something out of Nothing, or without a Cause*; and concluding them therefore, to be Really Nothing else; but *Mechanism, or different Modifications of Matter*, in respect of the *Magnitude of Parts, Figure, Size and Motion or Rest*; they only Causing different *Phancies and Apparitions* in us. And in very truth; this vulgar opinion of *Real Qualities of Bodies*, seems to have no other Original at all, than mens mistaking, their own *Phancies, Passions and Affections*, for things Really Existing in the *Objects* without them. For as *Sensible Qualities*, are conceived to be things distinct from the forementioned *Modifications of Matter*, so are they Really, Nothing but our own *Phancies, Passions and Affections*; and Consequently no *Accidents or Modifications of Matter*, but *Accidents and Modifications of our own Souls*, which are *Substances Incorporeal*. Now if these *Democritick and Epicurean Atheists* themselves, concluded that *Real Qualities*, considered as distinct from the *Modifications of Matter*, could not possibly be Generated out of it, because this would be the *Production of Something out of Nothing*; they ought certainly much more to have acknowledged the same, concerning *Life and Cogitation, Sense and Understanding*, that the Generation of these out of senseless Matter, would be an *Impossible Production of Something out of Nothing*, and consequently, that these are therefore no *Corporal Things*, but the *Attributes, Properties, or Modes, of Substance Incorporeal*; since they can no way be Resolved into *Mechanism and Phancy*, or the *Modifications of Matter*, as the *Vulgar Sensible Qualities* may, and ought to be. For though the *Democriticks and Epicureans* did indeed, suppose, all humane *Cogitations* to be Caused or Produced, by the *Incur-sion of Corporal Atoms* upon the *Thinker*; yet did never any of them arrive to such a degree, either of *Sottishness or Impudence*, as a Modern Writer hath done, to maintain, that *Cogitation, Intellection, and Volition*, are themselves really Nothing else, but *Local Motion or Mechanism*, in the inward *Parts of the Brain and Heart*, or, that *Mens nihil aliud praterquam Motus, in partibus quibusdam Corporis Organici, that Mind is self, is Nothing but Motion, in some parts of the Organized Body*; who therefore as if *Cartesius* had not been sufficiently Paradoxical, in making *Brute Animals*, (though supposed by him to be devoid of all *Cogitation*) Nothing but mere *Machines*; and not contented herewith, hath advanced much further, in making this *Prodigious Conclusion*, that all *Cognitive Beings and Men* themselves, are Really Nothing else. but *Machines and Automata*; whereas he might as well have affirmed *Heaven to be Earth, Colour to be Sound, Number to be Figure*, or any thing

thing else in the world to be any thing, as Cogitation and *Local Motion* to be the very self same thing. Nevertheless, so strong was the *Atheistical Intoxication*, in those Old *Democriticks* and *Epicureans*, that though denying *Real Qualities* of Bodies, for this very reason, because *Nothing* could be *Produced out of Nothing*, they Notwithstanding contradicting themselves, would make *Sense*, *Life*, and *Understanding*, to be *Qualities of Matter*, and therefore *Generable* out of it, and so Unquestionably, *Produced Real Entities out of Nothing, or Without a Cause.*

Moreover it is observable, that *Epicurus* having a mind to assert *Contingent Liberty* in men, in way of opposition to that *Necessity* of all *Humane Actions*, which had been before maintained by *Democritus* and his Followers, plainly acknowledges, that he could not Possibly do this, according to the *Grounds of his own Philosophy*, without supposing something of *Contingency*, in the *First Principles*, that is in the *Motion of those Atoms*, out of which men and other Animals are Made,

L. 2. p. 1341
Lamb.

— Si semper motus connectitur omni.
Et Vetere exoritur semper Novus Ordine Certo,
Nec Declinando faciunt Primordia Motus
Principium quoddam quod Fati fœdera rumpat,
Ex Infinito ne Causam Causa sequatur;
Libera per Terras unde hæc Animantibus extat,
Unde est hæc, inquam, Fatis Avulsa Voluntas?

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The reason for which, is afterwards thus-expressed by him, *Quoniam De Nihilo Nil fit*, because *Nothing* can be *Made out of Nothing*. Upon which account he therefore ridiculously. Feigned, besides his *Two* other *Motions* of *Atoms*, from *Pondus* and *Plage*, *Weight* and *Strokes*, a *Third Motion* of them, which he calls, *Clinamen Principiorum*, a *Contingent* and *Uncertain Declination*, every way from the *Perpendicular*; out of *Design*, to save this *Phænomenon* of *Free Will* in men, Without bringing Something out of *Nothing*, according as he thus subjoyneth,

Quare in Seminibus quoque idem fateare necesse est,
Esse aliam præter Plagæ & Pondera causam
Motibus, unde hæc est nobis Innata Potestas;
De NIHILO quoniam FIERI NIL posse videmus.
Pondus enim prohibet ne Plagæ omnia fiant
Externa quasi Vi. Sed ne Mens ipsa Necessum
Intestinum habeat cunctis in rebus agendis,
Et deviata quasi cogatur Ferre Patique,
Id facit Exiguum CLINAMEN PRINCIPIORUM,
Nec ratione loci certa, nec tempore certo.

Now if *Epicurus* himself, conceived, that *Liberty of Will*, could not possibly be *Generated*, in Men out of *Matter* or *Atoms*, they having no such thing at all in them (that is no *Contingent Uncertainty* in their *Motion*)

Motion) without bringing of *Something out of Nothing*; which was contrary to the *Fundamental Principles* of the *Atomick Philosophy*, (though this were intolerably absurd in him, thus to suppose *Contingency*, and a Kind of *Free Will*, in the *Motions of Senseless Atoms*, so that indeed he brought his *Liberty of Will*, out of *Nothing*) certainly *Sense*, and *Understanding*, *Soul* and *Mind* in *Animals* and *Men*, could not Possibly be Generated out of *Atoms* or *Matter*, devoid of all *Sense* and *Understanding*: For the very same Reason, *Quoniam De Nibilo Nil fit*, Because *Nothing can be Made out of Nothing*. For unquestionably, were all *Life* and *Understanding*, all *Souls* and *Minds* Generated out of *Dead* and *Senseless Matter*; and were there no *Substantial* or *Essential Life* and *Understanding* in the whole Universe; then must it of Necessity, be all *Made out of Nothing*, or *without a Cause*, and consequently *Real Entities* and *Substantial things* be *Made out of Nothing*, which is absolutely *Impossible*. For though we do not say, that *Life* and *Cogitation*, *Sense* and *Understanding*, abstractly considered, are *Substances*; yet do we affirm them to be *Entities Really* distinct from *Matter*, and no *Modifications* or *Accidents* thereof, but either *Accidents* and *Modifications*, or rather *Essential Attributes* of *Substance Incorporeal*: as also that *Souls* and *Minds*, which are the *Subjects* of them, are indeed *Substantial Things*. Wherefore We cannot but here again condemn, the *Darkness of that Philosophy*, which Educ'd not only *Species Visible* and *Audible* (*Entities Perfectly Unintelligible*) and *Real Qualities*, distinct from all the *Modes of Body*, and even *Substantial Forms* too, (as they call them) but also *Sensitive Souls* themselves, both in *men* and *brutes*; *Ex Potentia Materiae*, *Out of the Power of the Matter*; that is, indeed *Out of Nothing*. For as much as this prepares a direct way to *Atheism*; because if *Life* and *Sense*, *Cogitation* and *Consciousness*, may be Generated out of *Dead* and *Senseless Matter*, then might this well be supposed the *first Original* of *All things*; nor could there Reasonably be any *Stop* made, at *Rational Souls*; especially by these men, who also conclude them, to be *Rasa Tabula*, *meer White Sheets of Paper*, that have nothing at all in them, but what is *Scribbled* upon them, by *Corporeal Objects* from without: there being nothing in the *Understanding* or *Mind of Man*, which was not before in *Sense*: so that *Sense* is the *First Original Knowledge*; and *Understanding*, but a *Secondary* and *Derivative* thing from it, more *Umbratile* and *Evanide*.

Hitherto have we Demonstrated that all things whatsoever, could not possibly be *Made out of Matter*, and particularly that *Life* and *Sense*, *Mind* and *Understanding*, being no *Accidents* or *Modes of Matter*, could not by *Motion* be Generated out of it, without the Production of *Real Entities* out of *Nothing*. But because some may Possibly Imagine, that *Matter* might otherwise than thus by *Motion*, by a *Miraculous Efficiency*, Produce *Souls* and *Minds*, we shall add in the last place, that *Nothing* can *Efficiently Produce* any *Real Entity* or *Substantial thing*, that was not before; unless it have at least equal Perfection to it, and a *Substantially Emanative*, or *Creative Power*. But scarcely any man can be so sottish, as to Imagine, that every *Atom of Dust*, hath Equal Perfection in it to that of the *Rational Soul*

Soul in man, or to Attribute a *Creative Power* to all *Matter*, (which is but a *Passive thing*) whilst this is in the mean time denied by him, to a *Perfect Being*: both these Assertions also, in like manner as the Former, Producing *Real Entities out of Nothing Causally*. And thus have we Demonstrated the *Impossibility* and *Non-sense* of all *Atheism*, from this very Principle, by which the Atheists would assault Theism, in the true Sense thereof, that *No thing can be Made without a Cause*, or that *Nothing cannot be the Cause of Any thing*.

Now if there be no Middle betwixt *Atheism* and *Theism*, and all things must of Necessity either spring from *Senseless Matter*, or else from a *Perfect Understanding Being*, then is this Demonstration of the *Impossibility* of *Atheism*, a Sufficient Establishment of the Truth of *Theism*; it being such a Demonstration of a God, as the Geometricians call, a *Deduction Ad Impossibile*, which they allow of for good and frequently make use of. Thus; Either there is a God, or else *Matter*, must needs be acknowledged, to be the only *Self-Existent* thing, and all things else whatsoever, to be *Made out of it*; But it is Impossible that all things should be made out of *Senseless Matter*: Therefore is there a God. Nevertheless we shall here for further satisfaction, show how the *Existence of a God*, may be Directly Demonstrated also, from this very Principle, which the Atheists endeavour to take Sanctuary in, and from thence to impugn *Theism*, *De Nihilo Nihil*, that *Nothing can be Made out of Nothing Causally*, or That *Nothing cannot be the Cause of Any thing*.

¹ In the first place therefore, we shall fetch our Beginning, from what hath been already often declared, That it is *Mathematically Certain*, that *Something or other, did Exist Of It Self from all Eternity, or without beginning, and Unmade by any thing else*. The Certainty of which Proposition dependeth upon this very Principle, as its Foundation; That *Nothing can come from Nothing, or be Made out of Nothing, or That Nothing which once was not, can of it self come into Being without a Cause*; it following unavoidably from thence, That if there had been once *Nothing*, there could never have been *Any thing*. And having thus laid the Foundation, we shall in the next place make this further Superstructure, that because Something did certainly Exist of it Self from *Eternity Unmade*, therefore is there also *Actually*, a *Necessarily Existent Being*. For to suppose, that any thing did Exist Of It Self from *Eternity*, by its own *Free Will* and *Choice*, and therefore not *Necessarily* but *Contingently*, since it might have Willed otherwise; this is to suppose it to have Existed before it Was, and so *Positively* to have been the Cause of it self, which is Impossible, as hath been already declared. When a thing therefore is said to be *Of It Self*, or the Cause of It self, this is to be understood no otherwise, than either in a *Negative Sense*, as having Nothing else for its Cause; or because, its *Necessary Eternal Existence*, is *Essential* to the Perfection of its own Nature. That therefore which Existed Of It self from *Eternity*, *Independently* upon any thing else, did not so Exist *Contingently* but *Necessarily*; so that there is undoubtedly, something *Actually* in Being, whose Existence is and always was *Necessary*. In the next place
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it is certain also, that Nothing could *Exist Necessarily* Of it Self, but what included *Necessity of Existence* in its own Nature. For to suppose any thing to *Exist Of it self Necessarily*, which hath no *Necessity of Existence* in its own Nature, is plainly to suppose that *Necessary Existence* of it, to *Come from Nothing*, since it could neither proceed from that Thing it self, nor yet from any thing else. Lastly, there is Nothing which includes *Necessity of Existence* in its very Nature and Essence, but only an *Absolutely Perfect Being*. The Result of all which is, that God or a Perfect Being, doth certainly *Exist*, and that there is *Nothing else* which *Existed Of it self* from Eternity, *Necessarily* and *Independently*; but all other things whatsoever derived their Being from him, or were *Caused by him*; *Matter or Body* it self not excepted.

That which hath Staggered some *Theists* here, and made them so inclinable and prone to believe, that *Matter* also Existed from Eternity *Unmade*, is partly (as hath been already intimated) an *Idiotical Conceit*, that because Nothing can be *Artificially made* by men, otherwise than out of *Pre-Existing Matter*, as *Houses* and *Garments*, *Puddings*, and *Eyes*, therefore there could be no other making of any thing by any Power whatsoever: though even men themselves, can produce Something out of no *Pre-Existent Matter*, as *Cogitations* and *Local Motion*. And the same partly proceedeth also, from certain *False Opinions* entertained, concerning *Matter*. For first some *Theists* have supposed *Whom antecedens*, an *Incorporeal First Matter*; out of which *Incorporeal Matter*. Together with an *Incorporeal Form*, Joyned to it, they conceived the *Effence of Body* to have been Compounded, and Made up. And no wonder if these same *Fanciful Philosophers*, have further added also hereunto, that from this *Incorporeal Matter*, by an *Incorporeal Form*, were begotten likewise *Incorporeal Qualities of Body*. Now it is not Conceivable, what else should be meant, by this *Incorporeal Hyle* or *Matter*, but only a *Metaphysical Notion*, of the *Potentiality* or *Possibility* of things, respectively to the Deity; which because it is indeed *Eternal*, and as much *Unmade* as God himself is, it being *Nothing* but the *Divine Power* considered *Passively*, or the *Reverse* of it; therefore in all probability, were these *Philosophers* so prone to think, the *Physical Matter*, of this *Corporeal Universe*, to have been *Eternal* and *Unmade*. Neither was this *Incorporeal Hyle*, or *Matter*, a *Novel Opinion*, entertained only by Some *Junior Platon-*

L. 1. c. 6.
 Thus Por-
 phyr. τῆς ὕ-
 λης τὰ ἰδία
 καὶ τὸς ἀρ-
 χαίους τοὺς
 ἀνέμους,
 &c. *Materiae*
Proprietates
secundum
Veteres, be-
sunt; Quod-
si Incorpora-
a, &c.

Q q q 2

to

to the Opinion of some, would it not follow from thence, that *Matter* was *Infinite*, *Eternal* and *Necessarily Existent*; not as if *Space* or *Distance*, could Exist alone by it Self, an *Accident* without a *Substance*, it being plainly Impossible, that *Nothing* should have any *Accidents*, *Modifications*, and *Attributes*; or be *Mensurable* by *Yards* and *Poles*; but because this *Space* is by them supposed, not to be the *Extension of Body*, but the *Infinite* and *Unbounded Extension* of the *Deity*. But in the next place; If *Space* be concluded to be certainly *Nothing* else, but the *Extension* and *Distance* of *Body* or *Matter*, considered in *General*, (without respect to this or that particular *Body*) and *Abstractly*; in order to the Conception of *Motion*, and the *Mensuration of things*; (For *Space* thus consider'd, is *Necessarily Immoveable*, as to the Parts thereof respectively; as the *Two Extreams* of a *Yard Distance*, can never possibly come nearer to One another) then do we say, that there appeareth no sufficient Ground for this *Positive Infinity* of *Space*, we being certain of no more than this, that be the *World*, or any *Figurate Body*, never so Great, it is not Impossible, but that it might be still Greater and Greater, without end. Which *Indefinite Encreasableness* of *Body* and *Space*, seems to be mistaken for a *Positive Infinity* thereof. Whereas for this very Reason, because it can never be so Great, but that more *Magnitude* may still be added to it, therefore can it never be *Positively Infinite*. Nor is there perhaps so great an *Absurdity* in this, That *Another World* could not Possibly be made, a *Mill* *Distant* from this; for as much as there being *Nothing* between them, they must needs *Touch*; or That *this Finite World* could have no *Mountains* and *Valleys*, in the *Exterior* Surface of it, since it might be either *Spherical*, *Cubical* or *Cylindrical*, or of any other *Regular Figure*, whatsoever the *Maker* pleased to form it in. To conclude therefore, by *Space* without the *Finite World*, is to be Understood, *Nothing* but the *Possibility of Body*, Further and Further without End, yet so as never to reach to *Infinity*; and such a *Space* as this was there also, before this *World* was Created, a *Possibility* of so much *Body* to be Produced. But *Space* and *Actual Distance*, as really *Mensurable* by *Yards* and *Poles*, though it may be Greater and Greater without end, yet can it not be *Positively Infinite*, so as that there could be no more added to it; and therefore there can be no *Argument* from hence, to prove the *Necessary Existence* of *Matter*.

Moreover the *Existence* of a *Deity* might be further *Demonstrated*, from this *Common Notion*, That *Nothing* can come from *Nothing* *Causally*, because if there were no *God*, as we could not have had any *Idea* of him, or a *Perfect Being*, since it must have Come from *Nothing*, and have been the *Idea* or *Conception* of *Nothing*; So neither could there have been indeed any *Knowledge* or *Understanding* at all. For *Singular Bodies* Existing without us, cannot enter into us, and put *Understanding* in us, nor is there any thing but *Local Motions* propagated from them to our *Organs* of *Sense*. The *Mind* must have its *Immediate Intelligibles*, within it self, for otherwise it could not possibly Understand any thing; which *Intelligibles* and their *Relations* to one another, or *Verities*, are (as was said before) *Eternal*. Moreover, the *Mind* can frame *Ideas* or *Conceptions*, not only of things *Actually Existing*,

isting, but also of all *Possibilities*; which plainly Implies and supposes the *Actual Existence* of a Being *Infinitely Powerful*, that could Produce them. So that the proper *Object*, of *Mind* and *Understanding*, is a *Perfect Being*, and all the *Extent* of its *Power*; which *Perfect Being*, Comprehending it self and the *Extent* of its own *Power*, or the *Possibilities* of all things, is the *First Original Mind*, of which all other *Minds* partake. Wherefore were there no *Perfect Omnipotent Being*, Comprehending it self, and its own *Power* or all the *Possibilities* of things; the *Intelligible Objects* of the *Mind* and *Ideas*, must have come from *Nothing*.

However it hath been already proved from this *Principle*, *Nothing from Nothing*, that the *Powers* of *Sense* and *Understanding*, or the *Entities* of *Soul* and *Mind*, could never have Resulted, from any *Modifications* of *Senseless Matter* whatsoever. Wherefore since it is *Mathematically* certain, that our *Humane Souls* and *Persons*, could not Possibly have been Generated out of *Matter*; one of these Two things will undeniably follow; That Either they must all have Existed Of Themselves from *Eternity Unmade*, or Else have been Created *Ex nihilo*, out of an *Antecedent Non-Existence*, by a *Perfect Understanding Being Unmade*, or at least have Derived their whole Substance from it. So that it is, altogether as certain, that there is a *God*, as that our *Humane Souls* and *Persons*, did not all Exist from *Eternity Of Themselves*. And that there must be some *Eternal Unmade Mind*, hath been already Demonstrated also, from the same *Principle*, *Nothing out of Nothing*. Thus have We abundantly Confuted, the *Second Atheistick Argumentation*, that there can be no *Omnipotence* nor *Divine Creation*, because *Nothing can be Made out of Nothing*; we having plainly shewed that this very *Principle*, in the *True Sense* thereof, affordeth a *Demonstration* for the *Contrary*.

THE Six following *Atheistick Argumentations*, driving at these Two things, *First*, the Disproving of an *Incorporeal*, and then of a *Corporeal Deity*; (From both which, the *Atheists* conceive it must follow of necessity, that there can be none at all) we shall take them all together, and in order to the *Confutation* of them, perform these *Three Things*. *First*, we shall Answer the *Atheistick Argumentations*, against an *Incorporeal Deity*, (contained in the *Third* and *Fourth Heads*.) *Secondly*, we shall shew, that from the very *Principles* of the *Atheistick Corporealism*, (as represented in the *Fifth* and *Sixth Heads*) *Incorporeal Substance* is *Demonstrable*. And *Lastly*, That there being undeniably *Incorporeal Substance*, the Two following *Atheistick Argumentations* also, against a *Corporeal Deity*, (in the *Seventh* and *Eighth Sections*) prove altogether *Insignificant*.

We begin with the *First* of these; To shew the *Invalidity* of the *Atheistick Argumentations*, against an *Incorporeal Deity*. It hath been already

Sup. p. 172.
Eu.

already observed, That though all *Corporealists*, be not therefore of necessity *Atheists*; yet *Atheists* universally have been *Corporealists*, this being always their First and Grand *Postulatum*, That there is no other Substance besides Body. Thus Plato long ago, declared Concerning them; διχχυρίζοιται τῷτο εἶναι μόνον ὃ παρὲχται προσβολῇ, καὶ ἐπαφῇ τινά, ταυτὶ σῶμα καὶ εἶναι ἐρεζόμενοι· ὅτι ἢ ἄλλων εἴς τις φησὶ μὴ σῶμα ἔχειν εἶναι, καταφρονήσας τὸ εὐλόγον, καὶ εἰδὼν ἐξήλωντος ἄλλο ἀκούει. They contend strongly, that that only really Is, which is Tangible or Can Resist their Touch; concluding Body and Substance, to be one and the self-same thing. And if any one should affirm, that there is any thing Incorporeal, they will presently cry him down, and not bear a word more from him. For there can be no doubt, but that the Persons here intended by Plato, were those very *Atheists*, which himself spake of afterward, in the same Dialogue; μὲν γὰρ ὅτι πολλὰν δόξαν καὶ ἔκματι χρώμενοι φάσμεν, τῷ φῶσι ἀπὸ πάντα γινῶν, ἀπὸ τινος αἰτίας αὐτομάτης, καὶ αἰδῶ διακρίας φάσεις, ἢ ματὶ λόγῳ καὶ ὑποτίμῳς δόξας, ἀπὸ τοῦ γινόμενης; Whether shall we assent, to that Opinion now adays entertained by so many, That Nature Generateth all things from a certain Fortuitous Cause, without the direction of any Mind or Understanding? or rather, that it produceth them, according to Reason, and Knowledge, proceeding from God? Indeed the Philosopher there tells us, that some of these *Atheistical* Persons, began then to be somewhat ashamed of making Prudence, and Justice, and other Moral Vertues, Corporeal Things, or Bodies, ἀποκρίνοισι τῷ μὲν ψυχῇ αὐτῶν δοκῶν σφίσι σῶμα τι καυτηρεῖν, φερόμεν δὲ καὶ ὅτι ἄλλων ἔκαστον ἐν ἡρώτικας, αἰχμονοῖται τὸ τοῦ μὲν, ἢ μηδὲν ὅτι οὐκ αὐτὰ ἐμολογεῖν, ἢ πάντ' εἶναι σώματα διχχυρίζομαι. Though they affirm concerning the Soul it self, that this seems to them to be Corporeal; yet concerning Prudence, and those other Vertues mentioned, some have now scarcely the Confidence to maintain, these to be either Bodies or Nothing. But this (saith he) was indeed no less than the quite Giving up of the Cause of *Atheism*; εἰ γὰρ τι καὶ ἑμμερεῖν ἐθέλωσι ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν οὐρανὸν ἀπομύσειν, ἔπειτα, because if it be but once granted, that there is never so little Incorporeal, this will be sufficient, to overthrow the *Atheistical* Foundation. Wherefore he concludes, that such as these, were but *Mongrel* and *Imperfect* *Atheists*, ἐπεὶ αὐτῶν εἰς ἓν ἐν ἐκκαυχόμεναι, οἱ γὰρ αὐτῶν παρτοὶ καὶ αὐτόχουτε, ἀλλὰ διακρίοιτ' ἐν, πᾶν δὲ μὴ δυνατοὶ ταῖς χερσὶ συμπίλιν, ὥς ἄρα τῷτο εἰδὼν τὸ παρὲχται ἔστι, For they who are thorough-paced, and Genuine *Atheists* indeed, will boggle at neither of those forementioned things, but contend that whatsoever, they cannot grasp with their hands, is altogether Nothing. That is, that there is no other Substance nor Entity in the World, but only Body, that which is Tangible, or Resists the Touch. Aristotle also, representeth the *Atheistical* Hypothesis after the same manner, τῷτο καὶ τοσαύτω φάσι εἶναι τῷ ἀπασαν εἶναι, τὰ δὲ ἄλλα πάντα παρὰ τῷτο. They affirm that Matter or Body, is all the Substance that is, and that all other things, are but the Passions and Affections thereof. And again in his *Metaphysics*, ἐν τῷ πᾶν, καὶ μίαν εἶναι τῶν φῶν, ὥς ὅλω πᾶσαν, καὶ ταυτῷ σώματι καὶ μέγεθος ἔχουσαν, These men maintain All to be One, and that there is but one Only Nature, as the Matter of all things, and this Corporeal, or endued with Magnitude. And now we see plainly, that the ancient *Atheists*, were of the very same mind, with these

Met. L. 1. 47.

these in our Days, that *Body*, or that which is *Tangible* and *Divisible*, is the Only *Substantial Thing*, from whence it follows, that an *Incorporeal Substance* would be the same with an *Incorporeal Body*, i. e. an *Impossibility*, and that there can be no *Incorporeal Deity*.

But in the Management of this *Cause*, there hath been some Disagreement amongst the *Atheists* themselves. For First, the *Democriticks* and *Epicureans*, though consenting with all the other *Atheists* in this, That whatsoever was *Unextended*, and devoid of *Magnitude*, was therefore *Nothing*; (so that there could neither be, any *Substance*, nor *Accident* or *Mode* of any *Substance*, *Unextended*) did notwithstanding distinguish concerning a *Double Nature*. First, That which is so *Extended*, as to be *Impenetrable*, and *Tangible*, or *Resist the Touch*, which is *Body*. And Secondly, That which is *Extended* also, but *Penetrably* and *Intangibly*, which is *Space* or *Vacuum*: a *Nature*, according to them, really distinct from *Body*, and the only *Incorporeal Thing* that is. Now since this *Space* which is the only *Incorporeal*, can neither *Do nor Suffer* any thing, but only give *Place or Room* to *Bodies* to *Subsist* in, or *Pass* thorough, therefore can there not be any *Active, Understanding, Incorporeal Deity*. This is the *Argumentation* of the *Democritick Atheists*.

To which we Reply; That if *Space* be indeed a *Nature* distinct from *Body*, and a *Thing Really Incorporeal*, as they pretend, then will it undeniably follow from this very Principle of theirs, that there must be *Incorporeal Substance*; and (this *Space* being supposed by them also to be *Infinite*) an *Infinite Incorporeal Deity*. Because if *Space* be not the *Extension* of *Body*, nor an *Affection* thereof; then must it of necessity be, either an *Accident Existing* alone by it self, without a *Substance*, which is *Impossible*; or else the *Extension* or *Affection*, of some other *Incorporeal Substance*, that is *Infinite*. But here will *Gassendus* step in, to help out his good Friends, the *Democriticks* and *Epicureans*, at a dead Lift; and undertake to maintain, that though *Space* be indeed an *Incorporeal Thing*, yet it would neither follow of necessity from thence, that it is an *Incorporeal Substance* or *Affection* thereof, nor yet that it is an *Accident*, Existing alone by it self without a *Substance*; because this *Space* is really, neither *Accident*, nor *Substance*, but a certain *Middle Nature* or *Essence* betwixt both. To which Subterfuge of his, that we may not quarrel about Words, we shall make this Reply; That unquestionably, Whatsoever *Is*, or hath any kind of *Entity*, doth either *Subsist* by it self, or else is an *Attribute, Affection, or Mode*, of something that doth *Subsist* by it self. For It is Certain, That there can be no *Mode, Accident, or Affection*, of *Nothing*; and consequently, that *Nothing* cannot be *Extended*, nor *Mensurable*. But if *Space* be neither the *Extension* of *Body*, nor yet of *Substance Incorporeal*, then must it of necessity be, the *Extension* of *Nothing*, and the *Affection* of *Nothing*; and *Nothing* must be *Mensurable* by *Yards* and *Poles*. We conclude therefore, That from this very Hypothesis of the *Democritick* and *Epicurean Atheists*, that *Space* is a *Nature* distinct from *Body* and *Positively Infinite*, it follows undeniably, that there must be
some

some *Incorporeal Substance*, whose *Affection* its *Extension* is; and because there can be nothing *Infinite*, but only the *Deity*, that it is the *Infinite Extension* of an *Incorporeal Deity*; just as some *Learned Theists* and *Incorporealists* have asserted. And thus is the *Argument* of these *Democritick* and *Epicurean Atheists*, against an *Incorporeal Deity*, abundantly confuted; we having made it manifest, that from that very *Principle* of their own, by which they would disprove the same, it is against themselves *Demonstrable*.

To which it might be here further added, that *Epicurus* who professedly opposed *Plato's Incorporeal God*, as an *Impossibility*, did notwithstanding, manifestly Contradict himself, when he asserted such a *Democracy of Monogrammons Gods*, as were not Compounded of *Atoms* and *Vacuum*, (though according to him, the only *Principles of Body*) that so they might be *Incorruptible*; nor yet could *Touch* or be *Touched*, but were *Penetrable*, as is declared in those Verses of *Lucretius*,

*Tenuis enim Natura Deum, longeque remota,
Sensibus à nostris, Animi vix mente videtur.
Quæ quoniam manuum Tatium, suffugit & Iñum,
Tactile nil nobis quod sit, contingere debet.
Tangere enim non quis, quod Tangi non licet ipsum.*

(Though *Tangibility* and *Impenetrability*, were elsewhere made by him, the very *Essence of Body*) and Lastly, such as had not *Corpus* but *Quasi Corpus*, and therefore must needs be *Really Incorporeal*. Though there is no doubt to be made, but that *Epicurus* Colluded in all this; himself not Believing a jot of it, nor any such Gods at all.

But other *Atheists* there were, who concluding likewise, That whatsoever was *Unextended* was *Nothing*, were sensible of the Inconvenience of making *Space* thus to be a thing really distinct from *Body*, (from whence it would follow unavoidably, that it was an *Affection*, of *Incorporeal Substance*;) and therefore acknowledged, not *Two Natures of Extended Things*, but as we had it before in *Aristotle*, *ἡ μὲν τῆς φύσεως ἓ, τῶν δὲ σωμάτων δύο*, *One only Nature, and that Bodily; Space* being therefore to them, either a meer *Imaginary Thing*, that hath no Reality without our Minds, but only a *Phantasm* of our own, and in their Modern Language, a kind of *Ghost*, *Apparition*, or *Spectre* of a *Body*; or else indeed, the very *Extension* of *Body* it self, considered in General, and Abstractly from this or that *Singular Body*, *Movable*. And these men therefore framed their *Argumentation* against an *Incorporeal Deity* after this manner. Nothing truly Is, but what is *Extended*, or hath a Certain *Magnitude*, (because that which is *Unextended* and hath no *Magnitude*, is *No-where*, and consequently *Nothing*.) But whatsoever is *Extended*, and in a *Place*, is *Body*. Therefore there is no other *Substance* besides *Body*; and consequently there can be no *Incorporeal Deity*. Or else to put the Argument into a more *Approvable Syllogistick Form*, Whatsoever is *Extended*, is *Body*, or *Corporeal*; But Whatsoever Is, is *Extended*. Therefore

fore *Whatsoever Is, is Body*, or Corporeal. And by Consequence there can be no *Incorporeal Deity*.

To which *Argumentation*, the Assertors of *Incorporeal Substance*, have Replied *Two* manner of ways. For First, the Generality of the ancient *Incorporealists*, taking it for granted, that whatsoever was *Extended* in Magnitude, and had Parts one without another, was *Divisible*, as also probably, *Impenetrable* by any thing else *Extended*, because there can be no *Penetration of Dimensions*; and therefore no One *Magnitude*, can be *Imbided* or *Swallowed* up into another, but must of necessity stand without it, adding so much to the Quantity thereof: They readily gave their Assent to that *Proposition*, That *Whatsoever is Extended*, into Longitude, Latitude, and Profundity, is *Body*. But being strongly persuaded of the Existence of some other *Substance* besides *Body*; they denied that Other *Proposition* of theirs, That *Whatsoever Is*, is *Extended*; or What is *Unextended* is *Nothing*: maintaining that besides *Body*, or *Extended Substance*, there was another *Substance Incorporeal*, which therefore was ἀδιάσπλον, and ἀμεγέθης, and ἄπρος, and ἀμεγέθης, and ἀδιάσπλον, *Unextended*, and devoid of *Quantity* and *Magnitude*, without *Parts*, and *Indivisible*. That *Plato* himself *Philosophized* after this manner, might be proved from sundry Passages of his Writings, as that in his *Tenth De Legibus*, where he affirmeth, that the *Soul* it self, and those things which belong to it, as *Cogitative*, are πρῶτος μέγας σωματικὸς ὁ βαθεὺς ὁ πλατὺς, in Order of Nature, before the Longitude, and Latitude, and Profundity of Bodies. Where doubtless his meaning was not; as if there were a Longitude, Latitude, and Profundity in Souls, but of a different kind from that Longitude, Latitude, and Profundity of Bodies, and before it: but that Longitude, Latitude, and Profundity, being the *Essential Properties* of *Body* only; *Soul* and *Cogitation*, as devoid of these, was in order of Nature before them. Again from that in his *Timæus*, where speaking of *Place*, *Space*, and *Matter*; he condemneth this for a *Vulgar Error*, That *Whatsoever Is*, must of necessity be in some *Place* or other, and what is in *No Place*, is *Nothing*. τελεῖται ὁ αὐτὸς τὸ δὲ χῶρος, ἡ δὲ οὐρανὸς ὅσα ἔχει γίνεσθαι πάντα— πρῶτος δὲ ὁ οὐροποδῶμεν βλεπόμενος, ὁ φαιμέν ἀνακταὶ ἐν αὐτῷ, τὸ ἐν ἀπαν ἢ τινι τίττω. ὁ κατὰ τὸν χῶρον τῶν τῶν δὲ μετὰ αὐτῷ, μετὰ καὶ ὅσων, ὅθεν ἐστὶν. The Third Kind, is that of *Space*, which gives room to all things that are Generated. And when we look upon this, we dreamingly affirm, That every thing that Is, must of necessity be in some *Place*, and possess a certain *Room* and *Space*, and that whatsoever is not Somewhere, either in *Earth* or in *Heaven*, is *Nothing*. Which *Drowse* or *Dreaming Imagination*, (saith he, like a *Ghost*) continually haunts and possesseth men, and that even then, when they think of that *True* and *Awakened Nature* of the *Deity*. Whereas this *Philosopher* himself, discoursing elsewhere of *God*, under the Title of πᾶσι πλάγῳ τῷ καλῷ, The *Vast Sea of Puleritudo*, describeth him after this manner, ὁ δὲ ἐν ὧν, ὁ ἐν γῆ, ὁ ἐν οὐρανῷ, ἅλα αὐτῷ, μετὰ αὐτῷ, μετὰ αὐτῷ, αὐτῷ, τὰ δὲ ἅλα πάντα καλὰ ἐκείνῳ μετέχοντα, As that which is not Any where, either in *Earth*, or in *Heaven*, but it self alone by It self, and With It self, all other *Beautiful things* Partaking of it. And as for *Aristo-*

les Sense in this Particular; that he here departed not, as he did in some other things, from his Master Plato, may appear from that Whole Chapter or Section, at the End of his *Physics*, Spent upon this very Subject, to prove, ὅτι τὸν ἀμερίς ἀνακταὶ ἔσται, καὶ μὴδ' ἔχει μέγεθος, That his First Immoveable Mover (which is God Almighty) must of necessity be devoid of Parts, or Indivisible, and have no Magnitude at all. The Conclusion of which Section, and his whole Book of *Physics* is this, διωρεσμένην ἡ τῶν, φανερὸν ὅτι ἀδύνατον τὸ πρῶτον κινεῖν καὶ ἀκίνητον ἔχειν τι μέγεθος· εἰ γὰρ μέγεθος ἔχῃ, ἀνάγκη ἵπαι πεπερασμένην αἰντ ἔσται, ἢ ἀπλεῖν· ἀπλεῖν μὲν ἐν ὅτι καὶ ἀσδιχταὶ μέγεθος ἔσται, διδιδταὶ περὶ τῶν τοῖς φωναῖς ἐν τὸ πεπερασμένην ἀδύνατον ἔχειν ἀπλεῖν δύναμιν, διδιδταὶ νῦν· φανερὸν τοίνυν, ὅτι ἀδύνατον ἔσται, καὶ ἀμερίς, καὶ ἐδὲν ἔχει μέγεθος. These things being thus determined; It is manifestly Impossible, that the first Mover should have any Magnitude. For if it hath Magnitude, that must of necessity be either Finite or Infinite. But that there can be no Infinite Magnitude, was before demonstrated in the *Physics*; and that nothing which hath a Finite Magnitude, can have Infinite Power, hath been now Proved. Wherefore it is plain, that the First Mover is Indivisible, and devoid of Parts, and hath no Magnitude at all. Which same Doctrine is again Taught and

P. 14. C. 7.

Asserted by Aristotle in his *Metaphysics*, ὅτι μὲν ἐν ἔξῃ ἔσται τις αἰδιος καὶ ἀκίνητος, καὶ χωρεῖσμένην ἡ αἰδιότης, φανερὸν ὅτι ἄρρηκτον· διδιδταὶ καὶ ὅτι μέγεθος ἐδὲν ἀσδιχταὶ ἔχειν ταύτῃ τὴν ἔσται, ἀλλὰ ἀμερίς καὶ ἀδύνατος ἔσται· ἐδὲν γὰρ ἔχει δύναμιν ἀπλεῖν πεπερασμένην, καὶ ὅπως καὶ ἐδὲν ἐδὲν ἀπλεῖν. From what hath been declared, it is manifest, that there is an Eternal and Immoveable Substance, Separate from Sensibles; as also that this Substance cannot possibly have any Magnitude, but is devoid of Parts, and Indivisible. Because no Finite thing can have Infinite Power, and there is no such thing possible as Infinite Magnitude. Neither doth Aristotle appropriate this to the Supreme Deity; To be thus devoid of Magnitude and of Parts, and consequently Indivisible; he some where attributing the same also to all other Immaterial or Incorporeal things, and particularly to the Humane Mind, ἀδύνατον τὴν τὸ μὴ ἔχειν, ὥστε ὁ ἀνθρώπινος νῦς, Every thing that is devoid of Matter, is Indivisible, as the Humane Mind. And the like, doth he assert, at once, both concerning the Mundane, and the Humane Soul, that they are no Magnitudes, though ridiculously (after his manner) imputing the Contrary Opinion to Plato,

De An. L. 1.

C. 3.

καὶ τὰς τὸ μέγεθος τὴν ψυχὴν μέγεθος ἔσται. ὅς ἡ νῦς ἔστι καὶ συνεχὴς, ὥστε καὶ ἡ νῦς· ἡ ἡ νῦς τὸ νοητικόν· ταῦτα ἡ τὴν ἐφεξῆς ἐν, ὅς ὁ ἀνθρώπος, ἀλλ' ἐχ ὡς τὸ μέγεθος· διὸ περὶ ἐδὲ νῦς ἔσται συνεχὴς· ἀλλ' ἵπαι ἀμερίς, ἡ ἐχ ὡς τὸ μέγεθος τὴν συνεχὴς· πῶς γὰρ ἡ καὶ τοῦ μέγεθος ἐν, ὅταν ἐν τῇ μορῇ τῇ αὐτῇ; μορῇ ἡ ἵπαι καὶ μέγεθος, ἡ καὶ εἰρήνη· εἰ μὲν ἐν καὶ εἰρήνη, αὐτὰ δ' ἀπλεῖν, ὅταν ὡς ἐδὲν περὶ διδιδτα· εἰ ἡ καὶ μέγεθος, πολλὰ καὶ ἀπλεῖν νοῦν τὸ αὐτὸ· ἐπὶ ἡ πῶς τοῦ μέγεθος τὸ ἀμερίς μορῇ. It is not rightly affirmed either of the Mundane, or Rational Soul, that they are Magnitudes. For the Intellect is One and Continuous, as Intellection is, which is the same with the Intelligibles. But these are one, not as Magnitudes, but as Numbers. Wherefore the Intellect is not so Continuous, but either devoid of Parts, or not Continuous as Magnitude. For how, being Magnitude, could

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it understand with any of its Parts, whether Conceived as Points, or as lesser Magnitudes; since either way, there would be an innumerable company of Intellections? Moreover how can it conceive any thing that is Indivisible, by what is Divisible? Furthermore in this same Book De Animâ, Aristotle stily denies, Souls in general, either to be in a Place, or to be Locally Moved, otherwise than by Accident, as they are said to be Moved, together with the Motion of the Body. Thus Simplicius, *ὅς ὡς πανταχὺ τὰς σωματικὰς ἀπο-
κείσθαι τὸ ψυχὸς καθύλης*, See how Aristotle doth every where remove, or exclude from the Soul, Corporeal (or Local) Motions. And *ἀπανταχὺ μὴ κινῆσθαι τὰ ἀσώματα τὸ καθόλου αὐτὰ καὶ πρὸς τὰ καὶ μὴ καὶ ἐξ αὐτῶν ἢ*, Aristotle will by no means allow any Incorporeal things whatsoever, whether of the First, Second or Lowest rank, (they being all the Causes of motion) themselves to be moved. Philoponus likewise, *ὅς ὡς πρὸς τὰς σωματικὰς καθύλης ἀπεκρίσκειν*, ὅπως αὐτῶ ἀκίνητον εἶναι φησι. πῶς γὰρ τὸ αἰ τῶν σῶμα ὄντι. You see how Aristotle, respecting Corporeal Motions, pronounces of the Soul, that it is Immoveable. For whatsoever is in a Place (and moveable) is Body. Lastly, in that Passage before cited, Aristotle plainly makes, the Essence of Corporeal Substance, as opposed to Incorporeal, to consist in Magnitude.

Besides Plato and Aristotle, we might here instance in sundry other, of the ancient Incorporealists, who clearly maintained the same Doctrine. Philo doth not only assert in general, a Double Essence or Substance, *ἀδιόσμετον*, and *διασπαστὸν*, a Dissant, and Indistant one, but somewhere writeth thus concerning the Deity, *ὅτι τὸ θεὸς πανδημιον τὰ πάντα, ἀδιόσμετον ὁ περιέχοντα, ὡς πανταχὺ τὸ
τὸ ὅλας περιέχοντα εἶναι μέγα· ὅλας μὲν ὅτι καὶ ὅλας καὶ τὸν αὐτὸς τὴν αἰσῶν οὐρανόθεν τὸ ὅτι περιέχοντα αἰσῶν τῶν ὅλων εἶναι περι-
έχοντα· πανταχὺ δὲ, ὅτι τὰς δυνάμεις αὐτῶ, διὰ τῆς καὶ ὅλας αἰσῶν τὴν καὶ ὅλας τήνας, &c.* All things are filled with God, as Containing them, but not as being Contained by them, or in them; to whom alone it belongeth to be, both Every where and No where. No where because himself Created Space and Place, together with Bodies, and it is not lawful to include the Creator, within any of his Creatures. And Every where, because he extendeth his Vertues and Powers, throughout Earth and Water, Air and Heaven, and leaveth no Part of the World destitute thereof, but collecting all things together under himself, hath bound them fast with Invisible Bonds. But none hath more industriously pursued this business then Plotinus who every where asserts, Body and Magnitude, to be one and the same thing; and that besides this, there is another Substance Incorporeal, which consequently is *ἄμετρος* and *ἀμεγέλης* and *ἀμερῆς*, devoid of Quantity, and of Magnitude, and of Parts, locally distant from one another; *ὁ αἰ τῶν αὐτῶν ὅλας τὸ πᾶν εἶναι ὑπερέχοντα*, it having in its Nature transcended, the Imperfection of Quantity. And Who hath also written, Two Whole Books upon this very Subject, *τὸ δὲ ἐν καὶ ταῦτῶν ἀεὶ μὲν ὅλας πανταχὺ εἶναι εἶναι*, That one and the self, same Numerical thing, may be all of it, entirely Every where. Wherein his Principal design was to Prove, that the Deity, is not Part of it

P. 667.

here, and part of it there; and so much thereof in one place, and so much in another (as if the very Substance of it were Measurable by Yards and Poles) but the whole Undivided Deity, every where, πρὸ ὅλης αὐτοῦ πάντων ἀπαιτῶν (saith he) God is before all things that are in a Place. And Συμμερίζει ὁ θεὸς, εἰ αὐτὸς μὲν ὅν ἐν τόπῳ, παντὶ τῷ αὐτοῦ ὀππῶδες παρρησιόησι γὰρ ὁ λόγος, ὡς ἀνάγκη· αὐτῷ τόπῳ ἢ ἐν εἰληχρίῃ, ὃ παρρησιόησι, τότε ὅλον παρρησιόησι, It is not at all to be wondered at, that God being not in a Place, should be present to every thing that is in a Place, wholly and entirely: Reason pronouncing, that he having no place, must therefore of necessity be ὅλος, all of him Indivisibly Present, to whatsoever he is Present. Neither is this, saith he, a thing only deduced by Reason, but that which is before Reason, suggested, by the Instincts of Mankind; τὸ ἐν ᾧ ταυτὸν ἀρεθμῶν, πάντα ἅμα ὅλον εἶναι, κοινὴ ἐννοια φησὶν ἔσθαι, ὅταν πάντες κατένοησιν λέγοντες, ὅτι ὁ ἑκάστος ἡμῶν θεὸν, ὡς ἓνα ᾧ τὸ αὐτὸν, That one and the same Numerical Substance (to wit of the Deity) is at once entirely every where, is agreeable to the Common Notions, Sentiments of Mankind, when we do so often by the Instincts of Nature, speak of that God, who is in Every one of us; as supposing him to be one and the same in all. Where the Philosopher subjoins, ὃ ἐστὶν πάντων βεβαιωτάτη ἀρχή, ἢν ὥσπερ αἱ ψυχαὶ ἡμῶν φησύνται, &c. And this is the Firmest of all Principles, that which our Souls do, as it were, Naturally and of themselves Speak; and which is not Collected by Reason, but comes forth from them, before Ratiocination. Moreover he often affirmeth of the humane Soul, or rather takes it as a thing for granted, that this is, the Whole or All of it, in every part of the Body, that is Undividedly; ὅτι ὁ ἑκάστος ψυχῆς, τὸ αὐτὸ ἀρεθμῶν; τὸ αὐτὸ τῷ πᾶσι, ὃ τῇ χεὶρὶ ὑπάρχει, As for the humane Soul, it is one and the same Numerically, in the Hand and in the Foot.

P. 644.

And again, ὅταν πᾶς αὐτὸς τῷ πᾶσι ὃ χεὶρὶ τῷ αὐτῷ, τῷ ὃ αὐτὸς ὃ μέρει τῷ παντός, ὡς τῷ αὐτῷ τῷ αὐτῷ, Since we commonly suppose, our own Soul to be the same, both in our foot and in our hand; why should we not in like manner, acknowledge, that of the Mundane Soul or Deity, which is in one part of the Universe, to be the same with that in another? In like manner *Simplicius*, proving that Body is not the first Principle, because there must of necessity be Something *Self-moving*, and what is so, must needs be *Incorporeal*, writeth thus, τὸ ὃ τῶν αὐτῶν ἀμερῆς ἐκδοῦς ἀνάγκη εἶναι ὃ ἀδιαστάτων, μερῶν γὰρ ὃ διαστάτων ὑπάρχει, ὃ δύνασθαι ὅλον ὅλας εἶναι ἐαυτῷ ἐφαρμόσθην, ὡς τὸ ὅλον εἶναι κατὰ, ὃ ὅλον τὸ αὐτὸ κατένοησιν. Because what is such, must of necessity be Indivisible, and Indistant, for were it Divisible, and Distant, it could not all of it be conjoined with its whole self; so that the whole should both actively move, and be moved. Which same thing seems further Evident, in the Souls being All Consistent of It Self, and Reflexive upon its whole Self, which could not be, were one part of it Distant from another. Again the same Philosopher, expressly denieth, the Soul though a Self-moving Substance, to be at all Locally Moved, otherwise then by accident in respect of the Body, which is moved by it, ὃ τὰς σωματικὰς κατένοησιν καίτοι (ἢ γὰρ ἐκείνας ἀκίνητον ὅτι) ἀλλὰ τὰς ψυχικὰς, ὡς ὁνομαστικῶς ὅτι

P. 649.

κατένοησιν βεβαιωτάτη, διακρίναι, δεξιᾶν, καὶ τὰ σώματα ἢ τὰς σωματικὰς καίτοι, The Soul being not Moved by Corporeal or Local Motions (for in respect of itself it is Immoveable) but by Cogitative ones only,

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καὶ ἐν ἀεὶ ὅπου· αὐτὸ ἀμείβεσθαι καὶ ἀπληθύνεσθαι καὶ αἰτέον, καὶ τὴν αὐτὴν φύσιν, τῇ μακρῶ, καὶ περὶ αὐτοῦ χρόνῳ, καὶ ὅτι ἐν τόπῳ, *The Corporeal World is Distantly present; to the Intelligible, (or the Deity;) and that is Indivisibly and Indistantly present, with the World. But when that which is Indistant and Unextended, is present with that which is Distant and Extended; then is the Whole of the Former, one and the same Numerically, in Every part of the Latter. That is, it is Indivisibly and Unmultipliedly, and Illocally, there (according to its own Nature) present with that, which is naturally Divisible, and Multipliable, and in a Place. Lastly, he affirmeth the same likewise of the Humane Soul, that this is also οὐδα ἀμείβεσθαι, A Substance devoid of Magnitude, and which is not Locally present, to this or that Body, but by Disposition and Energie, and therefore the Whole of it in every part thereof Undividedly.*

And as for Christian Writers, besides *Origen*, who was so famous an Asserter of *Incorporeal Substance*, that (as *Socrates* recordeth) the Egyptian Monks and Anthropomorphites, threatned death to *Theophilus* the *Alexandrian* Bishop, unless he would at once execrate and renounce the Writings of *Origen*, and profess the Belief of a *Corporeal God*, of *Humane Form*; and who also maintained *Incorporeal Substance* to be *Unextended*, as might be proved from *Sundry Passages*, both of his Book against *Celsus*, and that *Peri Archon*; we say (besides *Origen* and others of the *Greeks*) *St. Augustine* amongst the *Latins*, clearly asserted the same, he maintaining in his Book, *De Quantitate Anime*, and else where, concerning the *Humane Soul*, that being *Incorporeal*, it hath no Dimensions of *Length, Breadth and Profundity*, and is *Illocabilis, No where* as in a *Place*. We shall conclude, with the Testimony of *Boetius*, who was both a *Philosopher* and a *Christian*, *Quedam sunt* (saith he) *Communes Animi Conceptiones, per se notæ, apud Sapientes tantum; Ut Incorporea non esse In Loco; There are certain Common Conceptions, or Notions of the Mind, which are known by themselves amongst wise men only; as this for example, That Incorporeals are in No Place.* From whence it is manifest, that the generality of reputed *Wise men*, were not formerly of this opinion, *Quod Nuncquam est nihil est, That what is No where, or in no certain Place, is Nothing*; and that this was not look'd upon by them as a *Common Notion*, but only as a *Vulgar Error*.

By this time we have made it unquestionably Evident, that this Opinion of *Incorporeal Substance* being *Unextended, Indistant, and Devoid of Magnitude*, is no Novel or Recent thing, nor first started in the *Scholastick Age*, but that it was the general Perswasion, of the most ancient and learned Asserters of *Incorporeal Substance*; especially, that the *Deity* was not Part of it *Here*, and Part of it *There*, nor the *Substance* thereof *Mensurable* by *Yards and Poles*, as if there were so much of it contained in one Room, and so much and no more in another, according to their several Dimensions; but that the whole *Undivided Deity*, was at once in *Every Part* of the world, and consequently *No where Locally* after the manner of *Bodies*. But because this opinion, seems so *Strange and Paradoxical*, and lies under so great

Prejudice,

Prejudices, we shall in the next place show, how these ancient *Incorporealists*, endeavour'd to acquit themselves in repelling the several *Efforts* and *Plausibilities* made against it. The First whereof is this, That to suppose *Incorporeal Substances*, *Unextended* and *Indivisible*, is to make them *Absolute Parvities*, and by means of that, to render them all, (even the *Deity* it self) contemptible; since they must of necessity, be either *Physical Minimums*, that cannot *Actually* be *Divided* further by reason of their *Littleness*, (if there be any such thing) or else meer *Mathematical Points*, which are not so much as *Mentally Divisible*: so that *Thousands* of these *Incorporeal Substances*, or *Spirits*, might *Dance together at once upon a Needles Point*. To which it was long since thus Replied by *Plotinus*, ἂν ᾖτο ἡ ἀμερὲς P. 636
 ὡς μικρὸν· ὅτω γὰρ ὁδὸν ἡ ἡσὺν καὶ μετρίον ἔσται· καὶ ἡ παντὶ αὐτῷ ἐφαρ-
 μεύεται· ὅδ' ἂν ἀποφύγοιτο τὸ αὐτὸ συνῆσαι· ἀλλ' ὅδ' ἔπος ὡς σμικρὸν, ὃ γὰρ ἐν
 τομῷ οὐ γινώσκου, ἀλλ' ἀπὸ τοῦ ἐν αὐτῷ, ὅδ' ὡς ἐφαρμεύεται, God and all
 other *Incorporeal Substances*, are not so *Indivisible*, as if they
 were *Parvities*, or *Little things*, as *Physical points*; for so would
 they still be *Mathematically Divisible*; nor yet, as if they were *Ma-*
thematical Points neither, which indeed are no *Bodies* nor *Substances*,
 but only *The Termini of a Line*. And neither of these ways, could the
Deity *Congruere*, with the world; nor *Souls* with their respective *Bod-*
ies, so as to be all present with the whole of them. Again he writeth
 particularly concerning the *Deity* thus, ὅτι ᾖτος ἀμερὲς, ὡς τὸ συμ- P. 764
 κρέτατον, μέγιστον γὰρ ἀπάντων, ὃ μέγιστον ἀλλὰ διὰ δύναμιν· ληπτέον
 ὃ καὶ ἀπερὸν αὐτὸν, ὃ καὶ ἀδιεξήγητον, ὃ τὸ μέγιστον, ὃ τὸ ἀεὶ ὄν, ἀλλὰ τὸ
 ἀπὸ ἐλάττω δὲ διὰ δύναμιν. God is not so *Indivisible* as if he were the *Small-*
est or *Least* of things, for he is the *Greatest* of all, not in respect of *Magni-*
tude, but of *Power*. Moreover as he is *Indivisible*, so is he also to be ac-
 knowledged *Infinite*, not as if he were either a *Magnitude* or a *Number*,
 which could never be past thorough; but because his *Power* is *Incomprehen-*
sible. Moreover the same *Philosophet*, condemneth this for a *Vulgar*
Error, proceeding from *Sense* and *Imagination*, that whatsoever is *Un-*
extended and *Indistant*, must therefore needs be *Little*, he affirming on
 the contrary the *Vulgar* to be much mistaken, as to *True Greatness* and
Littleness, μέγα νομίζοντες τὸ αἰσθητὸν, ἀποφύγοιμεν πῶς ἐν μεγάλῳ ἢ τοσούτῳ P. 645
 ἐκείνῃ ἡ φύσις ἐκείνηται· τὸ ὃ ἔστι πάντο τὸ λεγόμενον μέγα μικρὸν· ὃ ὃ νομί-
 ζεται μικρὸν εἶναι μέγα· ἐν ὅλῳ ἡ πᾶσι τὸ τὸ μέγα φανταί, μάλιστ' ὃ τὸ
 πάντα γινώσκον τοὺς αὐτοὺς μέγιστον ἐκ' ἐκείνου ἴδον, διελέγεται αὐτὸ πάντα καὶ
 καὶ μέγιστον ἰαυτῷ, We commonly looking upon this *Sensible world* as
Great, wonder how that (*Indivisible* and *Unextended*) *Nature* of the
Deity, can every where comply and be present with it. Whereas that
 which is *Vulgarly* called *Great*, is indeed *Little*, and that which is thus
Imagined to be *Little*, is indeed *Great*. For as much as the whole of *This*
dissolves it self through' every part of the other; or rather this whole Sem. p. 243
Corporeal Universe, in every one of its parts, findeth that *Whole* and
Entire; and therefore *Greater* than it self. To the same purpose also
Porphyrius, τὸ ὅπως ὃν ᾖτο μέγα, ᾖτο μικρὸν ἔστι· (τὸ γὰρ μέγα καὶ μικρὸν
 ὡς οὐκ ἔστιν ἴδια) ἀνεξέλικτος ὃ τὸ μέγα καὶ μικρὸν· καὶ ὑπὲρ τὸ μέγιστον
 καὶ ὑπὲρ τὸ ἐλάχιστον, ταῦτα καὶ ἐν ἀεὶ ὄντι· ὃ καὶ διελέγεται ἡμᾶς ὑπὸ
 πατρὸς μεγίτε, καὶ ὑπὸ πατρὸς ἐλάχιστε διελέγεται· μὴτι ἅπα ὡς μέγι-
 στον αὐτὸ ὑπερῷος· εἰ ὃ μὴ, ἀπερῷος πᾶ μέγιστον ἐν τοῖς ἐλάχιστοις οὐκ
 πάρεστι;

πείρει, μὴ μεγάλῃ, ἢ σπουδαίῃ · μήτε ὡς ἐλάττω, εἰ δὲ μὴ, πάλιν ἀπερί-
 ρετῆς, πῶς ἐλάττω ἐν τοῖς μεγέθεσι οἰκοῖς πείρει, μὴ πολλαπλασιασθῇ, ἢ ἀν-
 ξυδῇ, *The Deity, which is the only true Being, is neither Great nor Little,*
(For as much as Great and Little properly belong to Corporeal Bulk or
Magnitude) but it exceedeth both the Greatness of every thing that is
Great, and the Littleness of whatsoever is Little (it being more Indivisi-
ble and more One with it self, than any thing that is Little, and more
Powerful than any thing that is Great) So that it is above both the Great-
est, and the Least; it being sound, all one and the same, by every Great-
est and every Smallest thing, participating thereof. Wherefore you must
neither look upon God, as the Greatest thing, (that is in a way of Quan-
tity) for then you may well doubt, how being the Greatest, He can be all
of him present with every Least thing, neither diminished nor contrac-
ed: nor yet must you Look upon him, as the Least thing neither; for if
you do so, then will you be at a loss again, how being the Least thing, he
can be present, with all the Greatest Bulks, neither Multiplied nor Aug-
mented. In a word, the Sum of their Answer amounts to this, that
an Incorporeal Unextended Deity is neither a Physical Point, because
this hath Distance in it, and is Mentally Divisible; nor yet a Mathe-
matical One; because This though having neither Magnitude nor
Substance, in it, hath notwithstanding Site and Position, a Point being
according to Aristotle, a Monad having Site and Position. It is not to
be conceived as a Parvitude or very Little thing, because then it
could not Congruere, with all the Greatest things; nor yet as a Great
thing, in a way of Quantity and Extension, because then it could not
be All of it Present, to every Least thing. Nor does True Greatness
consist, in a way of Bulk or Magnitude, all Magnitude being but Lis-
tle, since there can be no Infinite Magnitude, and no Finite Magnitude
can have Infinite Power, as Aristotle before urged. And to conclude,
though some who are far from Atheists, may make themselves merry,
with that Conceit, of Thousands of Spirits, dancing at once upon a Nee-
dles Point, and though the Atheists, may endeavour, to Rogue and Ri-
dicule, all Incorporeal Substance in that manner; yet does this run
upon a clear Mistake of the Hypothesis, and make nothing at all a-
gainst it; for as much as an Unextended Substance, is neither any
Parvitude, as is here supposed (because it hath no Magnitude at all)
nor hath it any Place, or Site, or Local Motion, properly belonging to
it; and therefore can neither Dance upon a Needles Point, nor any
where else.

But in the next place, it is further *Objected*; That What is neither
Great nor Little, what possesses no Space, and hath no Place nor Site
amongst Bodies, must therefore needs be an Absolute Non-Entity, for
as much as Magnitude or Extension, are the very Essence of Being or
Entity, as such; so that there can be neither Substance nor Accident
Unextended. Now since whatsoever is Extended, is Bodily, there
can therefore be no other Substance besides Body, nor any thing In-
corporeal, otherwise then as that word may be taken, for a Thin and
Subtile Body, in which Sense Fire was by some in Aristotle, said to be,
μέγιστον τῶν στοιχείων ἀσπμάτω, and ἀσπματώτατον; The most Incorporeal of all
the Elements; and Aristotle himself useth the word in the same manner,
 when

F. 114.
ΑΦ.

but Two different Names, for one and the same thing; *ἡ ἀπορίας περιεχόμενα τῇ τῇ ὅτι ὑπονοεῖται, καὶ ἡ φαντασίας, ἡ γὰρ ἐν λογισμῷ ἔχει φαντασία ὁ δὲ νοῦς αὐτοῖς νόμος*, *There is a difference of Names only and no more, betwixt Mind and Phancy. Phancy and Imagination in Rational Animals, seeming to be the same thing with Intellection.* But there are many things, which no man can have any Phantasm or Imagination of, and yet are they notwithstanding by all Unquestionably acknowledged for *Entities or Realities* from whence it is plain, that we must have some other *Faculties* in us, which Extend beyond *Phantse and Imagination*. Reason indeed dictates, that whatsoever can either *Do or Suffer* any thing, must therefore be undoubtedly *Something*: but that whatsoever is *Unextended*, and hath no *Distant Parts*, one without another, must therefore needs be *Nothing*, is no *Common Notion*, but the *Spurious Suggestion* of Imagination only, and a *Vulgar Error*. There need to be no fear at all, Left a Being *Infinitely Wise and Powerful*, which Acts upon the whole world; and all the Parts thereof, in Framing and Governing the same, should prove a *Non-Entity*, merely for want of *Bulk and Extension*, or because it *Swells* not out into *Space and Distance* as Bodies do, therefore Vanish into *Nothing*. Nor does *Active Force and Power*, as such, depend upon *Bulk and Extension*, because then, whatsoever had the greater *Bulk*, would have the greater *Activity*. There are therefore, *Two kinds of Substances* in the Universe, the *First Corporeal*, which are *Nothing but Bulk, or Tumours*, devoid of all *Self-Active Power*; the *Second Incorporeal*, which are *ἁπλῶς δυνάμεις*, *Substantial Powers, Vigours, and Activities*; which though they act upon *Bulk and Extension*, yet are themselves *Unbulkie* and devoid of *Quantity and Dimensions*; however they have a certain *πάθος* in them in another sense, an *Essential Profundity*, according to this of *Simplicius*, *μερὲς μὲν ἀπλῶς ἡ σωματικὴ εἶναι πάντα, ἄλλαν ἀνάγκη τῇ μορφῇ κατέμεινον ἀμετέριον ὃ ἀμετέριον ἡ νοεῖ, πλὴν ὃ πάθος ἔχουσα*, *All Corporeal Substance, is simply Divisible, some Parts of it being here and some there, but Intellectual Substance, is Indivisible, and without Dimensions; though it hath much of Depth and Profundity in it in another Sense.* But that there is some thing *ἀφάρτατον* *Unimaginable* even in Body it self, is evident, whether you will suppose it to be *Infinitely Divisible* or Not, as you must of necessity suppose, one or other of these. And that we ought not always to pronounce of *Corporeal Things* themselves, according to *Imagination*, is manifest from hence; because though *Astronomical Reasons*, assure us, that the Sun is really more than a *Hundred Times* bigger than the whole Earth, yet can we not possibly for all that, *Imagine* the Sun of such a *Bigness*, nor indeed the Earth it self; half so big as we know it to be. The reason whereof is, partly because we never had a *Sense or Sight* of any such *Vast Bigness* at once, as that of either of them, and partly because our *Sense* always representing the Sun to us, but *ὡς πηδύλιον*, *as of a Foot Diameter*, and we being accustomed always to *Imagine* the same according to the Appearance of *Sense*, are not able to frame any *Imagination* of it, as very much Bigger. Wherefore if *Imagination* be not to be *Trusted*, nor made the *Criterion or Measure of Truth*, as to *Sensible things* themselves, much less ought it to be, as to *Things Insensible*. Besides all which, the

Ancient

In Ar. Phys.
P. 2.

Ancient *Incorporealists*, argued after this manner, that it is, as Difficult for us to conceive, a Substance whose Duration is *Unextended* or *Unstretched* out in Time, into Past, Present and Future, and therefore without Beginning; as that which is *Unextended* as to Parts, Place or Space, in Length, Breadth and Thickness; yet does Reason pronounce, that there must needs be, not only a Duration without Beginning, but also *ἄχρονος αἰών*, a Timeless Eternity, or a Permanent Duration, differing from that Successive Flux of Time; (which is one of Plato's γινντά, Things Generated, or that had a Beginning.) This Parity of Reason is by Plotinus thus insisted on, διὸ ἐστὶ ἐν χρόνῳ. P. 669. τῷ, ἀλλὰ παντὸς χρόνου ἔξω, τὸ μὴ χρόνος συνδυαζόμενα αἰὼς πρὸς διάστατον, τὸ δ' αἰὼν ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ μένει καὶ κατὰ τὸ, καὶ πλάτος ὅντος διτάμει αἰὼς, τὸ ὅτι πολλά δευσις ἵνα χρόνος, For the same reason, that we deny Local Extension, to the Deity, must we also deny Temporal Distance to the same: and affirm that God is not in Time, but above Time, in Eternity. For as much as Time, is alwaies Scattered and Stretched out in Length, and Distance, one moment following after another; but Eternity remaineth in the same, without any Flux, and yet nevertheless outgoeth Time, and transcendeth the Flux thereof, though seeming to be stretched and spun out more into Length. Now the reason why we cannot frame a Conception of such a Timeless Eternity, is only because our selves are Essentially Involved in Time, and accordingly are our Conceptions Chained, Fettered, and Confined, to that narrow and dark Dungeon, that our selves are Imprisoned in; Notwithstanding which, our Freer Faculties, assuring us of the Existence of a Being, which far transcendeth our selves; to wit, one that is Infinitely Perfect; we have by means hereof, μαρτυρίαν τινά, a certain Vaticination, of such a Standing Timeless Eternity, as its Duration.

But as for that Conceit, of *Immaterial* or *Incorporeal Bodies*; or, that God, and Humane Souls, are no otherwise *Incorporeal*, then as *σῶμα λεπτότατον*, a Thin and Subtle Body; such as Wind or Vapour, Air, or Æther; it is certain, that according to the Principles of the most ancient *Atomick Philosophy*, (before it was Atheized) there being no such Real Quality of Subtlety or Tenuity, (because this is altogether Unintelligible) but this Difference arising wholly, from Motion, Dividing the Insensible Parts, and every way Agitating the same, together with a certain Contexture of those Parts; it is not Impossible but that the Finest and most Subtle Body that is, might become as Gross, Hard, Heavy, and Opaque, as Flesh, Earth, Stones, Lead, or Iron; and again that the Grosest of these Bodies, by Motion and a Different Contexture of Parts, might not only be Crystallized, but also become as Thin, Soft, and Fluid as the Finest Æther. So that there is no Specifick Difference, betwixt a Thick and Thin, a Gross and Fine, an Opaque and Pellucid, an Hard and Soft Body, but Accidental only; and therefore is there no reason, why Life and Understanding, should be thought to belong to the one, rather than to the other of them. Besides which, the Reasons of the ancient *Incorporealists*, (afterwards to be produced) will Evince that the Humane Soul and Mind, cannot possibly be any Body whatsoever, though never so Fine, Thin, and Subtle; whose Parts are by Motion Dividable and Separable from one another.

But it is further Objected against this *Unextended Nature*, of *Incorporeal Substances*, as they are said to be *All in the Whole*, and *all in every Part* of that Body, which they are united to, or Act upon; that this is an *Absolute Contradiction* and *Impossibility*; because if the *Whole of the Deity*, be in this *One Point* of Matter, then can there be Nothing at all of it, in the Next adjoining; but that must needs be another *Whole*, and Nothing the same with the former. In like manner, if the whole *Humane Soul*, be in this one Part of the Organized Body, then can there be none at all of it, in any other Part thereof; and so not the *Whole* in the *Whole*, To which Objection, the ancient Incorporealists, made this Twofold Reply. First, in way of *Concession*, That this is indeed an *Absolute Contradiction*, for an Extended Substance, or Body, to be *All* of it in *every one Part* or *Point* of that Space, which the whole occupieth. Thus Plotinus; *ὁμοῖα ἀδιέναιον ἐν πᾶσι τὸ αὐτὸ ὅλον εἶναι, καὶ τὸ μέρος ὑπερ τὸ ὅλον ὑπερβαίνει*, *It is Impossible for a Body, or Extended Substance, to be one and the same, All of it in every Part of that Space, which it possesses; and for every Part thereof, to be the same with the Whole.* But Secondly, as for an *Unextended and Indistant Substance*, which hath no Parts one without another, it is so far from Being a *Contradiction*, that it should be *All* of it in every Part of that Body, which it Acts upon; that it is *Impossible* it should be otherwise, only a *Part in a Part* thereof; so that an *Equal Quantity* of both, should Co-Exist together, because this is to suppose an *Unextended Substance* to be *Extended*. We say it is *Contradictory* to the Nature of that Substance, which is supposed to be, ἀμεγέθους, ἄπρος, ἀδιείρητος, ἀμερής, ἀδιαιρέτος, *Devoid of Magnitude, and of Quantity, and of Parts, Indistant, and Indivisible*; that it should be otherwise United to, or Conjoined with, an *Extended Body*, then after this way, which is look'd upon as such *Conjuring*; namely, that the *Whole of it* should be present with, and Act upon every Part thereof. Thus Plotinus; *ἵστος ὁ λόγος ὅτι αὐτὸ τὸ πᾶσι μᾶλλον, καὶ ὃ ὅλας ἀλλέτερον εἶναι, ὅτι οὐ καὶ ἵπτεας φύσας ἰκανότατα*, *This Form of Doctrine, concerning Incorporeals, is necessarily taken from the thing it self, (Viz. the nature of them as Unextended) and hath Nothing in it Aliene from that Essence, as confounding the Corporeal Nature therewith. Whatsoever is Unextended and Indistant, cannot possibly Co-Exist, with an Extended Substance, Point by Point, and Part by Part, but it must of necessity be, ὅλον ἐν καὶ ταύτων ἀριθμῷ, All of it, one and the same Numerically; that is, (like it self) Undividedly, in every Part of that, which it Acts upon. Wherefore the word ὅλον, in this Form, when it is said, that the Whole Deity, is in every Part of the World, and the Whole Soul in every Part of the Body, is not to be taken in a Positive sense, for a Whole consisting of Parts, one without another, but in a Negative only, for καὶ μεμερισμένον, An Whole Undivided; so that the meaning thereof is no more than this, that the Deity is not Dividedly, in the World, nor the Soul Dividedly in the Body, a Part here, and a Part There; but The τὸ ὅλον, is πανταχῶς ὅλον καὶ μεμερισμένον, Every where, All of it, Undividedly. Thus again Plotinus, ὅλον πανταχῶς δις, ὅτι οὐκ ἐν τι μεμερισμένον· εἰ γὰρ αὐτὸ πανταχῶς αὐτὸς εἴη, ἀλλ' ἕκαστον αὐτῷ μέρος, τὸ μὲν ἀ-*
δι,

En. 4. L. 7.
p. 460.

P. 662.

P. 663.

δι, τὸ ὃ ὡς ἔχει, οὐκ ἔστι ἐπὶ ἑκατέρῃ τῇ μετέωρῃ πρὸς πολλὰ, καὶ τὰ μέλη πάντα, ὥς ἔστι τὸ ὅλον ἐκείνο ἔχει· πρὸς τούτοις ὃ καὶ ὡς· εἰ δὲ ταῦτα ἀδυνατῶν, πολλὴν ἂν ἀνεφάνη τὸ ἀπίστευτον, ἐν οὗτῳ ἀνθρώπῳ, ὅμῳ δὲν νομίζῃ καὶ πανταχῶς τὸ αὐτὸ ἅμα ὅλον ἔχει. *If therefore, God be every where: it cannot possibly be, that he should be so Dividedly; because then himself would not be every where, but only a Part of him Here, and a Part of him There, throughout the whole World; himself being not one Undivided Thing. Moreover, this would be all one, as if a Magnitude were Cut and Divided into many Parts, every one of which Parts, could not be, that whole Magnitude. Lastly, this would be the very same, as to make God a Body. Now if these things be Impossible; then must that so much Disbeliev'd thing (look'd upon as such a Puzzling Griphus, or rather as Contradictions Non-sense) be an Undoubted Truth, according to the Common Notions of mankind; that God is Every where; to wit, that He is All of him, the same Whole, Undividedly, Every where. The sum of all is, That though it be an Absolute Contradiction, for a Body, or Quantum, to be ὅμῳ πᾶν, All of it in every Part of that Space, which the Whole is in; yet it is no Contradiction at all for an Unextended and Indistant Being, to be All of it Undividedly, in every Part of that Body, it Acts upon; but on the contrary, it would be flatly Contradictory to it; to say, that it is only Part of it in a Part; this being to Divide an Indivisible thing, into Parts.*

The Fourth and Last Objection, against Incorporeal and Unextended Substance, is from that Locality, and Immobility, (which will follow thereupon) of Humane Souls; and other Finite Particular Spirits, such as Demons or Angels; That this is not only in it self very Absurd, to suppose these Finite and Particular Beings, to be thus Illocal and Immoveable; No where, and Every where; (from whence it would seem to follow that they might Act the whole Corporeal Universe, or take cognizance of all things therein Every where) but also, that this Conceit is Contradictory to the Very Principles of Religionists themselves, and plainly Confuted by the same; they acknowledging Universally, that Humane Souls (at Death) departing out of this Body, do Locally move from thence, into a certain other Place, Called Hades, Hell, or Inferi. Now the Latter Part of this Objection is First to be Answered. And this is indeed a thing, which the ancient Asserters of Incorporeal Substance, as Unextended, were not unaware of; That the Vulgarly Received Tradition, of Humane Souls, (after Death) going into Hades, might be Objected against them. For the Satisfying whereof, Plotinus suggesteth these Two Things; First, τὸ μὴ ὡς ἁδ' αὖ γινέσθαι, εἰ μὴ ἐν τῷ ἁδ' αὖ τὸ χῶρος λέγεται; *En. 6. L. 4. That if by Hades be meant, nothing but τὸ ἀόρατον The Invisible, (as many times it is) then is there no more signified by the Souls going into Hades, than its no longer being Vitally united to this Earthy Body, and but Acting apart by it self, and so hath it nothing of Place necessarily included in it. Secondly, εἰ δὲ πᾶς χῶρος τόπος· τί θαυμαστόν, ἐπεὶ καὶ νῦν ἔστω ἡμῶν ἐν τῷ τόπῳ κατέμνη λέγεται ἐκεί· ἀλλ' ὥς πᾶς ἐπὶ σώματι; ἢ τὸ εἶδον εἰ μὴ ἀπὸ ζῴοντος, πῶς ὥς ἐκείνῳ τὸ εἶδον; But if by Hades be understood, a Certain Worse Place, (as sometimes it also is)*
What

What wonder is this? since now where our Body is, there in the same place is our Soul said to be also? But you will Reply, how can this be, when there is now no longer any Body left? We Answer, that if the Idol of the Soul be not quite Separated from it, Why should not the Soul it self be said to be there also, where its Idol is? Where by the Idol of the Soul Plotinus seems to mean, an Airy or Spirituous Body, Quickned and Vitalized by the Soul, adhering to it after death. But when the same Philosopher supposes, this very Idol of the Soul to be also Separable from it, and that so as to subsist apart by it self too, this going alone into Hades, or the Worker Place, whilst that liveth only in the Intelligible World (where there is no Place nor Distance) lodged in the Naked Deity, having nothing at all of Body hanging about it, and being now not A Part but the Whole, and so Situate nether here nor there, in this High Flight of his, he is at once, both Absurdly Paradoxical, in dividing the Life of the Soul as it were into Two, and forgot the Doctrine of his own School, which as himself elsewhere intimateth, was this, τὸ ἡμῶν ψυχὴν τὸ διὰ μὲν σῶμα καὶ ἀλλοτρίαν, ἢ πάντῃ ὃ ἔξω σώματος ἵσταναι, That Our Soul, though it shall quit this Body, yet shall it never be disjunct from all Body. Wherefore Porphyry answering the same Objection, though he were otherwise much addicted to Plotinus, and here uses his Language too, yet does he in this depart from him, adhering to the ancient Pythagorick Tradition; which as will appear afterwards, was

⁹АФ.р. 232.

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As the Souls being here upon Earth, (faith he) is not its moving up and down upon it, after the manner of Bodies; but its Presiding over a Body which moveth upon the Earth; so is its being in Hades, nothing but its presiding over that Idol, or Enlivened Vaporous Body, whose Nature it is to be in a Place, and which is of a Dark Subsistence. Wherefore if Hades be taken for a Subterraneous and Dark Place, yet may the Soul nevertheless, be said to go into Hades, because when it quits this Gross Earthy Body, a more Spirituous and Subtle Body, collected from the Spheres (or Elements) doth still accompany it. Which Spirit being Moist and Heavy, and naturally descending to the Subterraneous places, the Soul itself may be said in this sense to go Under the Earth also, with it, not as if the Substance thereof, passed from One Place to Another, but because of its Relation and Vital Union to a Body which does so. Where Porphyrius addeth, contrary to the Sense of Plotinus; That the Soul is never quite Naked of all Body; but hath always some Body or other joyned with it suitable and agreeable to its own present Disposition (either a Purer or Impurer one.) But that at its first Quitting, its Gross Earthly Body, the Spirituous Body, which accompanieth it, (as its Vehicle) must needs go away Fouled and Incrassated with the gross Va-

pours and steams thereof; till the Soul afterwards by Degrees Purging it self, this becometh at length A Dry Splendour, which bath no Myſty Objectivity, nor caſteth any Shadow.

But because this Doctrine of the *Ancient Incorporalists*, concerning the *Humane Souls* being always, (after Death) United to some Body or other; is more fully declared by *Philoponus*, then by any other, that we have yet met withal, we shall here excerpt some Passages out of him about it. First therefore, he declareth this for his own opinion, agreeable to the Sense of the best Philosophers; *τὴν μὴ λογικὴν ψυχὴν, τὴν ὃ ἀλογον, τότε μὴ χωρεῖν, ἄλλω μὲντοι πῶς σώματι· ἀχρεῖται, λίαν ὃ τῷ πνευματικῷ, ὅτιν ἀλυτῶς δεῖται, ὡς δ' αἰσθάν.* That the Rational Soul, as to its Emergie, is separable from all Body; but the Irrational Part or Life thereof, is Separable only from this Gross Body, and not from all Body whatsoever; but bath (after Death) a Spirituous or Aery Body, in which it abideth; This I say is a True Opinion, as shall be afterwards proved by us. And again, *ἡ ὃ ἀλογ. καὶ ἐν τῷ τότε ἔχει τὸ εἶναι, ἐπιδιδάμειν ὅδ' ἐ μετὰ ἔξοδον τὴν ἐκ τότε τῇ ψυχῇ, ὅ· χωμα ἐ γινώσκοντες ἔχουσι τὸ πνευματικόν σώμα· ὃ ἐ αὐτὸ ἐν μὲν ἐκ τῆς πωρότου, λίγλαι ὃ ἐκ τῷ πλειονότῳ· τῷ αἰρος· ἔστιπε ἐ τότε γίνουσι, λίγλαι ἐκ τῷ πλειονότῳ.* The Irrational Life of the Soul, bath not all its Being, in this Gross Earthy Body, but remaineth after the Souls Departure out of it; having for its Vehicle and Subject, the Spirituous Body. Which it self is also compounded out of the Four Elements, but receiveth its Denomination from the Predominant Part, to wit Air: as this Gross Body of ours is called Earthy, from what is most Predominant therein. Thus do we see, that according to *Philoponus*, the *Humane Soul* after Death, does not merely exercise its Rational Powers, and think only of Metaphysical and Mathematical Notions, Abstract things, which are neither in Time nor Place, but exerciseth also its Lower Sensitive and Irrational Faculties, which it could not possibly do, were it not then Vitally United to some Body; and this Body then accompanying the Soul, he calls *Pneumatical*, that is (not Spiritual in the Scripture-Sense, but) Spirituous, Vaporous, or Aery. Let us therefore in the next place see, what Rational Account, *Philoponus* can give of this Doctrine of the Antients, and of his Own Opinion agreeable thereunto, *ἡ ψυχὴ ἡ ἡμετέρα, μετὰ τὴν ἐκ τῷ σώματι τότε ἔξοδον, ὁμολογῶνται, μᾶλλον ὃ ἀποδείκνυται, ἐς αὐτὸ ἀφικνῶνται, ἐ πῶναι ἐκ τῆς καλῆς βελτιωμένης παρῆχιν· ὃ ὅδ' μόνον τῷ εἶναι ἡμῶν φροντίζει ἡ κρήνη, ἀλλὰ ἐ τῷ εἶναι· διὸ καὶ ἀμειλῶνται ἡ ψυχὴ ἐς τὸ εὖ φρονεῖν βελτιώσασα, ἀλλὰ τυχεῖται τῇ προσωπικῇ ἐπιμελείας· ἐ ἐπὶ δὴ τὸ ἀμειλῶνται αὐτῇ διὰ γλυκυθυμίας ἐχέται, ἥ ἀνάγκη ἐ τὸ καθεστῶναι δι' ἀληθινότητος αὐτῇ γινώσκου· καὶ αὐτῶν τῇ ἀσκητικῇ ἰαματι· διὰ τὸτο ἀλγύνεται ἡ καθεστῶνται ἐ τῷ ὑπὸ γλυκυθυμίας διὰ καλῶν. Ἄλλ' ἐ ἀπώματος ἡ ψυχὴ αἰδύναται αὐτῇ παθεῖν· πᾶς ἐν καλῶνται, ἀνάγκη ἐν πᾶσι σώματι αὐτῇς ἔχουσαι, ὃ διακερμένον αἰ μέρους ἡ συκερμένον, ὑπὸ ψύχειας ἡ καλῶνται ἀμειλῶνται, ἀλγύνει τὴν ψυχὴν διὰ τὴν συμπαθεῖν· ποῖον ἐν σώματι ὅτι τὸ ἔχουμένην αὐτῇ; ὃ δὴνα τὸτο ἀνελίξιν γὰρ ἐς τὰ ἔξ ἐν σπέρματι, ἀλλὰ τὸτο, τὸ πνευματικόν, ὃ λίγλαι ἐ τὸτο ἐν εἰς πάντας διὰ τὸτο ὡς ἐ ὑποκειμένην, θυμὸς καὶ ἐπιθυμία· καὶ τὰ ἔξ.* Our Humane Soul, (in those who are not

Purged

δι' αὐτὰς τὰς ἀτμοὺς διὰ τὸ τοῦτο φρενίζον οἱ Λαοδαῖοι ἡ λαοφύλαξ δια-
 τας καὶ ἐρεπτερας, διὰ τὸ μὴ παύσασθαι τὸ πνεῦμα ἀλλὰ λαοφύλασθαι· πρὸς
 τὸτο καὶ τὰς κατωτέρους φανερὰ λαμβάνει· τὸτο μὲν γὰρ τὸ σῶμα ὕδατι
 πλύνεται, ἐκείνη δὲ κατωτέρως διὰ τῶν ἀτμῶν· διὰ τὸ ἀτμῶν τῶν τελε-
 ται τῶν κατωτέρων· καὶ διαφανέσθαι δὲ φανερὰ αὐτῇ, ἀλλ' ὅλον δὲ ὅλον ἐρε-
 γαν, καὶ τὰς αἰσθητικὰς καὶ τὰς αἰσθητῶν ἀντανακλάσθαι· διὸ καὶ Ἀριστοτέλης φησὶ
 ἐν τοῖς μετὰ τὰ φυσικά, ὅτι ἡ κυρία αἰσθησις μία, καὶ τὸ κυρία αἰσθητικόν
 ἓν· They further add, that there is something of the Plantal and Pla-
 stick Life also, Exercised by the Soul, in those Spirituous or Airy Bodies,
 after Death; they being Nourished too; though not after the same man-
 ner, as those Gross Earthy Bodies of ours are here, but by Vapours; and
 that not by Parts or Organs, but throughout the Whole of them, (as Spon-
 ges) they imbibing every where those Vapours. For which cause, they
 who are wise, will in this Life also, take care of using a Thinner and Dry-
 er Diet, that so that Spirituous Body (which we have also at this pre-
 sent time within our Grosser Body) may not be Clogged and Incrassated,
 but Attenuated. Over and above which, those Ancients made use of Ca-
 thartics, or Purgations to the same end and purpose also. For as this
 Earthy Body is washed by Water, so is that Spirituous Body Cleansed by
 Cathartick Vapours; some of these Vapours being Nutritive, others Pur-
 gative. Moreover these Ancients further declared, concerning this Spi-
 rituous Body; that it was not Organized, but did the Whole of it, in
 every Part throughout, exercise all Functions of Sense; the Soul Hearing,
 and Seeing, and Perceiving all Sensibles, by it every where. For which
 Cause Aristotle himself, affirmeth in his Metaphysicks, That there is pro-
 perly but One Sense, and but One Sensory. He by this One Sensory mean-
 ing, the Spirit, or Subtle Airy Body, in which the Sensitive Power, doth
 all of it, through the Whole, immediately apprehend all Variety of Sen-
 sibles. And if it be demanded, How it comes then to pass, that this
 Spirit, appears Organized in Sepulchres, and most commonly of Humane
 Form, but sometimes in the Form of some other Animals; to this those
 Ancients Replied, That their appearing so frequently in Humane Form;
 proceedeth from their being, Incrassated with Evil Diet, and then as it
 were stamped upon, with the Form of this Exterior Ambient Body, in
 which they are; as Crystal is Formed and Coloured, like to those things
 which it is fastened in, or Reflects the Image of them. And that their
 having sometimes other different Forms, proceedeth from the Chanta-
 stick Power of the Soul, it self, which can at pleasure transform this
 Spirituous Body into any shape. For being Airy, when it is Condensed,
 and Fixed, it becometh Visible; and again Invisible, and Vanishing out
 of Sight, when it is Expanded and Rarefied.

Now from these Passages cited out of Philoponus, it further appear-
 eth, that the Ancient Asserters of the Souls Immortality, did not sup-
 pose Humane Souls after Death, to be quite strip'd, stark Naked from
 all Body; but that the Generality of Souls, had then a certain Spirit-
 uous, Vaporous, or Airy Body, accompanying them; though in dif-
 ferent Degrees of Purity or Impurity, Respectively to themselves. As
 also, that they conceived, this Spirituous Body, (or at least something
 of it) to hang about the Soul also here in this Life, before Death, as
 its Interior Indument or Veiment; which also then sticks to it,

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times, when he affirmeth the Demiurgus at first to have placed it in a Chariot. For of necessity, every Soul before this Mortal Body, must have an Eternal and easily Moveable Body, it being Essential to it to move. And elsewhere the same Proclus, *αὐτὸ μένοντις ἔσθι διέμεθα τότῳ τῷ μεγάλῳ* P. 164 *εἰς ὁρμήσαν. ἃ ἡμῶν συνήθηται κατελθεῖν εἰς γένεσι, ἀλλ' ἀρκυτὸ ἐξήμα τὸ* *Ἀλγολογίς, πῶς ἔσθι ἀνωμέας τὰς αἰσθήσεις, Whilst we remain above,* we have no need of these Divided Organs, which now we have descending into Generation; but the Uniform Lucid or Splendid Vehicle, is sufficient, this having all Senses United together in it. Which Doctrine, of the Unorganized Luciform, and Spirituous Vehicles, seems to have been derived from Plato, he in his *Epinomis*, writing thus concerning a Good and Wise man after Death; *ὃν καὶ δ' ἔτι χυρὸν ἐξήμα παλαιοῦ καὶ συνεδρῶν ἡμῶν, ἵσμεν θανάτου, τὴν αὐτὴν μέμεν ἀπαιτῆσαι, μήτι μετέστιν ἔτι πολλῶν τότε, κατέστιν τὴν αἰσθήσεων, μῆτις μοίρας μάλλον φέρεται μένει, καὶ οὐ πολλῶν ἔτι γένεσις ἐκδηρίματα ἔσθι. Of whom,* whether I be in Jest or Earnest, I constantly affirm, that when dying he shall yield to Fate, he shall no longer have this Variety of Senses, which now we have, but One Uniform Body, and live a happy Life. Moreover Hierocles much insisteth upon this *Ἀνολογίς Σῶμα*, this Luciform and Ethereal Body, *ὃ καὶ ψυχῆς λεπτόν ὄχημα εἰ χεν Σιμοὶ καλεῖται, Which also* (saith he) *the Oracles call the Thin and Subtle Vehicle, or Chariot of the Soul;* he meaning doubtless by these Oracles, the *Magical or Chaldaick Oracles* before mentioned. And amongst those now Extant, under that Title, there seems to be a clear acknowledgment of these Two Vehicula of the Soul, or Interior Induments thereof; the Spirituous, and the Luciform Body, the latter of which, is there Enigmatically called *ἐπίπεδον*, or a Plain Superficies, in these words; *μὴ πνεύμα μολύνῃς, μὴδὲ βλάπτῃς τὸ ἐπίπεδον, Take care, not to Defile or Contaminate the Spirit; nor to make the Plain Superficies, Deep.* For thus Pfellus glosseth upon that Oracle, *δύο χιτῶνες ἐπενδύσει τὴν ψυχὴν οἱ χαλδαῖοι· ἃ τὸ μὲν πνευματικὸν ἀνέμασαν, ἀπὸ τῆς αἰσθητῆς ἀνέφανσεν, αὐτῇ τὸ ἡ' Ἀνολογίς, λεπτόν ἢ ἀναφῶ, ὅστις ἐπίπεδον.* The Chaldaick Philosophers, bestow upon the Soul, Two Interior Tunicles or Vestments, the one of which they called, *Pneumatical, or the Spirituous Body;* which is weaved out as it were to it, and compounded of the Gross Sensible Body (it being the more Thin and Subtle part thereof) the other the Luciform Vestment of the Soul, Pure and Pellucide, and this is that which is here called the Plain Superficies. Which, saith Plotbo, is not so to be understood, as if it had not Three Dimensions (for as much as it is a Body also) but only to denote the Subtlety and Tenuity thereof. Wherefore when the aforesaid Hierocles also calls this Luciform and Ethereal Body, *τὸ πνευματικὸν ὄχημα ἢ λογικῆς ψυχῆς, The Spiritual Vehicle of the Rational Soul,* he takes not the Word *πνευματικόν*, in that sense, wherein it is used by Philoponus and Others; as if he intended to confound this Ethereal Body, with that other Spirituous or Airy Body, and to make but one of them; but rather styles it *Spiritual*, in a higher Sense, (and which cometh near to that of the Scripture) as being a Body more Suitable and Cognate, with that Highest and Divinest Part of the Soul, Mind or Reason, then the other Terrestrial Body is (which upon that account is called also, by the same Hierocles, (as well as it is by St. Paul) *σῶμα ψυχικόν, the Animal or Natural Bo-*

dy.) So that this *Spiritual Body* of *Hierocles*, is not the *Airy*, but the *Ethereal Body*, and the same with *Synesius* his *ἑσπερίαν σῶμα*, His *Divine Body*. And that this Distinction of two *Interior Vehicles* or *Tunics* of the *Soul*, besides that *Outer Vestment*, of the *Terrestrial Body*, (styled in *Plato* τὴ ἑσπερίῃς, the *Cruftaceous* or *Ostraceous Body*) is not a meer *Figment* of the latter *Platonists* since *Christianity*, but a *Tradition* derived down from *Antiquity*, appeareth plainly from *Virgil* in his Sixth *Æneid*, where though not commonly understood, he writeth first of the *Spirituons*, or *Airy Body*, in which Unpurged Souls, receive Punishment after Death, thus;

*Quin & Supremo cum Lumine Vita reliquit,
Non tamen omne Malum miseris, nec funditus omnes
Corporeæ excedunt pestes : penitusque necesse est
Multa diu concreta modis inolescere miris.
Ergo exercentur pœnis, veterumque malorum
Supplicia expiunt ; alia panduntur inanes
Suspense ad Ventos ; aliis sub gurgite Fœsto
Infectum eluitur Scelus, aut exurit Ignis.*

And then again of the other *Pure Ethereal* and *Fiery Body*, in this manner,

*Donec Longa dies perfectio temporis Orbe,
Concretam exemit labem, purumque reliquit
Æthereum Sensum, atque Auræ Simplicitis Ignem.*

Now as it was before observed, that the *Ancient Asserters* of the *Souls Immortality*, supposing it to have besides this *Terrestrial Body*, another *Spirituons* or *Airy Body*, conceived this not only to accompany the *Soul* after Death, but also to hang about it here in this *Life*, as its *Interior Vest* or *Tunic* ; (they probably meaning hereby, the same with that which is commonly called, the *Animal Spirits*, diffused from the *Brain*, by the *Nerves*, throughout this whole *Body*) in like manner is it certain, that Many of them supposing, the *Soul* besides those Two forementioned, to have yet a *Third Luciform* or *Ethereal Body*, conceived this in like manner, to adhere to it even in this *Mortal Life* too, as its *Inmost Clothing* or *Tunic* ; yet so as that they acknowledged the Force thereof, to be very much weakened and abated, and its Splendour altogether obscured, by the *Heavy Weights*, and *Gross Steams* or *Vapours*, of the *Terrestrial Body*. Thus *Snidas* upon the Word *Ἀυροφῆς*, tells us out of *Isidore*, ὅς ἐστι ἡ ψυχὴ Ἀυροφῆς ὄχημα λεγόμενον αὐροφῆς τι καὶ αἰθρῶν καὶ τῶτο μὲν τὸ Ἀυροφῆς σῶμα τῶδε ἀπεκρίθηται εἰς τὸς μὲν εἶναι τὴ κεφαλῇς. That according to some Philosophers, the *Soul* hath a certain *Luciform Vehicle*, called also *Star*- or *Sun*-like, and *Eternal* : which *Luciform Body*, is now shut up within this *Terrestrial Body* (as a *Light* in a dark *Lanthorn*) it being supposed by some of them, to be included within the *Head*, &c. With which agreeth *Hierocles*, ἐν τῇ θνήσκοντι σῶματι, τὸ Ἀυροφῆς ἐκείνου, περιέχεται τῇ αἰσχύρῃ σῶματι ζῶντι, καὶ τὴν ἀμεταίαν αὐτῷ συνέχει, The *Splendid* or *Luciform Body*, lieth in this *Mortal Body* of ours, continually

usually Inspiring it with Life, and containing the Harmony thereof. The ground of which opinion was, because these Philosophers generally conceived, the Humane Soul to have Pre-Existed, before it came into this Earthly Body, and that either from Eternity, or else from the First beginning of the World's Creation; and being never without a Body, and then in a Perfect State, to have had a Lucid and Ethereal Body, either Co-Eternal, or Co-Eve with it, (though in order of Nature Junior to it) as its Chariot or Vehicle; which being Incorruptible, did always inseparably adhere to the Soul, in its After-Lapses and Descents, into an Aerial first, and then a Terrestrial Body; this being as it were the Vinculum of Union, betwixt the Soul and them. Thus *Pletho* declares their Sense, διὰ ἡ τοῖσδε σώματι τοῦ ἡ πῦρ τοῦ συνῶ τὴν αἰθερῶν σώματι συζυγῆσθαι, ὅς ἐστι τοῦ τῆ ἐμψύου πνεύματος διὰ συζυγῆσαν ὑπαπλοκομένης ἅτε πνεύματος τινος καὶ αὐτῶ ὅτι, By this Ethereal Body, is our Humane Soul Connected, with its Mortal Body; the whole thereof being Implicated with the whole Vital Spirit of the Embryo, for as much as this it self is a Spirit also. But long before *Pletho* was this Doctrine declared and asserted by *Galen*, as agreeable both to *Plato's* and his own sense, He first Premising, that the Immediate Organ or Instrument of Sight, was αἰθερῶν, a Luciform and Ethereal Spirit, δυνάμεις ἐν ἐξῆς αἰθερῶν μὲν ἔσθαι τὸ ὁψῶς ἔργον, αἰθερῶν δὲ τὸ ἁκούειν, ἀκουστικὸν δὲ τὸ ὁσμήν, καὶ τὸ μὲν ἁκούστικόν ὡς ἐστὶν, τὸ δὲ ἁκούστικόν ὡς ἐστὶν, &c. Wherefore we may reasonably affirm, that the Organ of Sight, is a Luciform or Ethereal Body; as that of Hearing is Aerial; that of Smelling Vaporous; that of Taste Moist or Watery; and That of Touch Earthy; like being perceived by like: And He accordingly thus understanding, those Known Verses of *Empedocles*, which as *Aristotle* otherwise interprets them, are Nonsense, καὶ τὸν αἰθ' ἢν ὁ βάλανος δυνάμεις ὁ ἐμπειδικὸς ἐν οἷς φησὶ γὰρ μὲν γὰρ αἰθ' αἰθερῶν καὶ οὐρανὸς καὶ μὲν γὰρ αἰθερῶν καὶ αἰθερῶν φύσιν, καὶ δ' αἰθερῶν καὶ ὁψῶς, καὶ Ἀκουστικόν, &c. And this was that which *Empedocles* meant to signify, in those famous Verses of his; it being certain that by the most Earthy of our Senses, the Touch, we perceive the Earthy Nature of Sensibles; and by the most Luciform, viz. that of Sight, the Passions of Light; by that which is Aerial, Sounds; by that which is Moist and Sponge-like, Tastes; and Lastly, by the Organ of Smelling, which is the Extremity of those Former Cavities of the Brain, as replenished with Vapours, Odours. After which he writeth, of the Essence or Substance of the Soul, in this manner, εἰ καὶ αἰθερῶν σώματι ἀποφινεσθαι καὶ, δυνάμεις αἰθερῶν αἰθερῶν ἔσθαι, ἢ τὸν ἔσθαι τὸ οὐρανὸν αἰθερῶν, καὶ αἰθερῶν σώματι λευκὸν αὐτὴν, εἰς ὃ καὶ μὴ βάλανος καὶ ἀκουστικὸν ἀφινεσθαι οὐκ οἶμαι, ἢ αὐτὴν μὲν ἀπώματον ὑπερκεν ὄσιν, ἐχρησάμεν τὸ πρῶτον αὐτὴς ἔσθαι τὸ σώμα, δι' ὃ μάλιστα τὴν πρὸς τ' ἄλλα σώματα κοινότητα λαμβάνει. τὸ μὲν ἐν αὐτῇ δὲ οὐκ λευκὸν ἡμῶν οὐκ ἐκτελεσθαι τὸ ἐκτελεσθαι τὴν δὲ πρὸς αὐτὸ κοινότητα τὸ καὶ τὰς ἐκείνης αὐτῇ πνεύματος φύσεως γίνεσθαι. And if we should now declare any thing concerning the Essence or Substance of the Soul, we must needs affirm one or other of these Two things; That either it self is this Luciform and Ethereal Body (Which the Stoicks whether they will or no, by consequence will be brought unto, as also *Aristotle* himself) or else that the Soul is it self an Incorporeal Substance, but that this Luciform Ethereal Body, is its First Vehicle,

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P. 394.

cle, by which as a Middle, it communicates with the other Bodies. Wherefore we must say, that this Ethereal Lucid Body, is Extended throughout the whole Brain; whence is that Luciform Spirit derived, that is the Immediate Instrument of Sight. Now from hence it was, that these Philosophers, besides the Moral Purgation of the Soul, and the Intellectual or Philosophical; recommended very much a Mystical or Telestick way of Purifying, this Ethereal Body in us, by Dyet and Cathartics. Thus the forementioned Hierocles, ἐπὶ δὲ καὶ τῆς 'Αυροφάνειας σώματος περὶ τοῦ σώματος θνήσκειν οὐκ, καὶ διαφύλαξαι δὲ καὶ τὸτο, &c. Since to our Lucid or Splendid Body, this Gross Mortal Body, is come, by way of Accession, we ought to Purifie the Former also, and free it from Sympathy with the Latter. And again afterwards, αἱ δὲ λογικῆς ψυχῆς καθάρσεις καὶ τῆς 'Αυροφάνειας ὀρχήματι περικυβερταί, ὅπως ἂν αὐτὰς ὑπερῆγεν καὶ τὸτο γινώσκουσιν μὴ ἔμποδὸν ἵσθαι πρὸς τὴν αὐτὰς πύλιν, καὶ τὰ ἔξω, Together with the Purgations of the Rational Soul, the Purification of the Luciform or Ethereal Vehicle, is also to be regarded, that this being made Light, and Alate or Wingy, might no way hinder the Souls Ascent upward: But he that endeavours, to Purifie the Mind only, neglecting the Body, applies not himself to the whole Man. Whereupon he concludes, τὴν τιθεμένην ἐνέργειαν λόγῳ, τὴν τῆς 'Αυροφάνειας καθάρσεων δύναμιν, I therefore call this the Telestick or Mystick Operation; which is Conversant about the Purgation of the Lucid or Ethereal Vehicle. And whereas Philosophy was by Plato and Socrates Defined, to be a Continual Exercise of Dying (which yet Pliny thought to be nothing but an Hypochondriacal or Atrabiliarian Distemper in them, in those words of his, which Salmasius and other Criticks can by no means understand, Est etiam quidam Morbus, Per Sapientiam Mori, That the Dying by Wisdom or Philosophy, is also but a certain kind of Bodily Disease, or Over-grown Melancholy) Though they supposed this principally to consist, in a Moral Dying to Corporeal Lusts and Passions, yet was the design thereof, partly Mystical and Telestick also, it driving at this further thing, that when they should put off this Terrestrial Body, they might at once Dye also, to the Spirituous or Aerial; and then their Soul have nothing left, hanging about it, but only the Pure Ethereal Body, its Light-winged Chariot: which in Virgil's Language, is

——Purumque relinqui
Æthereum Sensum, atque Auræ Simplicitis Ignem.

Notwithstanding which, the Pythagoreans and Platonists, seem not to have been all of them of this Perswasion, that the same Numerical Ethereal Body, which the Soul was at first Created with, continueth still about it, and adhereth to it Inseparably to all Eternity, during its Descents, into other Grosser Bodies; but rather to have supposed, that according to the Moral Disposition of the Soul, it always finds or makes a Cognate and Suitable Body, Correspondently Pure or Impure; and consequently, that by Moral Vertue and Philosophy, it might again recover that Celestial Body, which was lost by its Fall and Descent hither. This seemeth to have been Porphyrius his sense in these words of his, ὡς ἂν διετρίβῃ ἡ ψυχή, ἐνελίσσεται σῶμα τὰξιν καὶ τοῖς αἰσθητοῖς διαφύλαξιν. διὸ καθάρσας μὲν διακαταμένην σύμφυτον τὸ ἐξ ἑνὸς τῶ

τὸ ἀλλὰ σῶμα, ὅπου ἔστι τὸ αἰσθητόν, *However the Soul be in it self affected, so does it alwaies find a Body, suitable and agreeable to its present Disposition; and therefore to the Purged Souls, does Naturally accrue a Body, that comes next to Immateriality; that is, an Ethereal one. And probably Plato was of the same Mind, when he affirmed, the Soul to be alwaies in a Body, but sometimes of one kind, and sometimes of another.*

Now from what hath been declared, it appeareth already, that the molt Ancient Asserters of the Incorporiety and Immortality of the Humane Soul, supposed it notwithstanding, to be Always Conjoyned with a Body. Thus Hierocles plainly, ἡ λογικὴ ψυχή σῶματι ἐκχέουσα P. 187. ἔχειται σῶμα, ὅπου παρὰ τὸ δημιουργοῦ ἐς τὸ εἶναι περιέχεται, ὥς μέν τι τὸ σῶμα ἵπαι αὐτῷ, μέν τι αἰθερ σῶματι. ἀλλ' αὐτῷ μὲν ἀσώματον, ἀπυπεριέχεται ὅ ἐς σῶμα τὸ ὕλον αὐτῆς ἐστίν, *The Rational Nature, having alwaies a Cognate Body, so proceeded from the Demiurgus, as that neither it self is Body, nor yet can it be without Body, but though it self be Incorporeal, yet its whole Form notwithstanding, is Terminated in a Body.* Accordingly whereunto, the Definition which he gives of a Man, is this, ψυχὴ λογικὴ μετὰ σωματίου ἀθανάτου σῶματι, *A Rational Soul, together with a Cognate Immortal Body; he concluding there afterwards, that this Enlivened Terrestrial Body, or Mortal man, is nothing but εἶδωλον αἰθεράτου, The Image of The True man, or an Accession thereunto, which is therefore Separable from the same. Neither doth he affirm this only of Humane Souls, but also of all other Rational Beings whatsoever, Below the Supreme Deity, and Above Men; that they always, Naturally Assume a Body. Wherefore a Demon or Angel (which words are used as Synonymous by Hierocles) is also Defined by him, after the same manner, ψυχὴ λογικὴ μετὰ φωτὶν σῶματι, *A Rational Soul together with a Lucid Body.* And accordingly Proclus upon Plato's *Timæus*, affirmeth, πάντα δαίμονα ἢ ἡμετέραν κρείσσεια ψυχῶν, ἢ νοεῖσιν ἔχιν ψυχῶν, ἢ ὄργανα αἰσθητόν, *That every Demon, Superiour to our Humane Souls, hath both an Intellectual Soul, and an Ethereal Vehicle, the Entireness thereof being made up or Compounded of these Two things.* So that there is hardly any other Difference left, betwixt Demons or Angels, and Men, according to these Philosophers, but only this; That the Former are Lapsable, into Aereal Bodies only, and no further; but the Latter into Terrestrial also. Now Hierocles positively affirmeth, this to have been the True Cabala, and Genuine Doctrine of the Ancient Pythagoreans, entertained afterwards by Plato; ἡ τῆς πύθιαρχου ἢ δαίμονα, ὅ ἢ πλάτων ὡσεὶ δέδεικται, ἀπλάτως ἐμφύτω δυνάμει ὑποκείμεν ἔδωκεν τι ἢ ἰσχύει, πᾶσαι δέον τι πᾶν ἀνθρωπίνῳ ψυχῇ, *And This was the Doctrine of the Pythagoreans, which Plato afterwards declared; he resembling, Every both Humane and Divine Soul (that is, in our Modern Language, Every Created Rational Being) to a Winged Chariot, and a Driver or Charioteer, both together; meaning by the Chariot, an Enlivened Body, and by the Charioteer, the Incorporal Soul it self Acting it.**

And now have we given a full Account, in what manner the Ancient Asserters of Incorporal Substance as Unextended, Answered that
Objection

purge himself, and to reconcile those Two Assertions together, which he doth after such a manner; as that there should be indeed a *Resurrection*, at the First Coming of the *Jewish Messiah*, of some certain Persons, to live here a while upon the Earth, Eat and Drink, Marry and be given in Marriage, and then dy again; after which in the *World to come*, they should for ever continue *Pure Souls*, Ununited to any *Body*. In which, it may be well suspected, that the Design *Maymonides* drove at, was against *Christianity*; which notwithstanding, as to this Particular, hath the Concurrent *Suffrages* of the best Philosophers, That the most *Genuine* and *Perfect* State, of the *Humane Soul*, which in its own Nature is immortal, is to continue for ever, *not without*, but with a *Body*. And yet our High-flown Enthusiasts generally, (however calling themselves Christians) are such great *Spiritualists*, and so much for the *Inward Resurrection*, (which we deny not to be a Scripture-Notion also; As in that, of *S. Paul*, *If ye be Risen with Christ, &c.* And again, *If by any means I might attain to the Resurrection of the Dead*,) as that they quite *Allegorize* away, together with other *Parts of Christianity*, the *Outward Resurrection of the Body*; and indeed will scarcely acknowledge any *Future Immortality*, or *Life to come after Death*; their Spirituality thus ending in *Sauidncism*, and *Infidelity*, if not at length in *Down-right Atheism*, and *Sensuality*.

But besides this there is yet a further *Correspondence*, of *Christianity*, with the forementioned *Philosophick Cabbala*; in that the Former also supposes, the *Highest Perfection* of our *Humane Souls*, not to consist in being *Eternally Conjoined*, with such *Gross Bodies*, as these we now have, Unchanged and Unaltered. For as the *Pythagoreans* and *Platonists*, have always Complained, of these *Terrestrial Bodies*, as *Prisons*, or *Living Sepulchres* of the *Soul*; so does *Christianity* seem to run much upon the same strain, in these Scripture-Expressions; *In this We Groan Earnestly*, desiring to be clothed upon, with our House which is from Heaven: and again, *We that are in this Tabernacle do Groan, being burdened*, not for that we would be Unclothed, (that is strip'd quite Naked of all *Body*) but so clothed upon, that *Mortality* might be swallowed up of *Life*: and lastly, *Our selves also which have the First Fruits of the Spirit*, Groan within our selves, waiting for the Adoption (*Sonship* or *Inheritance*) namely, the *Redemption of our Bodies*. That is, the Freedom of them from all those Evils and Maladies of theirs, which we here ly oppressed under. Wherefore we cannot think, that the same *Heavy Load* and *Luggage*, which the Souls of good men being here burdened with, do so much groan to be delivered from, shall at the *General Resurrection*, be laid upon them again, and bound fast to them, to all Eternity. For of such a *Resurrection* as this, *Plotinus*, (though perhaps mistaking it for the True Christian Resurrection) might have some cause to affirm, that it would be but *ἀνάστασις εἰς ἄλλον ύπνον*, *A Resurrection to another Sleep*; the Soul seeming not to be *Thoroughly Awake* here, but as it were Separated, with the Dull Steams and Opiatick Vapours of this gross *Body*. For thus the Authour of the *Book of Wisdom*, *The Corruptible Body presseth down the Soul, and the Earthly Tabernacle weigheth down the Mind, that musteth*

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upon many things. But the same will further appear, from that Account, which the Scripture it self giveth us, of the *Resurrection*; and First in General, when S. Paul Answering that *Querie*, of the *Philosophick Infidel*, How are the dead raised, or with what Body do they come? Replieth in this manner; Thou Fool (that is, thou who thinkest to puzzle or baffle, the Christian Article of the *Resurrection*, which thou understandest not) That which thou sowest; is not Quickened (to the Production of any thing) except it first die to what it was. And thou sowest not that Body that shall be, but bare Grain as of Wheat, or of Barley, or the like; but God (in the ordinary course of Nature) giveth it a Body, as it hath pleased him, (that is, a Stalk, and an Eare, having many Grains with Husks in it; and therefore neither in Quantity, nor Quality, the same with that which was Sowed under Ground) Nor does he give to all Seeds, one and the same kind of Body neither, but to every seed its own correspondent Body; as to Wheat one kind of Eare, and to Barley another. As if he should have said; Know that this Present Body of ours; is to be look'd upon, but as a kind of Seed of the *Resurrection-Body*, which therefore is accordingly, in some sense the Same, and in some sense not the Same with it. Besides which General Account, the Particular Oppositions, which the Scripture makes, betwixt the Present and Future Body, seem very agreeable to those of the *Philosophick Cabala*. For First, the Present Body, is said to be Sowed in Corruption, but the Future Raised in Incorruption. For the Children of the *Resurrection*, cannot die any more. And then Mortality shall be swallowed up of Life. Wherefore the Christian *Resurrection-Body*, as well as that of the *Philosophick Cabala*, is σώμα ἀθάνατον, and αἰδον too (2 Cor. 5. 1.) an Immortal and Eternal Body. Again the Body Sowed, is said to be a Dishonourable, Ignominious, and Inglorious Body, and therefore called also by S. Paul, τὸ σώμα τῆ ταπείνωσις ἡμῶν, The Body of our Humility, or Humiliation; A Body agreeable to this Lapsed State of the Soul; But the Body which shall be Raised, shall be a Glorious Body; and σῶμα δόξης τῷ σώματι τῷ δέξῃ αὐτῆς, conformable to that Glorious Body of Christ. Who when he was but Externally Transfigured, his Face did shine as the Sun, and his Raiment was white as the Light. The Glory of a Body, consisteth only in the Comeliness of its Proportion, and the Splendor thereof; Thus is there one Glory of the Sun, and another Glory of the Moon, and another Glory of the Stars, that is a different Splendor of them. Wherefore the Future Body of the Righteous, according to the Scripture also, as well as the *Philosophick Cabala*, will be σώμα φαύρον, and σώμα ἀγλαῆς, and σώμα ἀσπευδῆς, a Glorious, Splendid, Luciform and Star-like Body, Wisd. 3. 7. αἱ καρφαὶ δικαιοσύνης αὐτῶν ἐλάμπουν, The Righteous in the time of their Visitation, shall shine forth. Daniel 12. the 2. and 3. They that be wise, shall shine as the brightness of the Firmament; and they that turn many to Righteousness, as the Stars for ever and ever. And Matthew the 13. 43. Then shall the Righteous shine forth as the Sun, in the Kingdom of their Father. And therefore probably; this Future Glorious *Resurrection Body*, is that Inheritance of the Saints in Light, which the Scripture speaks of, Col. 1. the 12. Moreover, there is another difference betwixt this Present and that Future Body of the Righteous,

it may be from thence inferred, that the *Happy Resurrection-Body*, shall not be this Foul and Gross Body of ours, only *Varnished* and *Gilded* over on the outside of it, it remaining still *Nasty Sluttish* and *Ruinous* within, and having all the same *Seeds of Corruption* and *Mortality* in its *Nature*, which it had before, though by perpetual *Miracle* kept off, it being as it were by *Violence defended*, from being Seised upon and devoured, by the *Jaws of Death*: but that it shall be so Inwardly changed, in its *Nature*, as that the Possessors thereof, *Cannot die any more*. But all this which hath been said of the *Resurrection-Body*, is not so to be understood, as if it belonged *Universally*, to all that shall be Raised up at the last day, or made to appear upon the Earth, as in their own Persons, at that *Great and General Assizes*; That they shall have all alike, (*wicked as well as Good*) such *Glorious, Spiritual, and Celestial Bodies*; but it is only a Description of the ἀνάστασις καὶ ζωὴς, *The Resurrection of Life*, which is Emphatically called also by our Saviour Christ ἀνάστασις ἐκ νεκρῶν, *The Resurrection from the dead*, or to a *Happy Immortality*; as they who shall be thought worthy thereof, are likewise Styled by him, οἱ ἀναστάντες, *The Children of the Resurrection*. Of which Resurrection only it is, that *S. Paul* treateth in that Fifteenth Chapter of his to the *Corinthians*. And we say, that this *Christian Resurrection of Life*; is the *Vesting* and *Settling* of the Souls of Good men, in their *Glorious, Spiritual, Heavenly, and Immortal Bodies*. The Complete Happiness of a man, and all the Good that can be desired by him, Was by the Heathen Poet thus Summed up, *Ut sit Mens Sana in Corpore Sano*, *That there be a Sound Mind in a Sound Body*: and the *Christian Happiness*, seems to be all comprized in these *Two Things*. First, in being *Inwardly Regenerated and Renewed in the Spirit of their Mind*, Cleaned from all *Pollution of Flesh and Spirit*, and made partakers of the *Divine Life and Nature*; and then *Secondly*, in being *Outwardly Clothed, with Glorious, Spiritual, Celestial, and Incorruptible Bodies*. The Scripture plainly declareth, that our Souls are not at Home here, in this *Terrestrial Body*, and These *Earthly Mansions*, but that they are *Strangers and Pilgrims* there in it, which the Patriarchs also confessing, plainly declared that they *Sought a Country*, not that which they came out from, but a *Heavenly one*. From which passages of Scripture, some indeed would infer, that Souls being at first Created by God *Pure, Pre-Existed* before this their *Terrene Nativity*, in *Celestial Bodies*; but afterwards *straggled and wandered* down hither, as *Philo* for one. ἀναπύουσαν μὲν ὅδε ἢ ψυχὴν ἐξ οὐρανοῦ τῆτον, κατέβηκεν εἰς ἐστὶν χρεῖον ἔσθαι, τὸ σῶμα, *Our Soul* (saith he) *having left its Heavenly Mansion, came down into this Earthly Body, as a strange place*. But thus much is certain, that Our *Humane Souls* were at first intended and designed by God Almighty, the Maker of them, for other *Bodies* and other *Regions*, as their proper Home and Country, and their *Eternal Resting Place*: however, to us, that be not *First, which is Spiritual*, but that which is *Natural*, and afterwards that which is *Spiritual*. Now though some from that of *St. Paul*, where he calls this *Happy Resurrection-Body*, οἰκητήριον ἡμῶν τὸ ἐξ ὐψερῶν, *That house of ours that is from Heaven*, or which cometh out of *Heaven*, would infer, that therefore, it will not be taken, out of *Graves* and *Charnel Houses*; they conceiving also, that the *Individuation* and

Sameness

Sameness of mens Persons, does not necessarily depend, upon the *Numerical Identity* of all the Parts of *Matter*, because we never continuethus the Same, our *Bodies* always flowing like a *River*, and passing away by *Insensible Transpiration*, and it is certain, that we have not all the same Numerical Matter, and neither more nor less, both in *Infancy* and in *Old Age*, though we be for all that the self Same Persons: yet nevertheless according to the best Philosophy, which acknowledges no *Essential* or *Specific* Difference of Matter, the Foulest and Grosest Body that is, meerly by Motion, may not only be *Crystallized*, but also brought into the *Purity* and *Tenuity* of the *Finest Ether*. And undoubtedly, that Same Numerical *Body* of our *Saviour* Christ, which lay in the Sepulchre, was after his Resurrection thus Transformed, into a *Spiritual*, and *Heavenly Body*; the *Subtlety* and *Tenuity* whereof appeared, from his entring in when the doors were shut, and his vanishing out of sight; however its *Glory* were for the time suspended, partly for the better convincing his Disciples of the Truth of his Resurrection, and partly because they were not then able to bear the Splendor of it. We conclude therefore, that the *Christian Mystery*, of the Resurrection of *Life*, consisteth not in the Souls being reunited to these Vile Rags of Mortality, these *Gross Bodies* of ours (such as now they are) but in having them *Changed into the Likeness of Christ's Glorious Body*, and in this *Mortal* putting on *Immortality*.

Hitherto have we seen, the Agreement that is betwixt *Christianity*, and the *Old Philosophick Cabbala*, concerning the *Soul*, in these *Two Things*. First, That the highest Happiness and Perfection of the *Humane Soul*, consisteth not, in a State of Pure Separation from all *Body*; and Secondly, that it does not consist neither, in an *Eternal Union* with such *Gross Terrestrial Bodies*, as these Unchanged; the *Soul* being not at *Home*, but a *Stranger* and *Pilgrim* in them, and Oppressed with the Load of them: but that at last the Souls of Good men, shall arrive at *Glorious, Spiritual, Heavenly* and *Immortal Bodies*. But now as to that *Point*, Whether *Humane Souls* be always United to some *Body* or other, and consequently when by Death they put off this *Gross Terrestrial Body*, they are not thereby quite *Devested*, and *Strip'd Naked* of all *Body*, but have a Certain, *Subtle* and *Spirituos* *Body*, still adhering to them, and accompanying them? Or else, Whether all *Souls* that have departed out of this *Life*, from the very beginning of the World, have ever since continued, in a State of Separation from all *Body*, and shall so continue forwards till the *Day of Judgment* or *General Resurrection*? We must confess, that this is a thing not so explicitly *Determined*, or expressly Decided in *Christianity*, either way. Nevertheless it is First of all, certain from Scripture; That *Souls* Departed out of these *Terrestrial Bodies*, are therefore neither *Dead* nor *Asleep*, till the Last Trump and *General Resurrection*; but still *Alive* and *Awake*; our Saviour Christ affirming, That they all *Live unto God*; the meaning whereof seems to be this, that they who are said to be *Dead*, are *Dead* only unto *Men* here upon Earth; but neither *Dead* unto themselves, nor yet unto *God*, their *Life* being not Extinct, but only Disappearing to us, and withdrawn

Death called Sleep in Scripture, only κατ' ἐνφύμωσιν.

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from our sight; for as much as they are gone off this Stage which we still continue to act upon. And thus is it said also, of our Saviour Christ himself, and that after his Resurrection too; *That he Liveth unto God* (Romans the 6. the 10.) From whence it is evident, that they who are said to *Live to God*, are not therefore supposed to be less *Alive*, than they were, when they *Lived unto men*. Now it seemeth to be a *Privilege* or *Prerogative* Proper to the Deity only, to *Live* and *All* alone, without *Vital Union* or *Conjunction* with any Body. *Querendum*, saith Origen, *Si Possibile est, penitus Incorporatas remanere Rationabiles Creaturas, cum ad summum Sanctitatis ac Beatitudinis venerint? An necesse est eas semper Conjunctas esse Corporibus?* It is worth our Enquiry, Whether it be possible, for Rational Creatures, to remain Perfectly Incorporeal, and Separate from all Body, when they are arrived to the Highest Degree of Holiness and Happiness? Or Whether they be always of necessity conjoynd with some Bodies: And afterwards he plainly affirmeth it to be Impossible, *Vivere prater Corpus, Vllam aliam Naturam, prater Patrem, & Filium, & Spiritum Sanctum*. For any other Nature, besides the Father, and the Son, and Holy Ghost, to live, quite without a Body. Indeed if this were most Natural to the *Flaming Soul* and most *Perfective* of it, to continue Separate from all Body, then doubtless (as Origen Implied) should the Souls of Good men, rather After the day of Judgment, continue in such a State of Separation, to all Eternity. But on the contrary, if it be Natural to Souls, to Enliven and Enform some Body or other, (though not always a Terrestrial one) as our Inward Sense inclines us to think, then can it not seem so probable, that they should by a kind of Violence, be kept so long in an Un-Natural or Preter-Natural State of Nakedness and Separation from all Body; some of them even from Adam till the day of Judgment.

Again the Scripture also intimates, that Souls Departed out of this Life, have a Knowledge of one another, and are also capable of the Punishment of Sense or Pain, Fear him (saith our Saviour) who After he hath killed, hath Power to cast into Hell, Luke the 12. And the Soul of the Rich Man, is said to be immediately after Death in Torments, before the Day of Judgment; as likewise to have Known Abraham and Lazarus. And it seems neither agreeable to our Common Notions, nor yet to Piety, to conclude, That the Souls of wicked men, departing out of this Life, from the beginning of the world in their several Ages, till the Day of Judgment, have all of them no manner of Punishment inflicted on them, save only that, of Remorse of Conscience, and Future Expectation. Now it is not conceivable, how Souls after Death should Know and be Knowable, and Converse with one another, and have any Punishment of Sense or Pain inflicted on them, were they not *Vitally United* to some Bodies. And thus did Tertullian reason long ago; *Dolet apud Inferos Animacujusdam, & Punitur in Flamma, & Cruciatur in Lingua, & de digito anime felicioris implorat Solatium Roris. Imaginem existimas, exitum illum Pauperie Lamentantis, & Divitis merentis. Et quid illuc Lazari nomen, si non in veritate res est? Sed etsi Imago credenda est, testimonium erit veritatis. Si enim non habet Anima Corpus, non caperet Imaginem Corporis. Nec mentiretur*

De An. p.
309. Regal.

mentiretur de Corporalibus Membris Scriptura, si non erant. Quid ist autem illud, quod ad Inferna transfertur, post Divortium Corporis? quod detinetur, & in Diem Judicii reservatur? Ad quod & Christus moriendo descendit? puto ad Animam Patriarcharum? Incorporalitas Animæ ab omni genere Custodiæ libera est; immunis à Pœna & à Fovela. Per quod enim Punitur aut Fovetur, hoc erit Corpus. Igitur siquid Tormenti sive Solatii Anima præcepit in Carcere, vel Diversorio Inferum, in Igni vel in Sinu Abrahæ, probata erit Corporalitas Animæ. Incorporalitas enim nihil Patitur, non habens per quod Pati possit: aut si habet, hoc erit Corpus. In quantum enim Omne Corporale Possibile est; in tantum quod Possibile est Corporale est. We read in Scripture, of a Soul Tormented in Hell, Punished with Flames, and desirous of a drop of water to cool his Tongue. You will say perhaps, that this is Parabolical and Fictitious. What then does the name of Lazarus signifie there, if it were no Real thing? But if it be a Parable never so much, yet must it notwithstanding, as to the main, speak agreeably to Truth. For if the Soul (after Death) have no Body at all, then can it not have any Corporeal Image, Shape, or Figure. Nor can it be thought, that the Scripture, would Lie concerning Corporal Members, if there were none. But what is that, which after its Separation from this Body, is carried down into Hell, and there detained Prisoner, and reserved till the day of Judgment? And what is that which Christ dying descended down unto, I suppose to the Souls of the Patriarchs. But Incorporality is free from all Custody or Imprisonment, as also devoid of Pain and Pleasure. Wherefore if Souls be sensible of Pain after Death, and Tormented with Fire, then must they needs have some Corporeity; for Incorporality suffers Nothing. And as every Corporeal thing, is Passive or Patible, so again whatsoever is Passive is Corporeal. Tertullian would also further confirm this, from a Vision or Revelation of a certain Sister-Prophet, (Miracles and Prophecy, being said by him, not to be then altogether Extinct,) *Inter cætera ostensa est mihi Anima Corporaliter, & Spiritus videbatur, Tenebra & Lucida, & Aerii Coloris, Et Formæ per omnia Humane;* There was (said she) amongst other things, a Soul Corporally Exhibited to my View, and it was Tender and Lucid, and of an Aereal Colour, and every way of Humane Form. Agreeably to which, Tertullian himself addeth, *Effigiem non aliam Animæ Humane deputandam præter Humanam, & quidem ejus Corporis quod unaqueque circumtulit.* There is no other Shape to be assigned to a Humane Soul, but Humane; and indeed that of the Body, which it before carried about. It is true indeed, that Tertullian here drives the business so far, as to make the Soul it self to be Corporeal, Figurative and Colorate, and after Death, to have the very same Shape, which its respective Body had before in this Life: he being one of those, who were not able to conceive of any thing Incorporal, and therefore being a Religionist, concluded God himself to be a certain Body also. But the Reasons which he here insisteth on, will indeed extend no further, than to prove, that the Soul hath after Death, some Body Vitally United to it, by means whereof, it is both capable of Converse, and Sensible of Pain, for as much as Body alone, can have no Sense of any thing.

And this is that which *Irenæus*, from the same Scripture gathereth; not

not that the *Soul is a Body*, but that it *Has a Body*, after Death conjoyned with it, and that of the same *Form and Figure*, with that *Body* which it had before here in this *Life*; *Plenissimè autem Dominus docuit, non solum perseverare, non de corpore in corpus transgredientes animas, sed & Characterem corporis, in quo etiam adaptantur, custodire eundem*; Et meminisse eas *Operum quæ egerunt hic, & à quibus cessaverunt*; in *Enarratione quæ scribitur de Divite & de Lazaro, qui refrigerabatur in Sinu Abrahæ*; in quâ ait *Divitem cognoscere Lazarum post mortem*; Et manere in suo ordine unumquemque ipsorum; Our Lord hath most plainly taught us, that *Souls* do not only continue after Death, without passing out of one *Body* into another, but also that they keep the *Character of Body*, wherein they are then also adapted, the same which they had before; as likewise, that they remember the *Actions and Omissions* of their *Life* past; in that *Enarration*, which is written, concerning the *Rich Man* and *Lazarus*, who was refreshed in *Abraham's bosom*; wherein he affirmeth the *Rich Man* to have known both *Lazarus* and *Abraham* after Death, as also each of them to remain in their own Order. And thus again in the following Chapter; *Per hæc manifestissimè declaratum est, & Perseverare Animas; & non de corpore in corpus Exire; & habere Hominis Figuram; (ut etiam cognoscantur) & meminisse eorum quæ hic sint; & Dignam Habitationem Unamquamque Gentem percipere, etiam antè Judicium.* By these things it is most manifestly declared, that *Souls* do both *Persevere* after Death, and that they do not *Transmigrate* out of one *Body* into another; and that they have a *Humane Figure or Shape*, (whereby they may be known) as also that they remember the things here upon the *Earth*, and their own *Actions*; and Lastly, that each kind of *Good and Bad*, have their distinct and suitable *Habitations* assigned them, even before the *Judgment*. Now that *Irenæus* did not here mean, that *Souls* are themselves *Bodily Substances*, and consequently, have a certain *Character, Form, and Figure* of their own, but only that they have certain *Bodies* conjoyned with them, which are *Figurate*; is First of all evident, from the words themselves, *Characterem corporis, in quo etiam adaptantur, custodire Eundem*, The Natural Sense whereof is this, That they keep the *Character of Body* (wherein they are then also adapted, after Death) the same with that which these *Bodies* before had here in this *Life*. And it is further manifest from hence, because he else where plainly declareth, *Souls* themselves to be *Incorporeal*; as in his Fifth Book and Seventh Chapter, *Flatus autem Vitæ Incorporealis est*, But the breath of *Life* is *Incorporeal*.

Furthermore, *Origen* was not only of the same Perswasion, that *Souls* after Death, had certain *Subtle Bodies* united to them, and that those *Bodies* of theirs, had the same *ἑστὸς καὶ ὁρατὸς*, *Characterizing Form*, which these their *Terrestrial Bodies* before had; but also thinks, that this, together with the *Souls* Immortality, may be sufficiently proved, from the frequent *Apparitions* of *Ghosts* or *Departed Souls*; in way of opposition to *Celsus*, endeavouring to invalidate the Scripture Testimonies, concerning the *Apparitions* of our Saviour *Christ*, and Imputing them either to *Magical Imposure*, or *Fanatick Phrenzy*, or the *Disciples* mistaking their own *Dreams* and *Phancies* for

whetein they might Visibly appear: neither is that of any great moment to the contrary, which a Learned Critick objecteth, that *Josephus* writing of their Opinions, maketh no mention hereof: he omitting besides this, other Considerable *Dogmata* of theirs also, as that of the *Resurrection*. However this at least is certain from hence that *Origen* himself took it for granted, that *Humane Souls* departed, werenot altogether Naked or Unclothed, but Clothed with a certain *Subtle Body*, whetein they could also Visibly appear, and that in their pristine Form.

Moreover, it might be here observed also, that when upon our Saviour's first *Apparition* to his Disciples, it is said, that they were affrighted, as supposing, they had seen a *Spirit*; our Saviour does not tell them, that a *Spirit* or *Ghost*, had no Body at all, wherein it could Visibly appear; but (as rather taking that for granted) that a *Spirit* had no *Flesh and Bones*, (no σώμα σάρκους) no such *Solid Body*, as they might find him to have; bidding them therefore, handle him; to remove that Scruple of theirs. As if he should have said, Though *Spirits*, or *Ghosts*, and *Souls* Departed, have *Bodies* (or *Vehicles*) which may by them be so far *Condensed*, as sometimes to make a *Visible* appearance to the Eyes of men; yet have they not any such *Solid Bodies*, as those of *Flesh and Bone*; and therefore by *Feeling* and *Handling*, may you satisfy your selves, that I am not a meer *Spirit*, *Ghost*, or *Soul*, Appearing; as others have frequently done, without a *Miracle*; but that I appear in that very same *Solid Body*, wherein I was *Crucified* by the Jews, by miraculous Divine Power, raised out of the Sepulchre, and now to be found no more there. Agreeable to which of our Saviour Christ, is that of *Apollonius* in *Philosophatur*, λαβὲ μοι, ἴσθι, κἀν μὲν διακρίνω σε, ἔδοξεν εἰπὶ· εἰ δ' ὑπομένωμε ἀπὸ μου, πῶς δὲ ἔστιν τι με, καὶ μὴ ἀποβῆλαι τὸ σῶμα, Touch me and Handle me, and if you find me to avoid the Touch, then may you conclude me to be a *Spirit* or *Ghost*, (that is, a *Soul* departed) but if I firmly resist the same; then believe me Really to live, and not yet to have cast off the Body. And indeed though *Spirits* or *Ghosts*, had certain *Subtle Bodies*, which they could so far *Condense*, as to make them sometimes *Visible* to men; yet is it reasonable enough to think, that they could not *Conspicate* or *Fix* them, into such a *Firmness*, *Grossness*, and *Solidity*, as that of *Flesh and Bone* is, to continue therein; or at least, not without such *Difficulty* and *Pain*, as would hinder them from attempting the same. Notwithstanding which, it is not denied, but that they may possibly sometimes make use of other *Solid Bodies*, Moving and Acting them, as in that famous Story of *Phlegons*, where the *Body* Vanished not, as other *Ghosts* use to do, but was left a Dead Carcase behind. Now as for our Saviour Christ's Body, after his *Resurrection*, and before his Ascension; which notwithstanding its *Solidity* in *Handling*, yet sometimes Vanished also, out of his Disciples sight; this probably, as *Origen* conceived, was purposely conserved for a time, in a certain *Middle State*, betwixt the *Crossities* of a *Mortal Body*, and the *Spirituality* of a Perfectly *Glorified*, Heavenly & Esherial Body.

But there is a place of Scripture, which as it hath been interpreted

pretered by the Generality of the Ancient Fathers, would Naturally
 imply, even the *Soul of our Saviour Christ himself*, after his *Death*,
 and before his *Resurrection*, not to have been quite *Naked* from all
 Body, but to have had a certain *subtle or Spirituous Clothing*, and it
 is this of *St. Peter*, *Ἰσχυατοὶς μὴ σαρεὶ, ζωοποιῶς ὃ τῷ πνεύματι, &c.* ^{1 Pet. 3. 18,}
ὡς ἐν τοῖς ἑν φυλακῇ πνεύματι περιβέτης ἐκέρυξε, Which being under-
 stood by those Ancients, of our Saviour Christ's descending into *His-*
des or Hell, is accordingly thus rendered in the *Vulgar Latin*, *Put to*
Death in the Flesh, but Quickned in the Spirit. In which (*Spirit*) also,
 he went and preached, to those *Spirits*, that were in *Prison*, &c. So
 that the Word *πνεύματι*, or *Spirit* here, according to this interpre-
 tation, is to be taken, for a *Spirituous Body*; the Sense being this,
 That when our Saviour Christ was put to death in the *Flesh*, or the *Flesh-*
ly Body; he was *Quickned in the Spirit*, or a *Spirituous Body.* In which
 (*Spirituous Body*) also, he went and preached to those *Spirits* that were in
Prison, &c. And doubtless it would be said, by the Asserters of this In-
 terpretation; that the word *Spirit*, could not here be taken for the
 Soul of our Saviour Christ; because this being *Naturally Immortal*, could
 not properly be said to be *Quickned*, and *Made Alive*. Nor could He,
 that is, our Saviour Christ's Soul, be so well said, to go, In *this Spirit*
 neither, that is, In it self, the Soul in the Soul, to preach to the *Spirits*
 in *Prison*. They would add also, that *Spirit* here, could not be
 taken for the *Divine Spirit* neither; which was the *Efficient Cause*
 of the *Vivification* of our Saviour's Body at his *Resurrection*; be-
 cause then there would be no direct *Opposition*, betwixt, *Being put to*
Death in the Flesh, and, *Quickned in the Spirit*; unless they be taken
 both alike *Materially*. As also the following Verse is thus to be un-
 derstood; That our Saviour Christ, went in that *Spirit*, wherein he
 was *Quickned*, when he was put to *Death in the Flesh*, and therein preach-
 ed to the *Spirits in Prison*. By which *Spirits in Prison* also, would
 be meant, not *Pure Incorporeal Substances*, or *Naked Souls*, but *Souls*
 clothed with *Subtle Spirituous Bodies*; as that word may be often
 understood elsewhere in Scripture. But thus much we are unquesti-
 onably certain of; from the Scripture; That not only *Elijah*, whose
Terrestrial Body, seems to have been, in part at least, *Spiritualized*, in
 his *Ascent* in that *Fiery Chariot*, but also *Moses*, appeared Visibly to
 our Saviour Christ and his Disciples, upon the Mount, and therefore
 (since Piety will not permit us to think this a meer *Prestigiou*s thing)
 in *Real Bodies*; which Bodies also, seem to have been *Αυγλῶν*, *Lu-*
ciform or Lucid, like to our Saviour's then *Transfigured Body*.

Again, there are sundry places of Scripture which affirm that the
Regenerate and Renewed have here in this Life, a certain *Earnest* of
 their Future *Inheritance*; which is, their *Spiritual or Heavenly Body*;
 as also the *Quickning of their Mortal Bodies* is therein attributed, to
 the *Efficiency of the Spirit Dwelling in them*. Which is a Thing that
 hath been taken notice of by Some of the Ancients, as *Irenæus*; Nunc L. 5. c. 8.
autem Partem aliquam Spiritus ejus sumimus, ad Perfectionem & Pre-
parationem Incorruptele, paulatim affnescentes Capere & Portare Deum.
Quod & Pignus dixit Apostolus; hoc est, Partem ejus Honoris, qui à
Deo nobis promissus est ——— Si ergo Pignus hoc habitans in nobis, jam

X x x x 2

Spirituales

Spirituales effecit, & absorbetur Mortale ab Immortalitate. Now have we a Part of that Spirit, for the Preparation and Perfection of Incorporation; we being accustomed by little and little to Receive and Bear God. Which also the Apostle hath called an Earnest; that is, a Part of that Honour which is promised to us from God. If therefore, this Earnest (or Pledge) dwelling in us, hath made us already Spiritual; the Mortal is also swallowed up by Immortality. And Novatian, *Spiritus Sanctus id agit in nobis, ut ad Aeternitatem & ad Resurrectionem Immortalitatis, corpora nostra perducatur, dum illa in se assuefacit cum Cælesti Virtute misceri.* This is that which the Holy Spirit doth in us, namely to bring and lead on our Bodies to Eternity and the Resurrection of Immortality; whilst in it self it accustometh us, to be mingled with the Heavenly Virtue. Moreover there are some places also, which seem to imply, that Good Men, shall after Death, have a Further Inchoation of their Heavenly Body, the full Completion whereof, is not to be expected before the Resurrection or Day of Judgment. We know, that If our Earthly House of this Tabernacle were dissolved, we have a Building of God, a House not made with hands, Eternal in the Heavens. For in this we groan Earnestly. And Verse the 5. He that hath wrought us for the self same thing is God, who also hath given us the Earnest of the Spirit. Now how these Preludiums and Prelibations of an Immortal Body, can consist with the Souls continuance after Death, in a Perfect Separation from all manner of Body, till the Day of Judgement, is not so easily Conceivable.

Lastly, it is not at all to be Doubted, but that *Irenæus, Origen,* and those other Ancients, who entertained that Opinion, of Souls being Clothed after Death, with a certain Thin and Subtle Body; suspected it not in the least, to be Inconsistent, with that of the Future Resurrection: as it is no way Inconsistent, for one who hath only a Shirt or Waistcoat on, to put on a Suite of Cloths, or Exterieur Upper garment. Which will also seem the less strange, if it be considered, that even here in this Life, our Body is as it were Two Fold, Exterieur and Interior; we having besides the Grossly-Tangible Bulk of our Outward Body; another Interior Spirituouse Body, the Souls Immediate Instrument, both of Sense and Motion; which Latter is not put into the Grave with the Other, nor Imprisoned under the Cold Sods. Notwithstanding all which, that hath been here suggested by us; we shall not our selves venture, to determine any thing, in so great a Point; but Sceptically leave it Undecided.

The Third and Last thing, in the Forementioned Philosophick or Pythagorick Cabala, is concerning those Beings Superior to men, commonly called by the Greeks, *Dæmons*, (which Philo tells us are the same with Angels amongst the Jews, and accordingly are those words *Dæmons* and *Angels*, by Hierocles and Simplicius, and other of the latter Pagan Writers, sometimes used indifferently as Synonymous) viz. That these *Dæmons* or *Angels*, are not Pure, Abstract, Incorporeal Substances, devoid of Vital Union with any Matter; but that they consist of something Incorporeal, and something Corporeal, joyned together; so that as Hierocles writeth of them, τὸ μὲν αὐτῶν αἰθέριον

τῶ ὅλῳ, τὴ ἡ κατὰ σωματικῇ, *They have a Superiour and an Inferiour Part in them; and their Superiour Part is an Incorporeal Substance; their Inferiour Corporeal.* In a word, that they all as well as men, consist of *Soul and Body*, united together, there being only this Difference betwixt them, that the *Souls* of these *Demoni* or *Angels*, never descend down to such *Groß* and *Terrestrial Bodies*, as *Humane Souls* do; but are always *Clothed*, either with *Aerial* or *Etherial ones*. And indeed this *Pythagorick Cabbala*, was *Universal*, concerning all *Understanding Beings*, besides the *Supreme Deity*, or *Trinity of Divine Hypostases*; that is, concerning all the *Pagan Inferiour Gods*; that they are no other than *Souls* vitally united to some *Bodies*, and so made up of *Incorporeal*, and *Corporeal Substance*, Joyned together. For thus *Hierocles* plainly expresseth himself, in the forecited place; ἡ λογικὴ ὅλῃα τῆς δημιουργοῦ ἐς τὸ εἶναι ὑπὸ πτερύσσιν, ὡς μὲν τὸ σῶμα ἔχει αὐτῷ μὲν ἔνδον σωματικόν, &c. *The Rational Nature (in General) was so produced by God, as that it neither is Body, nor yet without Body; but an Incorporeal Substance, having a Cognate or Congenit Body.* Which same thing was else where also thus declared by him, ἡ γὰρ πᾶς μὲν P. 171. ὁ λογικὸς δίκτυος, μὲν τὸ συμπλεκόμενον αὐτῷ ἀφ' ὧν σῶμα, ἔκιν ὅλῃ τῆς δημιουργοῦ, *The whole Rational Order, or Rank of Being, with its Congenite Immortal Body, is the Image of the whole Deity, the Maker thereof.* Where by *Hierocles* his *Rational Nature or Essence*, and by the *Whole Rational Order*, is plainly meant, all *Understanding Beings Created*, of which he acknowledgeth only these *Three Kinds and Degrees*, First, the *Immortal Gods*, which are to him the *Animated Stars*; Secondly, *Demons, Angels, or Heroes*; and Thirdly, *Men*, called also by him, κατὰχθόνιοι δαιμόνιοι, *Terrestrial Demons*: he pronouncing of them all, that they are alike, *Incorporeal Substances*, together with a *Congenite Immortal Body*; and that there is no other *Understanding Nature* than such, besides the *Supreme Deity*, which is *Complete* in it self, without the *Conjunction* of any Body. So that according to *Hierocles*, the *Ancient Pythagorick Cabbala*, acknowledged no such *Entities* at all, as those *Intelligences* of *Aristotle*, and the *Noes* of some *High-flown Platonists*; (that is, perfectly *Unbodied Minds*;) and much less any *Rank of Henades* or *Unities*, Superior to these *Noes*. And indeed such *Particular Created Beings* as these, could neither have *Sense* or *Cognizance* of any *Corporeal thing* Existing without them; (*Sense* as *Aristotle* hath observed, Resulting from a *Complication* of *Soul and Body*, as *Weaving*, Results from a *Complication* of the *Weaver* and *Weaving Instruments*;) nor yet could they *Ad* upon any Part of the *Corporeal Universe*. So that these *Immoveable Beings*, would be but like *Adamantine Statues*; and things *Unconnected* with the rest of the *World*, having no *Commerce* with any thing at all but the *Deity*; a kind of *Insignificant Metaphysical Gazers*, or *Contemplators*. Whereas the *Deity* though it be not properly ψυχὴ ἐνσώματος, a *Mundane Soul*, such as together with the *Corporeal World*, as its *Body*, makes up one *Compleat* and *Entire Animal*; yet because the whole world proceeded from it, and perpetually dependeth on it, therefore must it needs take *Cognizance* of all, and *Ad* upon all in it; upon which account it hath been styled by these *Pythagoreans*, ψυχὴ ὑπερσώματος, (not a *Mundane*,

Mundane, but) a *Supra-Mundane Soul*. Wherefore this *Ancient Pythagorick Cabbala*, seems to be agreeable to reason also, that God should be the only *Incorporeal Being*, in this sense, such whose *Effence* is Complete and Life Entire within it self, without the *Conjunction* or *Appendage* of any *Body*: but that all other *Incorporeal Substances Created*, should be *Completed and Made up*, by a *Vital Union* with *Master*; so that the whole of them, is neither *Corporeal*, nor *Incorporeal*, but a *Complication* of both; and all the *Highest and Divinest* things in the *Universe*, next to the *Supreme Deity* are *Animals* consisting of *Soul and Body* united together. And after this manner, did the *Ancient asserters* of *Incorporeal Substance*, as *Unextended*, decline that *Absurdity* Objected against them, of the *Illocality* of all *Finite Created Spirits*, that these being *Incorporeal Substances*, *Vitally Clothed* with some *Body*, may by reason of the *Locality* and *Mobility* of their *Respective Bodies*, truly be said to be *he Here and There*, and to *Move* from *Place* to *Place*.

Wherefore we are here also to show, what *Agreement* or *Disagreement* there is, betwixt this Part of the *Pythagorick Cabbala*, and the *Christian Philosophy*. And First, it hath been already intimated, that the very same *Doctrine*, with this of the *Ancient Pythagoreans*, was plainly asserted by *Origen*. Thus in his First Book *Peri Archon*. c. 6. *Solius Dei*, (saith he) *id est Patris, & Filii, & Spiritus Sancti, Natura id proprium est, ut sine Materiali Substantia, & absque Ulâ Corporeâ Adjunctionis Societate, intelligatur subsistere*. It is proper to the Nature of God only, that is of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to subsist without *Material Substance*; or the Society of any *Corporeal Adjunction*. Again, L. 2. c. 2. *Materialem Substantiam Opinione quidem & Intellectu solum Separari, à Naturâ Rationalibus, & Pro ipsis, vel Post ipsas Effectum videri; sed nunquam sine ipsa eas vel Vixisse, vel Vivere: solum namque Trinitatis Incorporea Vita existere recte putabitur*. Material Substance in Rational Natures, is indeed Separable from them, in Conception and Understanding, it seeming to be made for them, and in Order of Nature after them; but it is not Really and Actually Separable from the same; nor did they ever, or can they, live without it, For a Life perfectly *Incorporeal*, is rightly deemed, to belong to the Trinity only. So also in his Fourth Book, and his *Anacephaleosis*, *Semper erunt Rationabiles Naturæ, quæ indigent Indumento Corporeo. Semper ergo erit Natura Corporea, cujus Indumentum Uti necesse est Rationabiles Creaturas. Nisi quis putet se posse ostendere, quod Natura Rationabilis absque Ullo Corpore, vitam degere possit. Sed quam difficile id sit, & quam propè impossibile Intellectui nostro, in Superioribus ostendimus*. There always will be Rational Natures, which stand in need of a *Corporeal Indument*. Wherefore there will be always *Corporeal Nature*, as a necessary *Indument* or *Clothing* for these Rational Creatures. Unless anyone could show, that it is possible for the Rational Nature to live without a *Body*. Which how difficult and almost Impossible it is, to our Understanding, hath been already declared. *Aquinas* Affirmeth, *Origen* in this Doctrine of his, to have followed the Opinion of certain *Ancient Philosophers*; and undoubtedly it was the *Old Pythagorick Cabbala*, which the Learned *Origen* here adhered to; that *ἡ λογικὴ οὐσία*, as it is in *Hierocles*,

Hierocles, and πῶς ὁ λογικὸς διάκοσμος, *The Rational Nature made by God*, that is, all *Created Understanding Beings*, are neither *Body*, nor yet *without Body*; but have always a *Cognate or Congenite Body*, as their *Vehicle or Indument*. So that *Angels or Demons* as well according to *Origen*, as *Hierocles*, are all of them *Incorporeal Substances*, not *Naked and Abstract*, but *Clothed with certain Subtle Bodies*; or *Animals* compounded and made up of *Soul and Body* together.

Wherefore *Huetius* and other learned men, seem not well to have understood *Origen* here, but to have confounded *Two* different *Opinions* together, when they suppose him, to have asserted, *Angels* and all *Understanding Creatures*, not, to *Have Bodies*, but, to *Be Bodies*, and nothing else; and consequently, that there is no *Incorporeal Substance* at all, besides the *Deity*, Whereas *Origen* only affirmeth, that nothing besides the *Trinity*, could subsist and live alone, *absque ulla corporeæ adjunctionis Societate*, without the *Society of any Corporeal Adjunction*, and that the *Material Nature*, is only a *Necessary Indument*, or *Clothing*, of all *Rational or Understanding Creatures*. And in this Sense is it, that an *Incorporeal Life* is said by him, to be proper only to the *Trinity*: because all other *Understanding Beings*, are *Animals*, compounded of *Soul and Body* together. But that *Origen* acknowledged, even our *Humane Soul* it self, to be *Incorporeal*, as also that there is something in *Angels Incorporeal*, might be made evident from *Sundry Passages* in his *Writings*; as this Particularly in his *Sixth Book* against *Celsus*, ἡμῶς ἀσώματος ὄντων ἐν ἱστέον ἐκπεριεμμένον, ἐδὲ ὡς πῶρ ἀκαλυπτόμενον τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ ψυχῷ, ἢ τῷ ἀγγέλῳ ἢ θεῷ, &c. ὑπάρχειν. We do not think, an *Incorporeal Substance* to be *Combustible*; nor that the *Soul of Man* can be resolved into *Fire*; or the *Substance of Angels, Thrones, Dominions, Principalities, or Powers*. Where by the *Substance of Angels*, he doubtless meant the *Souls* of them; *Origen's* Sense being thus declared by *St. Jerom*; In *Libris* ὧν ἀρχαί; *Angelos, & Thronos, & Dominationes, & Potestates, & Rectores Mundi & Tenebrarum, & omne Nomen quod nominatur, dicit, Animas esse eorum Corporum, quæ vel Desiderio vel ministerio susceperint*, That in his *Book of Principles* he affirmeth, *Angels, and Thrones, and Dominions, and Powers, and the Governours of the Darkness of this world, and every Name that is named* (in *St. Paul*) to be all of them, the *Souls* of certain *Bodies*, such as either by their own *Desire and Inclination*, or the *Divine Allotment*, they have received. Now there can be no *Question* made, but that he who supposed the *Souls* of men to be *Incorporeal*, in a strict *Philosophick Sense*, and such as could not suffer any thing from *Fire*, did also acknowledge Something *Incorporeal* in *Angels*. And thus doth he somewhere declare himself in that *Book Peri Arethon, Per Christum creata dixit* (*Paulus*) *omnia Visibilia & Invisibilia; per quod declaratur, esse etiam in Creaturis quasdam Invisibiles, secundum proprietatem suam, Substantias; Sed hæc quamvis ipsæ non sunt Corporeæ, utuntur tamen Corporibus, licet ipsæ sunt Corporeæ Substantiæ meliores. Illa vero Substantia Trinitatis neque Corpus, neque In Corpore, esse credenda est: sed in toto Incorporea*. When *Paul* affirmeth all things, *Visible and Invisible*, to have been *Created by Christ, or the λόγος*, he intimated that even amongst the *Creatures*, there are some properly
Invisible

before *Porphyrius*, many other Pagan Philosophers, had been of the same Opinion, appeareth from this of *Celsus*, καὶ ὅτι ἰσως ἢ ἀπέσειν Orig. L. 8, αἰσθεῖσθαι σαρκοῖς, οἱ δὲ φασι, διότι τῶν μὲν ἀδελφάν σαρκῶν τὸ πλεῖστον γινέσθαι συντητικῶς, καὶ προσλαμβανόμενον αἵματι καὶ κνίσσῃ, &c. *We ought to give Credit to wise men, who affirm, that most of these Lower and Circumterraneous Demons, are delighted with Geniture, Bloud, and Nidour, and such like things, and much gratified therewith: though they be not able to do any thing more in way of recompence, then sometimes perhaps to cure the Body; or to foretel good and evil Fortunes to Men and Cities.* Upon which account himself though a zealous Pagan, perswadeth men, to moderation in the Use of these Sacrifices, as Principally gratifying the Inferiour and Worser Demons only. In like manner *Origen* frequently insisteth upon the same thing, he affirming that *Devils* were not only delighted, with the Idolatry of the Pagans in their Sacrifices, but also, ἀπὸ τῶν ὁσίων αἰσχυμαίνονται καὶ τοῖς ἀπὸ τῶν αἰμάτων Cui. Cels. L4 καὶ ὁλοκαυτωμάτων ἀπορροαῖς τρέφεσθαι τὰ σῶματα φιλοδοξοῦνται τοῖς τοῖς 7. P. 334 τοῖς, *That their very Bodies were Nourished by the Vapours and Fumes, arising from them; and that these Evil Demons therefore did as it were Deliciate and Epicurize in them.* And before *Origen*, most of the Ancient Fathers, as *Justine Martyr*, *Athenagoras*, *Tatianus*, *Tertullian*, &c. and also many others after him, endeavour to disparage those Material and Bloody Sacrifices, upon the same Account, as things whereby Evil Demons were principally Gratified. We shall here only cite one passage to this purpose out of *St. Basil*, or who ever were the Author of that Commentary upon *Isaiab*, because there is something Philosophick in it; σαρκὸς δὲ τί φιλοῦσιν καὶ ἐμπόδις, αἱ ψυχαὶ φρεσὶ πικρῇ ὁδεῖται καὶ χρεῖαν ἐκζητούμεναι, διὰ τὸ καύσιως ἔσται μζομένης τῆς αἱματός, καὶ ἔτι διὰ τὸ τοιαύτης λεηλοποιήσεως, εἰς τὴν σύστασιν αὐτῶν ἀναλαμβάνονται· ὅλοι ὅδ' εἰς ὅλων τρέφονται τοῖς αἵματι, ὃ διὰ μαρτυρίας καὶ κοίτης, αἵματι δὲ αἱ τέλεις πάντων ζώων καὶ ὄνυχες, καὶ ὅσα τοιαῦτα εἰς ὅλων ἑαυτῶν τὴν ἑλάν, τὴν τρεφὴν καθ'αἰσχύναι, *Sacrifices are things of no small pleasure and advantage to Demons, because the Blood being evaporated by Fire and so attenuated, is taken into the Compages and Substances of their Bodies: The whole of which is throughout, nourished with Vapours, not by Eating, and Stomachs, or such like Organs, but as the Hairs and Nails of all Animals and whatsoever other things Receive nourishment into their whole Substance.* And thus do we see it undeniably manifest, that many of the Ancient Fathers, supposed Devils to have Bodies; neither can it at all be doubted, but that they concluded the same of Angels too; these being both of the same kind, and differing but as Good and Evil men. And though they do not affirm this of Good Angels, but of Devils only, that they were thus Delighted and Nourished with the Fumes and Vapours of Sacrifices, and that they Epicurized in them; yet was not the reason hereof, because they conceived them, to be altogether Incorporeal; but to have Pure Etherial or Heavenly Bodies: it being proper to those Gross and Vaporous Bodies of Demons only to be Nourished and Refreshed after that manner. And Now that all these Ancient Fathers, did not suppose either Angels or Devils, to be altogether Corporeal, or to have nothing but Body in them, may be concluded from hence, because many of them plainly declared the Souls of Men to be Incorporeal,

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and

and therefore it cannot be imagined, that they should so far degrade Angels below Men, as not to acknowledge them, to have any thing at all *Incorporeal*.

But we shall now Instance in some few amongst many of these *Ancients*, who plainly asserted both *Devils* and *Angels* to be *Spirits Incorporate* ; and not to be meer *Bodies*, but only to *Have Bodies* ; that is, to consist of *Soul* and *Body*, or *Incorporeal* and *Corporeal Substance* joyned together. That Angels themselves *Have Bodies* is every where declared by *St. Austine*, in his Writings ; he affirming, that the *Bodies* of Good men after the *Resurrection*, shall be *Qualia sunt Angelorum Corpora*, Such as are the *Bodies* of *Angels*, and that they shall be *Corpora Angelica in Societate Angelorum*, *Angelical Bodies*, fit for *Society* and *Converse with Angels* : and declaring the difference, betwixt the *Bodies* of *Angels* and of *Devils*, in this manner, *Demonæ antequam transgredirentur, Cælestia Corpora gerebant, quæ conversa sint ex pœna in Aeræam Qualitatem, ut jam possint ab Igne Pati*, That though *Devils* before the *Transgression* had *Celestial Bodies* as *Angels* now have, yet might these afterwards in way of *Punishment*, be changed into *Aerial ones*, and such as now may suffer by *Fire*. Moreover the same *St. Austine*, some where calleth Good *Angels*, by the name of *Anime Beatæ atque Sanctæ*, *Happy and Holy Souls*. And though it be true, that in his *Retractions* he recalleth and correcteth this ; yet was this only a *Scruplesity* in that *Pious Father*, concerning the meer word, because he no where found in *Scripture*, *Angels* called by the name of *Souls* : it being far from his meaning even there to deny them, to be *Incorporeal Spirits*, joyned with *Bodies*. And certainly he who every where concludes, *Humane Souls* to be *Incorporeal*, cannot be thought to have supposed, *Angels* to have nothing at all but *Body* in them. Again *Claudians Mamertus*, writing against *Faustus*, who made *Angels* to be meer *Bodies*, without *Souls*, or any thing *Incorporeal*, maintaineth in way of *Opposition* ; not that they are meer *Incorporeal Spirits*, without *Bodies* (which is the other *Extream*) but that they consist of *Corporeal* and *Incorporeal*, *Soul* and *Body*, Joyned together ; he writing thus of the *Devils*, *Diabolus ex Duplici diversaque Substantia constat : & Corporeus est & Incorporeus*, The *Devil* consisteth of a double and different *Substance* ; he is *Corporeal*, and he is also *Incorporeal*. And again of *Angels*, *Patet Beatorum Angelorum, Utriusque Substantiæ, & Incorporeos esse in ea sui parte, qua ipsi Visibiles Deus ; & in ea eisdem Parte Corporeos, qua hominibus sunt ipsi Visibiles*. It is manifest, that the blessed *Angels*, are of a *Two-fold Substance* ; that they are *Incorporeal*, in that part of theirs wherein *God* is *Visible* to them, and again *Corporeal*, in that other Part, wherein themselves are *Visible* to men. Moreover *Fulgentius* writeth concerning *Angels* in this manner ; *Planè ex Duplici eos esse Substantia asserunt Magni & Docti Viri. Id est, Ex Spiritu Incorporeo, quo à Dei contemplatione nunquam recedunt ; & ex Corpore per quod ex tempore hominibus apparent. Corpora vero Æthereæ, id est, Igneæ, eos dicunt habere, Dæmones vero Corpus Aeræum*. Great and learned men affirm, *Angels* to consist of a *Double Substance*, that is, of a *Spirit Incorporeal*, whereby they contemplate *God* ; and of a *Body* whereby they are sometimes *Visible* to men ; as also that they have

Ethierial

P. 94.

Information of *Marcus* the Monk, a person formerly Initiated in the *Diabolick Mysteries*; and of great *Curiosity*, τὸ δ' αὐμνίσιν ἔχει πνεῦμα διό-
λας ὅτι καὶ τὸ φῶς αἰσθητικὸν καὶ πᾶν ταῦτα μέγεθος, ἀμέσως ὅρασι καὶ αὐθι-
α, καὶ τὰ ἴσ' ἀφ' ὧς ὑπομένει πᾶσι, διασπόμενοι ὁδονᾶται καὶ τῇ συμμάτῳ
τοῖς σφαιρᾶ· ταύτην τῶν διασπῶν, ὅτι τὰ μὲν ἄλλα τῇ διασπῶνται, μέλλει
ἢ ὁδονᾶται ὁδονᾶται τὸ δ' διασπόμενοι ἐνδὺς συμμάτῳ, καὶ δὲ πᾶσι αἰσθη-
τικῶν μέγεθος μεταξὺ πᾶσι ἐμπέσονται σφαιρᾶ· ἀλλ' εἰ καὶ διασπῶν ἢ λόγῳ
ταῦτα τὸ πνεῦμα συμμάτῳ, πλὴν ἀνάται κατ' αὐτὸ τὸ γινώσκει τὴν διασπῶν.
*The Demoniack Spirit or Subtle Body, being in every part of it capable of
Sense, does immediately See and Hear, and is also Obnoxious to the affe-
ctions of Touch: insomuch that being suddainly divided or cut in two, it
hath a Sense of Pain, as the Solid Bodies of other Animals have; it differ-
ing from them only in this, that those other Bodies, being once discontinu-
ed, are not easily consolidated together again, whereas the Demoniack Body,
being divided, is quickly reintegrated by Coalescence, as Air or Water. Ne-
vertheless it is not without a Sense of Pain, at that time, when it is thus
divided, &c.* Moreover the same *Marcus* affirmeth the Bodies of
these *Demons* to be Nourished also, though in a different manner,
from ours, τρέφονται οἱ μὲν δι' ἐκπνοῆς, ὡς τὸ αἶμα ἀπὸ τοῦ αἵματος καὶ ἀνδρῶν
πνεῦμα· οἱ δ' δι' ὑπερσπῶν, ἀλλ' ὡς σφαῖρα καὶ ἡμᾶς, ἀλλ' ὡς πᾶσι σπῶν
καὶ ὁδονᾶται, σπῶν μὲν ἢ ὁδονᾶται ὑπερσπῶν καὶ ὁδονᾶται.
*They are some of them Nourished by Inspiration, as the Spirit contained
in the Nerves and Arteries; others by sucking in the adjacent Moisture;
not as we do by mouths, but as Sponges and Testaceous Fishes.* And now
we may venture to conclude, that this *Opinion* of Angels being not
meer *Abstract Incorporeal Substances*, and *Unbodied Minds*, but con-
sisting of Something *Incorporeal*, and Something *Corporeal*, that is,
of *Soul or Spirit*, and *Body* Joyned together, is not only more agree-
able to *Reason*, but hath also had more suffrages amongst the *Ancient
Fathers*, and those of greater weight too, than either of those
Two other *Extreams*, viz. That Angels are meer *Bodies*, and have
nothing at all *Incorporeal* in them; or else, that they are altogether
Incorporeal, without any Bodily *Indument or Clothing*.

Notwithstanding which this latter Opinion hath indeed prevailed
most in these Latter Ages; Time being rightly compared to a *River*,
which quickly sinks the more Weighty and *Solid things*, and bears
up only the *Lighter* and more *Superficial*. Though there may be
other Reasons given for this also, as partly because the *Aristotelick
Philosophy* when generally introduced into Christianity, brought in
its *Abstract Intelligences* along with it; and partly because, some *Spur-
ious Platonists* talking so much of their *Henades* and *Noes*, their
Simple Monads and *Immoveable Unbodied Minds*, as the Chief of
their *Generated and Created Gods*; probably some Christians might
have a mind, to vie their *Angels* with them. And lastly, because
Angels are not only called in Scripture *Spirits*, but also by Several of
the *Ancients* said to be *Incorporeal*; whilst this in the mean time, was
meant only either in respect of that *Incorporeal Part*, *Soul or Mind*,
which they supposed to be in them, or else of the *Tenuity and Sub-
tlety* of their *Bodies or Vehicles*. For this account does *Pfellus* give
hereof, καὶ τοῖς ἡμετέροις καὶ τοῖς ὁδοῦν, ὡς ἔστι, τὰ πᾶσι πᾶσι
συμμάτῳ

P. 90. 33.

σωμάτων σωματοειδῆ λίαν· ὃ ὁ λεπτομερὲς ὅτι καὶ τὴν ὄψιν διαφύκει, καὶ τὴν ἀφ᾽ ἑαυτοῦ ἀσώματος, ὃ μόνον οἱ καὶ ὁ ἡμῶν, ἀλλὰ καὶ πολλοὶ τῶν ἁγίων ἀξίαν λέγουσιν· *It is usual both with Christian Writers, and Pagans too, to call the Groffer Bodies Corporeal, and those which by reason of their Subtlety avoid both our Sight and Touch, Incorporeal.* And before Pselus, *Joannes Thessalonicensis*, in his Dialogue, approved in the Seventh Council; ὃ δὲ παρὰ διέρεως ἀσωμάτων καλεσμένους τὰς ἀγγέλους, ἢ δαίμονας, ἢ ψυχάς, ὡς μὴ ὄντας οὐκ συμμίσχουσιν τῶν ὑλικῶν στοιχείων, καὶ τῶν αὐτῶν σωμάτων παχέων καὶ ἀντίτυπων, οὐκ ἡμῶν ἐκκεκλιμένα, ὥστε αὐτοὺς προσφάσασθαι· *If you find Angels, or Demons, or Separate Souls called Sometimes Incorporeal, you must understand this in respect of the Tenuity of their Bodies only; as not consisting of the Groffer Elements, nor being so Solid and Antitypous as those which we are now Imprisoned in.* And before them both, *Origen* in the Proeme of his *Peri Archon*, where citing a passage out of an *Ancient Book*, intituled, *The Doctrine of Peter*, wherein our Saviour Christ is said to have told his Disciples, That he was not δαιμόνιον ἀσώματον, an *Incorporeal Demon*, though rejecting the Authority of that Book; he thus interprets those words; *non idem Sensus ex isto sermone ἀσωμάτου indicatur, qui Græcè vel Gentilibus auctoribus ostenditur, quum de Incorporeâ Naturâ à Philosophis disputatur.* In hoc enim Libello, *Incorporeum Dæmonium dixit, pro eo quod ipse ille quicumque est habitus vel circumscriptio Dæmonici Corporis, non est similis huic nostro Crassiori, vel Visibili Corpori: sed secundum sensum ejus qui composuit illam Scripturam, intelligendum est quod dixit; non esse tale Corpus quale habent Dæmones, quod est naturaliter Subtile, & velut Aura Tenne; & propter hoc vel imputatur à multis vel dicitur Incorporeum; sed habere se Corpus Solidum & Palpabile.* The word ἀσώματον, or *Incorporeal*, is not to be taken here, in that sense wherein it is used, by the Greek and Gentile Writers, when they Philosophized concerning the *Incorporeal Nature.* But a *Demon* is here said to be *Incorporeal*, because of the Disposition of the *Demoniack Body*, not like to this *Groß and Visible Body* of ours. So that the sense is, as if Christ should have said, I have not such a Body, as the Demons have, which is naturally Subtle, Thin and Soft, as the Air, and therefore is either supposed to be by many, or at least called *Incorporeal*, but the Body which I now have, is Solid and Palpable. Wwere we see plainly that Angels, though supposed to have Bodies, may notwithstanding be called *Incorporeal*, by reason of the Tenuity and Subtlety of those Bodies, comparatively with the Großness and Solidity of these our Terrestrial Bodies. But that indeed which now most of all inclineth some to this Perswasion, That *Angels* have nothing at all *Corporeal* hanging about them, is a *Religious* regard to the Authority of the *Third Lateran Council*, having passed its Approbation upon this Doctrine; as if the *Seventh Oecumenical* (so called) or *Second Nicene*, wherein the contrary was before owned and allowed, were not of equal force, at least to counterbalance the other.

But though this Doctrine of *Angels*, or all *Created Understanding Beings* Superiour to men, having a *Corporeal Indument* or *Clothing*, does so exactly agree with the *Old Pythagorick Cabbala*, yet have we reason to think, that it was not therefore meerly borrowed or derived,
from

from thence, by the *Ancient Fathers*; but that they were led into it, by the Scripture it self. For first, the *Historick Phenomena* of Angels in the Scripture, are such, as cannot well be otherwise Salved, than by supposing them to have Bodies; and then not to lay any stress upon those words of the Psalmist, *Who maketh his Angels Spirits, and Ministers a flame of fire* (though with good reason by the *Ancient Fathers* interpreted to this sense) because they may possibly be understood otherwise, as sometime they are by *Rabbinical Commentators*: nor to insist upon those passages of *S. Paul*, where he speaks of the *Tongues of Angels*, and of the *Voice of an Arch-Angel*, and such like, there are several other Places in Scripture, which seem plainly to confirm this Opinion. As first, that of our Saviour before mentioned to this purpose, *Luke* the 20. the 35. *They who shall be accounted worthy, to obtain that world, and the Resurrection from the dead, neither Marry nor are given in Marriage, neither can they die any more; for they are Equal unto the Angels.* For were Angels utterly devoid of all Bodies, then would the *Souls of Good men*, in a State of Separation, and without any Resurrection, be rather Equal to Angels, than after a Resurrection of their Bodies. Wherefore the Natural meaning of these words seems to be this, (as *St. Austin* hath interpreted them) that the *Souls of Good men*, after the Resurrection, shall have *Corpora Angelica*, *Angelical Bodies*, and *Qualia sunt Angelorum Corpora*, such Bodies as those of Angels are. Wherein it is supposed, that Angels also have Bodies, but of a very different kind from those of ours here. Again, that of *St. Jude*, where he writeth thus of the Devils; *The Angels which kept not their First Estate* (or rather according to the Vulgar Latin, *Suum Principatum, Their own Principality*) *but left their Proper Habitation* (or *Dwelling House*) *hath be reserved in everlasting Chains, under darkness, unto the Judgement of the Great Day.* In which words, it is first Implied, that the Devils were Created by God Pure, as well as the other Angels, but that they kept not τὸ ἰαυτοῦ ἀρχόν, *Their own Principality*, That is, their *Lordly Power and Dominion* over their *Worser and Inferiour*, part, they having also a certain *Duplicity* in their Nature, of a *Better and Worser Principle*, of a *Superiour Part*, which ought to *Rule and Govern*, and of an *Inferiour*, which out to be *Governed*: nor is it indeed otherwise, easily conceivable, how they should be Capable of *Sinning*. And this *Inferiour Part* in Angels, seems to have a respect to something that is *Corporeal or Bodily* in them also, as well as it hath in men. But then in the next place, *St. Jude* addeth, as the *Immediate Result and Natural Consequent* of these Angels *Sinning*, that they thereby *Left or Lost*, τὸ ἰδίον οἰκητήριον, *Suum Proprium Domicilium*, That is, not only, their *Dwelling Place* at Large, those *Ethereal Countries*, and *Heavenly Regions* above, but also their *Proper Dwelling House*, or *Immediate Mansion*; to wit their *Heavenly Body*. For as much as that *Heavenly Body*, which Good men expect after the *Resurrection*, is thus called by *St. Paul*, τὸ οἰκητήριον ἡμῶν τὸ ἐκ ἁερῶν, *Our Habitation, or Dwelling House that is from Heaven.* The *Heavenly Body* is the *Proper House or Dwelling*, *Clothing or Indument*, both of *Angelical and Humane Souls*; and this is that which makes them fit *Inhabitants* for the *Heavenly Regions*. This I say was the *Natural effect and Consequent* of these Angels *Sinning*, their *Leaving or Losing*, their pure
Heavenly

De Gen. ad
Lit. L. 3.

Heavenly Body, which became thereupon forthwith *Obscured* and *Incrassated*; the Bodies of *Spirits Incorporate*, always bearing a *Correspondent Purity or Impurity* to the different disposition of their *Mind* or *Soul*. But then again, in the last place, that which was thus in *Part*, the *Natural Result* of their *Sin*, was also by the *Just Judgment* of God, converted into their *Punishment*; For their *Ethereal Bodies*, being thus changed into *Gross*, *Aerial*, *Feculent*, and *Vaporous* ones, themselves were *Immediately* hereupon, as *St. Peter* in the *Parallel Place* expresseth it, ταρταρώσιντες, *Cast down into Tartarus*, and there *Imprisoned*, or *Reserved in Chains* Under *Darkness*, until the *Judgment* of the *Great Day*. Where it is observable that the word ταρταρόν, used by *St. Peter*, is the very same, that *Apollodorus*, and other *Greek Writers* frequently make use of, in a like case, when they speak of the *Titan's* being *Cast down* from *Heaven*: which seems to have been *Really* nothing else, but this *Fall* of *Angels Poetically Mythologized*. And by *Tartarus* here in all probability, is meant this *Lower Caliginous Air*, or *Atmosphere* of the *Earth*, according to that of *St. Austin*, concerning these *Angels*, Post Peccatum in hanc sunt detrusi Caliginem, ubi tamen & Aer, That after their Sin, they were thrust down De Gen. 23
Lu L. 3. c. 10.
down into the *Misty darkness* of this *Lower Air*. And here are they; as it were *Chained* and *Fettered* also, by that same *Weight* of their *Gross* and *heavy Bodies*, which first sunk them down hither, this not suffering them to reascend up, or return back to those *Bright Ethereal Regions* above. And being thus for the present *Imprisoned* in this *Lower Tartarus*, or *Caliginous Air* or *Atmosphere*, they are indeed here *Kept* and *Reserved* in *Custody*, unto the *Judgment* of the *Great Day*, and *General Assizes*: however they may notwithstanding in the mean time, seem to *Domineer* and *Lord* it for a while here. And *Lastly* our *Saviours*, Go ye *Cursed* into everlasting fire, prepared for the *Devil* and his *Angels*, seems to be a clear *Confirmation* of *Devils* being *Bodied*; because *First* to *Allegorize* this *Fire* into nothing but *Remorse of Conscience*, would indanger the rendering of other *Points* of our *Religion* uncertain also; but to say that *Incorporeal Substances* *Unnited* to *Bodies*, can be tormented with *Fire*, is as much as in us lieth, to expose *Christianity* and the *Scripture*, to the *Scorn* and *Contempt* of all *Philosophers*, and *Philosophick Wits*. Wherefore *Pselm* P. 37:
laies no small stress upon this Place, ἐγὼ μὲν οὐδέ τί τοι σωτήριον λόγον περὶ Σμῆνος ταῦτα, πρὸς καταδίκην αὐτοῦ φαζκόντων τὸς δαίμονας. ὁ πῶς διοι παρὲν ἀσωμάτους εἶναι; τί γὰρ ἀσωμάτων ἀμύχρον παρὲν ὑπὸ σμῆματι; ἀνάδει γὰρ σώματι αὐτὸς τῷ κλέσσει ὑποδύχεσθαι· πεφικέναι πάλιν.
I am also convinced of this, That *Demons* have *Bodies*, from the words of our *Saviour* affirming, That they shall be *Punished* with *Fire*: which how could it be, were they altogether *Incorporeal*? it being *Impossible* for that which is both it self *Incorporeal*, and *Vitally Unnited* to any *Body*, to suffer from a *Body*. Wherefore of necessity it must be granted, by us *Christians*, that *Devils* shall receive *Punishment* of *Sense* and *Pain* hereafter, in *Bodies* capable of *Suffering*.

Now if *Angels* in general, that is, all *Created Beings* Superiour to men, be *Substances Incorporeal*, or *Souls Vitally Unnited* to *Bodies*; though not always the same, but sometimes of one kind and sometimes

καὶ ὁμοῖαι, ταύτην λαβῶσαι τὴν διατύπωσιν· Ἰδὲν καὶ ὡς τῷ "Αδμ. ἔχουσιν, καὶ δαίτυλον, καὶ τὰ ἄλλα μέλη ἰσχυροῦται ἔχειν· ὅχι δὲ σώματος ἵτιος σταν-
πεύοντες αὐταῖς ὡταῖς ἀλλ' ὅς· ἀλλ' ὅτι αὐτὰ φέρεται αἱ ψυχαὶ παντὶς ἀ-
πνεύματος λαβῶσαι περιεβλημένους ταιαύταις καὶ τὴν εἶσιν ὑποέχουσιν, God is alone
is praised as Incorporeal and Invisible: but Souls are made by him, (who
is the Father of all things) Intellectual Bodies, ornamentally branched
out (as it were) into Members distinguishable by Reason, and having the
same Form and Signature, with the outward Body. Whence is it, that
in Hades (or Hell) we Read of a Tongue, and a Finger, and other Mem-
bers, not as if there then were another Invisible Body Coexisting with
these Souls, but because the Souls themselves are in their own Nature (when
stript of all Clothing) according to their very Essence such. We say
therefore; if one of these two Opinions must needs be entertained, that
either the Soul it self is a Body, or else that it Hath a Body after Death;
the Latter of them which was Origen's, ought certainly much to be
prefer'd before the Former, whether held in Tertullian's sense, that all
Substance, and consequently God himself, is Body; or else in that of Me-
thodius, that all Created Substance is such; God alone being Incorporeal.

But we have already showed, that Origen was not Singular in this
Opinion, Irenæus before him having asserted the same thing, that
Souls after Death, are Adapted to certain Bodies, (where the
word in the Greek probably was περιεβλημένοι) which have the same
Character with these Terrestrial ones; and Philoponus after him, who
was no Pagan but Christian Philosopher, Dogmatizing in like manner.
We might here add, that Joannes Theſſalonicensis, in that Dialogue of
his, read in the Seventh Synod, seemeth to have been of the same
Perswasion also, when he affirmeth of Souls, as well as Angels and De-
mons, that they were, ὅρα θεῶς ὡς πολλοὶν αἰσθητῶν πλανήτων, τῷ
ὁμοίᾳ τῇ εἰκείᾳ αὐτῶν σωματῶν, Often seen by many Sensibly, in the Form
of their own Bodies. However it is a thing, which Pſellus took for
granted, where speaking of Devils, Insinuating their Temptations into
mens Souls, by affecting immediately the Phantastick Spirit, he writeth
after this manner, ὁ λέγων, πύρρον μὲν ἐν ἰσχυροῦς εἶται κραυγῆς,
αἰχρὸν δὲ γινόμενον, εἰς τὸ τῷ ἀκούσῃ ὡς ψυρεῖσαν ὑπὸ φωνῆς· καὶ εἰ ἐννῶ
αὐτῷ συνήσκειται πάλματι τῷ ψυχῆς, ὅπως ἂν ἰδῇ τὴν ψῆφον, ἀλλ' ἢ ὁ καὶ
βέλῃσι λόγῳ αἰψάτω κελάρῳ πρὸς τὸ διχόμενον ἐξουσίαν, ὁ φωνῆ καὶ
ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἐξουσίαν τῇ σωματῶν εἶναι· καὶ ὅτι καὶ ταύτας ἀπλήτως ὁ-
μιλεῖν ἀλλήλοις· When one man speaks to another from afar off, he must
(if he would be heard) make a loud cry or noise, whereas if he stood
near to him, he might softly whisper into his ear. But could he immedi-
ately approach to the Spirit (or Subtle Body of the Soul,) he should not
then need so much as to make a Whisper, but might silently and without
noise, communicate whatsoever thoughts of his own to him, by Motions
made thereupon. And this is said to be the way, that Souls, going out of
these Bodies converse together; they communicating their thoughts to
one another without any Noise. For Pſellus here plainly supposeth,
Souls after Death, to have πνεῦμα, that is, a certain Subtle Body, ad-
hering to them, by Motions upon which, they may silently converse
with each other. It is true indeed, that St. Austin in his Twelfth
Book De Genesi ad Literam, does not himself close with this Opini-
on,

P. 94.

on, of the Souls Having a Body after Death, but much less of its Being a Body: nevertheless does he seem to leave every man to his own Liberty therein, in these words; *Si autem Queritur, dum Anima de Corpore exierit, Utrum ad aliqua loca Corporalia feratur, an ad Incorporalia Corporalibus similia; an verò nec ad ipsa, sed ad illud quod & Corporibus & Similitudinibus Corporum est Excellentius; Cito quidem responderim; ad Corporalia loca eam vel non ferri nisi cum aliquo Corpore, vel non localiter ferri. Jam utrum habeat aliquod Corpus, Ostendat qui Potest; Ego autem non puto. Spiritalem enim arbitror esse non Corporalem, ad spiritalia vero pro meritis ferri, aut ad Loca Pœnalia similia Corporibus.* But if it be demanded, when the Soul goes out of this Body, whether it be carried into any Corporal Places, or to Incorporals like to Corporals, or else to neither, but to that which is more excellent than both Bodies, and the likenesses of Bodies; the Answer is ready; that it cannot be carried to Corporal Places, or not Locally carried any whither, without a Body. Now whether the Soul have some Body, when it goes out of this Body, let them that can show: but for my part, I think otherwise. For I suppose the Soul to be Spiritual and not Corporal, and that after Death it is either carried to Spiritual things, or else to Penal Places like to Bodies, such as have been represented to some in Extasies; &c. Where St. Austin himself, seems to think, the Punishment of Souls after Death, and before the Resurrection, to be Phantastical, or only in Imagination. Whereas there could not be then so much as Phantastick Punishments; neither, nor any Imagination at all in Souls, without a Body; if that Doctrine of Aristotle's be true, that Phancy or Imagination, is nothing else but a Weaker Sense; that is, a thing which results from a Complication of Soul and Body both together. But it is observable that in the forecited place, that which St. Austin chiefly opposed, was the Souls Being a Body, as Tertullian, Methodius, and others had asserted; but as for its Having a Body, he saith only this, *Ostendat qui potest, Let him that can shew it;* He granting in the mean time, that the Soul cannot be Locally carried any whither at all after Death, nor indeed be in any place, without a Body. However the same St. Austin, as he elsewhere condemneth, the Opinion of those, who would take the Fire of Hell Metaphorically, acknowledging it to be Real and Corporeal; so does he somewhere think it not improbable, but after Death, and before the Resurrection, the Souls of men may suffer, from a certain Fire, for the consuming and burning up of their dross, *Post istius sanè Corporis Mortem, donec ad illum Veniatur, qui post Resurrectionem Corporum futurus est Damnationis & Remuneracionis Ultimus Dies; Si hoc temporis Intervallo, Eiusmodi Ignem dicuntur perpeti quem non sentiant illi, qui non habuerint tales mores & amores in huius Corporis Vita, ut Eorum Ligna, & Fenum, & Stipula Consumantur: alii vero sentiunt qui ejusmodi secum edificia portaverunt, &c. non redarguo, quia forsitan Verum est.* If in this Interval of Time, betwixt the Death of the Body, and the Resurrection or Day of Judgment, the Souls of the Dead be said to suffer such a Fire as can do no Execution, upon those who have no Wood, Hay, nor Stubble to burn up; but shall be felt by such as have made such Buildings or Superstructures, &c. I reprehend it not, because perhaps it is True. The Opinion here mentioned, is thus Expressed by Origen, in his Fifth

De Civ. D.
Lib. 1. c. 33.

Book against *Celsus*, which very place *St. Austin* seems to have had respect to, *ἡ συνιδὴν ἐπὶ ἑξῆς Ἑλλήνων πρὶν ἰδοῦναι τὸ πῦρ καθάρσιον ἢ πύργου τοῦ κέλευσε· εἰκός δ' ἐστὶ καὶ ἑκάστου τῶν διαμέλειαν ἢ διὰ τῆς πυρρῆς θύκης καίοντο· μὴ καὶ καὶ ἀκαίοντο· τὰς μὴ ἔχοντας ὕλην διαμέλειαν ἀταλάσαι ὑπ' αὐτοῦ τῆς πυρρῆς· καίοντο· ἢ καὶ κατὰ καίοντος τὸς ἐν τῇ διὰ τῶν περὶ τὴν καὶ λόγων καὶ νοημάτων τερπικῶς λεγόμενῃ οἰκοδομῇ ἔϋλα, χέρον, ἢ καλὰ μὴ οἰκοδομησάσθαι.* *Celsus did not understand, That this Fire as well according to the Hebrews and Christians, as to some of the Greeks, will be Purgatory to the World; as also to every one of those persons, who stand in need of such Punishment and Remedy by Fire; which Fire can do no Execution upon those, who have no combustible Matter in them, but will be felt by such as in the Moral Structure, of their Thoughts, Words, and Actions, have built up Wood, Hay, and Stubble. Now since Souls cannot suffer from Fire, nor any thing else in way of Sense or Pain, without being Vitrally United to some Body, we may conclude, that St. Austin when he wrote this, was not altogether abhorrent, from Souls having Bodies after Death.*

Hitherto have we declared, How the *Ancient Asserters of Incorporeal Substance*, as *Unextended*, did repel the Assaults of *Atheists* and *Corporealists* made against it; but especially, How they quitted themselves of that *Abjurdity*, of the *Illocality* and *Immobility* of *Finite Created Spirits*, by Supposing them always to be *Vitrally United* to some Bodies, and consequently, by the *Locality* of those their respective Bodies, determined to *Here* and *There*: according to that of *C. Cels. L. 5.* *Origen*, *ἡ ψυχὴ ἡμῶν δεῖται σώματος, διὰ τὰς τοιαύτας μεταβάσεις.* *Our Soul stands in need of a Body, in order to Local Motions.* We shall in the next place declare, what *Grounds of Reason* there were, which induced those *Ancients*, to assert and maintain a thing so repugnant to *Sense* and *Imagination*, and consequently to all *Vulgar Apprehension*, as a *Substance* in it self *Unextended*, *Indistant*, and *Indivisible*, or *Devoid of Magnitude* and *Parts*. Wherein we shall only represent the *Sense* of these *Ancient Incorporealists*, so far as we can, to the best advantage, in order to their *Vindication*, against *Atheists* and *Materialists*; our selves in the meantime, not asserting any thing; but leaving every one that can, to make his own Judgment; and so either to close with this, or that other following *Hypothesis*, of *Extended Incorporeals*.

Now it is here observable, That it was a thing formerly taken for granted on both sides, as well by the *Asserters*, as the *Deniers* of *Incorporeal Substance*, That there is but *One kind* of *Extension* only; and Consequently that whatsoever hath *Magnitude* and *Parts*, or *One Thing* Without Another, is not only *Intellectually* and *Logically*, but also *Really* and *Physically Divisible* or *Discernible*, as likewise *Antitypous* and *Impenetrable*; so that it cannot Coexist with a *Body*, in the same Place, from whence it follows, that whatsoever *Arguments* do evince, That there is some other Substance besides *Body*, the same do therefore Demonstrate; according to the *Sense* of these *Ancients*, (as well *Corporealists* as *Incorporealists*) that there is *Something Unextended*; it being supposed by them both alike, that whatsoever is *Extended*

Extended, is Body. Nevertheless we shall here principally propound such Considerations of theirs, as tend directly to Prove, That there is something *Unextendedly Incorporeal*: And that an *Unextended Deity* is no *Impossible Idea*; to wit from hence, becaufethere is something *Unextended* even in our very Selves. Where not to repeat the forementioned Ratiocination of *Simplicius*, That *whatsoever can Act and Reflect upon its Whole Self*, cannot possibly be Extended, nor have Parts Distant from one another; *Plotinus* first argues after this manner, *ἡ τῶν φυχῶν, οἱ τῶν ψυχῶν οὐκ ἔστιν ἑνὶ λόγῳ, πρῶτον μὲν* P. 469; *ἡ ἐκαστὴ μέρος τῆς ψυχῆς τῆς ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ σάρτει, πότερ ἕκαστη ψυχῇ, οὐκ ἔστι τῆς ἐν ἑνὶ, καὶ πάλιν τὸ μέρος τὸ μέρος; ὅθεν ἀρετὴ τὸ μέρος συνεβάλλο τῇ ὅλῃ αὐτῆς· καίτοι ἐστὶν περὶ τὴν ὅλην ὅλος· ἀλλὰ καὶ ἔστιν πολλὰ, ὅπερ σῶμα περὶ αὐτὸν ἀδύνατον, ἐν πλείον τὸ αὐτὸ ἔστιν ἑνὶ, καὶ τὸ μέρος ὅπερ τὸ ὅλον ὑπερκεῖται· εἰ ὅ ἕκαστη τῇ μερὲν, ἡ ψυχὴ φυχῶν, ἡ ἐκαστὴ ψυχὴ αὐτοῖς ὑπερκεῖται.* What then will they say, who contend, that the Soul is a Body (or Extended?) whether or no will they grant concerning every Part of the Soul in the same Body (as that of it which is in the Foot, and that in the Hand, and that in the Brain, &c.) and again every Part of those Parts, that each of them is Soul, such as the Whole? If this be consented to, then it is plain, that Magnitude or such a Quantity, would confer nothing at all, to the Essence of the Soul, as it would do, were it an Extended Thing: but the Whole, would be in many Parts or Places; which is a thing that cannot possibly belong to Body; That the same Whole, should be in more; and That a Part, should be, what the whole is. But if they will not grant, every Part of their Extended Soul, to be Soul, then according to them must the Soul be Made up, and Compounded of Soul-less Things. Which Argument is else where again thus propounded by him, *εἰ ὅ ἕκαστη ζῶν ἔχει, καὶ ἐν αὐτῇ· εἰ ὅ μὲν αὐτῇ ζῶν ἔχει ὅλος ἡ σῶμα περὶ αὐτὸν ζῶν, ἄτοκον· μᾶλλον ὅ ἀδύνατον συμπερῆσαι σωματικῶν ζῶν ἐκαστὴν, καὶ νῦν γινώσκον τὰ αἰνῶτα.* If every one of the Parts of this Extended Soul, or Mind, have Life in it, then would any one of them alone be sufficient. But to say, that though none of the Parts alone have Life in them, yet the Conjunction of them altogether, maketh Life, is absurd; it being impossible, that Life and Soul should result from a Congeries of Lifeless and Soulless things; or that Mindless things put together, should beget Mind. The sum of this Argumentation is this, That either every part of an Extended Soul is Soul, and of an Extended Mind, Mind; or not. Now if no Part of a Soul, as supposed to be Extended, alone be Soul or have Life and Mind in it, then is it certain that the Whole resulting from all the Parts, could have no Life nor Mind; because Nothing can (Causally) come from Nothing. It is true indeed, that Corporeal Qualities and Forms, according to the Atomick Physiology; result from a Composition and Contexture of Atoms or Parts, each of which taken alone by themselves, have nothing of that Quality or Form in them,

— Ne ex Albis Alba rearis;
Aut ea quæ Nigra, nigro de Semine nata.

You are not to think, that White things are made out of White principles, nor Black things out of Black; but the Reason of the difference
here

here is plain, because these *Qualities* and *Forms* are not *Entities Really* distinct from the *Magnitude, Figure, Site, and Motion* of Parts, but only such a Composition of them, as cause different *Phancies* in us; but *Life* and *Understanding, Soul and Mind*, are *Entities Really* distinct from *Magnitude, Figure, Site, and Motion* of Parts, they are neither meer *Phancies*, nor *Syllables* of things, but *Simple* and *Uncompounded* Realities. But if every supposed *Part* of a *Soul* be *Soul*, and of a *Mind, Mind*; then would all the rest of it besides any *One Part*, be *Superfluous*: or indeed every supposed *Part* thereof, would be the *Same* with the *Whole*; from whence it follows, that it could not be *Extended*, or have any *Real Part* at all, since no *Part* of an *Extended* thing, can possibly be the *Same* with the *Whole*.

P. 451.

Again the same Philosopher endeavours further to prove, that the *Humane Soul* it self, is *Unextended* and *Indivisible*, from its *Energies* and *Operations*, and that as well those of *Sensation* as of *Intellection*, First therefore from *External Sensations*, he Reasons in this manner, εἰτι μὴ μὴ αἰσθάνεσθαι τινος ἐν αὐτῷ δὲ εἶναι, καὶ τῷ αὐτῷ καὶ ὅτις αἰσθάνεσθαι καὶ εἰ δὲ πολλὰ αἰσθάνεσθαι πλεον τὰ εἰσάγῃ, ἢ πολλὰ ὅτις ἐν πύστωτι, καὶ δὲ ἡδὲ πικρῶν, ὅσον πρὸς πικρῶν· ὅ γὰρ ἄλλο μὴ ἐπὶ ἄλλο ἢ ὁμοειδέων, ἀλλὰ ταῦτον ὅμοι πύστω· καὶ εἰ τὸ μὴ δὲ ἑμμάτων τὸ δὲ αἰσθάνεσθαι, ἐν τῷ δὲ εἶναι ἐς ὃ ἀμφοῖν· ἢ πῶς ἐν εἶποι ὅτι ἐπερὶ ταῦτα, μὴ ἐς τὸ αὐτὸ ὅμοι τῷ αἰσθάνεσθαι ἰσθάνεσθαι. *That which perceiveth in us, must of necessity be One thing, and by One and the same Indivisible, perceive all; and that whether they be more things, entering through several Organs of Sense, as the many Qualities of one Substance; or One Various and Multiform thing, entering through the same Organ; as the Countenance or Picture of a man. For it is not One thing in us, that perceives the Nose, another thing the Eyes, and another thing the Mouth; but it is one and the self same thing, that perceiveth all. And when one thing enters through the Eye, another through the Ear, these also must of necessity come all at last to one Indivisible, or else they could not be compared together, nor one of them affirmed to be different from another? The several Sentiments of them meeting no where together in One. He concludes therefore, that this One thing in us, that sensibly perceives all things, may be resembled to the Centre of a Circle, and the several Senses, to Lines drawn from the Circumference, which all meet in that one Centre. Wherefore that which perceives and apprehends all things in us, must needs be Really One, and the very same; that is, Unextended and Indivisible. Which Argument, is yet further pursued by him, more particularly thus. If that which sensibly perceiveth in us, be Extended, so as to have Distant Parts, one without another, then one of these Three things must needs be affirmed; That either Every Part of this Extended Substance of the Soul perceives a Part of the Object only; or every Part of it the Whole Object, or else all comes to some One Point, which alone perceives, both the several Parts of the Object, and the Whole, all the other, being but as Circumferential Lines leading to this Center. Now of the former of those Three Plotinus thus; μὴ γὰρ οὐκ ὅτι τῶν. Συμμετρεῖται ἂν· ἂν ἄλλο ἄλλο μέγεθος, καὶ μὴ δὲ ἡμῶν ὅλα τῷ αἰσθάνεσθαι ἀπὸ τοῦ ἐκείνου· ἂν πρὸς ἂν εἰ τῷ μὴ ἄλλο· σὺ δὲ ἄλλο αἰσθάνεσθαι. *If the Soul be a Magnitude, then must it be divided together with the Sensible Object, so that one Part of the Soul*
must*

must perceive one Part of the Object, and another, another 3 and nothing in It, the Whole Sensible : just as if I should have the sense of one thing, and you of another. Whereas it is plain by our *Internal Sense*, That it is One and the Self same thing in us, which perceives, both the Parts and the Whole. And of the Second, he writeth in this manner, *εἰ δ' ὅτι ὅτις πᾶντος αἰσθάνεται, εἰς ἅπασας διακρίνεται τὸ μέγιστον πικρῶς τε, ἀπὸρος δὲ αἰσθάνεται καὶ ἕκαστον αἰσθάνεται συσχεῖσθαι ἡλικίαν ἑκάστω ὅτι τὸ αὐτὸ ἀπὸρος ἐστὶν τὸ ἑκατόν ἡμῶν ἀνέκας.* But if every Part of the Extended Soul, perceive the Whole Sensible Object, since Magnitude is Infinitely Divisible, there must be in every man Infinite Sensations, and Images of one and the same Object. Whereas we are Intimately Conscious to our selves, That we have but only One Sensation of One Object at the same time. And 'as for the Third and Last Part of the Disjunction, That what Sensibly Perceives in every one, is but One Single Point, either Mathematical or Physical. It is certain first that a Mathematical Point, having neither Longitude, Latitude, nor Profundity, is no Body nor Substance, but only a Notion of our own Mind, or a Mode of Conceiving in us. And then as for a Physical Point or Minimum, a Body so Little that there cannot possibly be any Less, Plotinus asserting the Infinite Divisibility of Body, here explodes the thing it self. However he further intimates, that If there were any such Physical Minimum, or Absolutely Least Body or Extensum, this could not possibly receive upon it a Distinct Representation and Delineation, of all the several Parts of a Whole Visible Object at once, as of the Eyes, Nose, Mouth, &c. in a man's Face or Picture, or of the Particularities of an Edifice : nor could such a Parvitude or Atom as this, be the Cause of all Animal Motions. And this was one of Aristotle's Arguments, whereby he would prove Unextended Incorporeals, *ὥς τὸ ἀμικρὸν τὸ μέγιστον.* If the Soul were Indivisible as a Point, how could it Perceive, that which is Divisible ? that is, take notice of all the Distinct Parts of any Extended Object, and have a Description of the whole of them at once upon it self ? The Sum of the whole Argumentation is this, That If the Soul be an Extended Substance, then must it of necessity be either a Physical Point or Minimum, the Least Extensum that can possibly be, (if there be any such Least, and Body or Extension be not Infinitely Divisible) or else it must consist of more such Physical Points, joyned together. As for the former of these, it hath been already declared to be Impossible, that one Single Atom, or Smallest Point of Extension, should be able distinctly to perceive all the variety of things : to which might be added, That to suppose every Soul to be but one Physical Minimum, or Smallest Extensum, is to imply such an Essential Difference in Matter or Extension, as that some of the Points thereof, should be Naturally devoid of all Life, Sense, and Understanding, and others again Naturally Sensitive and Rational. Which Absurdity though it should be admitted, yet would it be utterly Unconceivable, how there should come to be, One such Sensitive and Rational Atom in every man and no more, and how this should constantly remain the same, from Infancy to Old-Age, whilst other Parts of Matter Transpire perpetually. But as for the Latter ; If Souls be Extended Substances, consisting of More Points, one without another ; all Concurring in every Sensation,

sation, then must every one of those *Points*, either Perceive a *Point* and *Part* of the *Object* only, or else the *Whole*. Now if every *Point* of the *Extended Soul*, Perceive only a *Point* of the *Object*, then is there no *One Thing* in us, that *Perceives the Whole*; or which can compare one *Part* with another. But if every *Point* of the *Extended Soul*, Perceive the *Whole Object* at once, consisting of many *Parts*, then would there be *Innumerable Perceptions* of the same *Object* in every Sensation; as many, as there are *Points* in the *Extended Soul*. And from both those Suppositions, it would alike follow, that no man is *One Single Percipient* or *Person*, but that there are *Innumerable distinct Percipients* and *Persons* in every man. Neither can there be any other Supposition made, besides those Three forementioned; as That the whole *Extended Soul*, should Perceive both the *Whole Sensible Object*, and All its several *Parts*, no *Part* of this *Soul* in the mean time having any Perception at all by it self; because the *Whole* of an *Extended Being*, is nothing but *All the Parts* taken together; and if none of those *Parts* have any *Life*, *Sense*, or *Perception* in them, it is Impossible, that there should be any in the *Whole*. But in very truth, to say that the *Whole Soul* Perceiveth all, and no *Part* of it any thing; is to acknowledge it, not to be *Extended*, but to be *Indivisible*; which is the Thing that *Plotinus* contends for.

And that Philosopher here further insists upon *Internal Sensations* also, and that Συμπόλη, or ὁμοπόλη, That *Sympathy*, or *Homopathy*, which is in all *Animals*, to the same purpose: It being *One* and the *Same* thing in them, which *Perceives Pain*, in the most distant *Extremities* of the *Body*; as in the *Sole* of the *Foot*, and in the *Crown* of the *Head*, and which moves one *Part* to succour and relieve another labouring under it, which could not possibly be by *Traduction* of all, to one *Physical Point*, as the *Centre*, for divers *Reasons*. *Εἰ τίνων ἂν διέδον ἔχοντα τὴν κέντρον τὴν τούτων γένεσιν, μὴ ἢ σωματικῶς ἢ πνευματικῶς, ἂν ποτὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ἄλλοις γινώσκον ἔχοντα (παντί γὰρ μεγέθει τὸ μὴν ἄλλο, τὸ δ' ἄλλο ὅτι) οὐ τούτων τίθεται τὸ διακινούμενον, οὐκ παταχῶς αὐτὸ ἐαυτῷ τὸ αὐτὸ εἶναι. τὴν δ' ἄλλαν τὴν ἑστῶσαν ἢ σωματικῶς πᾶσι περὶ τοῦ.* Since therefore these *Sympathetick Senses*, cannot possibly be made by *Traduction*, at last to *One thing*; and *Body* being *Bulkie* or *Out-swelling Extension*, *One Part* thereof *Suffering*, another cannot *Perceive* it, (for in all *Magnitude*, *This is One thing*, and *That Another*) it followeth, that what *Perceives* in us, must be every where, and in all the *parts* of the *Body*, *One* and the *Same* thing with it self. Which therefore cannot be it self *Body*, but must of necessity be some other *Entity* or *Substance Incorporeal*. The Conclusion is, that in *Men* and *Animals*, there is *One thing Indivisibly the Same*, that *Comprehendeth the Whole Outside of them*, *Perceiveth both the Parts*, and the *Whole* of *Sensible Objects*, and all transmitted through several *Senses*; *Sympathizeth* with all the *Distant Parts* of the *Body*; and *Acteth* entirely upon all. And this is properly called, *I My Self*, not the *Extended Bulk* of the *Body*, which is not *One* but *Many Substances*, but an *Unextended* and *Indivisible Unity*, wherein all *Lines Meet*, and *Concentre*, not as a *Mathematical Point*, or *Least Extensum*; But as one *Self-Active*, *Living*, *Power*, *Substantial*, or *Inside-Being*, that *Containeth*, *Holdeth*, and *Connecteth* all together. Lastly,

Lastly, the forementioned Philosopher endeavours yet further to prove, the *Human Soul* to be *Unextended* and *Devoid of Magnitude*, and *Indivisible*, from its *Rational Energies* or *Operations*, its νοητικὰς ἐνεργείας, and ἀμεγέθυνον ἀντιλήψεις, *Intellections* of *Intelligibles*, and *Apprehensions* of things *Devoid of Magnitude*, πῶς γὰρ μέγεθος ἐν τῷ μὴ μέγεθός νοησί; ἢ τῷ μὴ μεγέθει τὸ μὴ μέγεθος; For how could the Soul (saith he) if it were a *Magnitude*, *Understand* that which hath no *Magnitude*? and with that which is *Divisible*, *Conceive* what is *Indivisible*? Now it is certain, that we have *Notions* of many things which are ἀφάνταστα, altogether *Unimaginable*, and therefore have nothing of *Length*, *Breadth*, and *Thicknes*s in them, as *Virtue*, *Vice*, &c. ἀμεγέθους ἢ οὐ-
Plat. p. 453.
 μαι ἢ τὸ καλὸν ἢ τὸ δίκαιον, ἢ ἡ τῶν ἀρετῶν νέμεσις· ὧς ἢ προσόντα ἢ τῷ ἀμεγέθει αὐτῆς ὑποδέχεται, καὶ οὐ αὐτῇ οὐ ἀμεγέθει νέμεται. *Justice* and *Honesty*, and the like, are things *Devoid of Magnitude*, and therefore must the *Intellections* of them, needs be such too. So that the Soul must receive these, by what is *Indivisible*, and Lodge them in that which is *Indivisible*. We have also a *Notion* not only of meer *Latitude* or *Breadth*, *Indivisible* as to *Thicknes*s; and of *Longitude* or a *Line*, *Indivisible* both as to *Breadth*, and *Thicknes*s; but also of a *Mathematical Point*, that is every way *Indivisible*, as to *Length*, *Breadth*, and *Thicknes*s. We have a *Conception* of the *Intension* of *Powers* and *Virtues*, wherein there is nothing of *Extension* or *Magnitude*. And indeed all the *Abstract Essences* of things, (or the αὐτοτέλειαι) which are the *First Objects* of *Intellection*, are *Indivisible*: εἰ γὰρ ἐν ὕλῃ εἶδον πῶς τοῦτο φέρεται εἶναι, ἀλλὰ χωρεῖσθαι γὰρ γίνονται τὰ τῷ χωρεῖσθαι, ἢ γὰρ μετὰ σαρκῶν, &c. And though we apprehend *Forms* that are in *Matter* too, yet do we Apprehend them as *Separated* and *Abstracted* from the same; there being nothing of *Flesh* in our *Conception* of a *Man*, &c. Nay, the Soul *Conceives* *Extended* things themselves, *Unextendedly* and *Indivisibly*; for as the *Distance* of a whole *Hemisphere* is contracted into a narrow *Compass* in the *Pupil* of the *Eye*, so are all *Distances* yet more contracted in the *Soul* it self, and there *Understood Indistantly*; For the *Thought* of a *Mile Distance*, or of *Ten thousand Miles*, or *Semidiameters* of the *Earth*, takes up no more *Room* in the *Soul*, nor *Stretches* it any more, than does the *Thought* of a *Foot* or *Inch*, or indeed of a *Mathematical Point*. Were that which perceiveth in us a *Magnitude*, then could it not be, ἴσιν παντὶ αἰσθητῷ, *Equal to every sensible*, and alike perceive, both *Lesser* and *Greater Magnitudes*, than it self: but least of all could it perceive, such things as have no *Magnitude* at all. And this was the other *Part* of *Aristotle's Argumentation*, to Prove the *Soul* and *Mind* to be *Unextended* and *Indivisible*, πῶς γὰρ νοησί τὸ ἀμεγέθει μεγέθει; For how could it perceive, that which is *Indivisible*, by what is *Divisible*? He having before Demanded, How, is could apprehend things *Divisible*, and of a *Great Extension*, by a meer *Point* or *Absolute Parvitude*. Where the *Soul*, or that which *Perceives* and *Understands*, is according to *Aristotle*, neither *Divisible*, as a *Continued Quantity*, nor yet *Indivisible*, either as a *Mathematical*, or as a *Physical Point*, and *Absolute Parvitude*; but as that which hath in it self, no *Out-Swelling Distance*, nor *Relation* to any *Place*, otherwise than

as it is Vitally United to a Body; which, (where ever it be,) it always *Sympathizes* with, and *Acts* upon.

Besides which, these *Ancient Asserters* of *Unextended Incorporeals*, would in all probability confirm that Opinion from hence; Because we can not only Conceive *Extension* without *Cogitation*, and again *Cogitation* without *Extension*; from whence it may be Inferred, that they are *Entities Really Distinct*, and *Separable* from one another, (we having no other *Rule*, to Judge of the *Real Distinction* and *Separability* of things then from our *Conceptions*) but also are not able to Conceive *Cogitation* with *Extension*. We cannot conceive a *Thought*, to be of such a certain *Length, Breadth, and Thickness*, *Mensurable* by *Inches* and *Feet*, and by *Solid Measures*. We cannot conceive *Half*, or a *Third Part*, or a *Twentieth Part* of a *Thought*, much less of the *Thought* of an *Indivisible Thing*; neither can we Conceive every *Thought* to be of some certain *Determinate Figure*, either *Round* or *Angular*; *Spherical*, *Cubical*, or *Cylindrical*, or the like. Whereas if whatsoever is *Unextended*, be *Nothing*, *Thoughts* must either be meer *Non-Entities*, or else *Extended* too, into *Length, Breadth* and *Thickness*; *Divisible* into *Parts*; and *Mensurable*; and also (where *Finite*,) of a certain *Figure*. And consequently all *Verities* in us (they being but *Complex Axiomatical Thoughts*) must of necessity be *Long, Broad, and Thick*, and either *Spherically* or *Angularly Figurate*. And the same must be affirmed, of *Volitions* likewise, and *Appetites* or *Passions*, as *Fear* and *Hope*, *Love* and *Hatred*, *Grief* and *Joy*; and of all other things belonging to *Cogitative Beings*, (*Souls* and *Minds*) as *Knowledge* and *Ignorance*, *Wisdom* and *Folly*, *Vertue* and *Vice*, *Justice* and *Injustice*, &c. that these are either all of them *Absolute Non-Entities*; or Else *Extended* into *Three Dimensions* of *Length, Breadth*, and *Profundity*; and *Mensurable* not only by *Inches* and *Feet*, but also by *Solid Measures*, as *Pints* and *Quarts*: and last of all (where they are *Finite* as in men) *Figurate*. But if this be *Absurd*, and these things belonging to *Soul* and *Mind*, (though doubtless as great *Realities* at least, as the things which belong to *Bodies*) be *Unextended*, then must the *Substances* of *Souls* and *Minds* themselves be *Unextended* also. Thus *Plotinus* of *Mind*, *νῦς ἡ διακρίσας αὐτὴ ἑαυτῇ*, *Mind is not Distant from it self*: and indeed were it so, it could not be *One thing*, (as it is) but *Many*; every *Conceivable Part* of *Distant* and *Extended Substance*, being a *Substance* by it self. And the same is to be said of the *Humane Soul*, though it *Acts* upon *Distant Parts* of that *Body*, which it is united to, that it self notwithstanding, is not *Scattered* out into *Distance*, nor *Dispersed* into *Multiplicity*, nor *Infinitely Divisible*; because then it would not be *One Single Substance*, or *Monade*, but a *Heap* of *Substances*. *Soul* is no more *Divisible*, than *Life*; of which the forementioned *Philosopher* thus, *ἀεὶ τὸ ζῶν μετὰ τὸ διαιρεῖσθαι ἔστιν ἡ ζωὴ, τὸ μὲν ζῶν ἓξαι*, *Will you divide a Life into two? then the whole of it being but a Life, the half thereof, cannot be a Life*. Lastly, if *Soul* and *Mind*, and the things belonging to them, as *Life* and *Cogitation*, *Understanding* and *Wisdom*, &c. be *Out-spread* into *Distance*, having one *Part* without another, then can there be no *Good Reason* given, why they should not be, as well

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Really and Physically, as Intellectually Divisible; and One Part of them *Separable* from another: since as *Plotinus*, πῶς μετέσθαι τὸ μὴ ἄλλο, τὸ ὃ ἄλλο, *In all Magnitude or Extension, This is One thing, and That Another.* At least no *Theist* ought to deny, but that the *Divine Power*, could Cleave, or Divide a *Thought*, together with the *Soul* wherein it is into Many Pieces; and remove them to the Greatest Distances from one another, (for as much as this implies no manner of Contradiction, and whatsoever is Conceivable by us, may be done by Infinite Power) in which case, neither of them alone, would be *Soul* or *Mind*, *Life* or *Thought*, but all put together, make up one entire *Mind*, *Soul*, *Life*, and *Thought*.

Wherefore, the Sense of the Ancient *Incorporealists*, seems to have been as follows. That there are in *Nature*, Two Kinds of Substances specifically Differing from one another. The First ὄντος, *Entities or Things*, a meer *Passive Thing*. The Second δυνάμεις, *Self-Active Powers or Virtues*, or φῶς δυνάμεις, the *Energetick Nature*. The Former of these, is nothing else but *Magnitude or Extension*, not as an *Abstract Notion* of the *Mind*, but as a *Thing Really Existing* without it. For when it is called, *Res Extensa*, the meaning is not, as if the *Res* were *One thing*, and the *Extension* thereof *Another*, but that it is *Extension*, or *Distance*, *Really Existing*, or the *Thing* thereof (without the *Mind*) and not the *Notion*. Now this in the *Nature* of it, is Nothing but *Aliud Extra Aliud*, *One thing without Another*, and therefore perfect *Alterity*, *Disunity*, and *Divisibility*. So that no *Extension* whatsoever, of any Sensible Bigness, is Truly and Really, *One Substance*, but a *Multitude* or *Heap of Substances*, as Many as there are *Parts* into which it is *Divisible*. Moreover one Part of this *Magnitude*, always *Standing Without another*, it is an *Essential Property* thereof to be *Antitypous* or *Impenetrable*, that is, to *Justle* or *Shoulder out*, all other *Extended Substance* from *Penetrating* into it, and *Co-Existing* with it, so as to *Possess* and take up the same *Room* or *Space*. One yard of *Distance*, or of *Length*, *Breadth*, and *Thickness*, cannot possibly be added to another, without making the *Whole Extension* Double to what it was before, since one of them must of necessity stand without the other. One *Magnitude* cannot *Imbibe* or *Swallow up* another, nor can there be any *Penetration of Dimensions*. Moreover *Magnitude* or *Extension* as such, is meer *Outside or Outwardness*, it hath nothing *Within*, no *Self-Active Power* or *Virtue*, all its *Activity*, being either *Keeping out* or *Hindering*, any other *Extended Thing*, from *Penetrating* into it: (which yet it doth merely by its being *Extended*, and therefore not so much by any *Physical Efficiency*, as a *Logical Necessity*;) or else *Local Motion*, to which it is also but *Passive*; no *Body* or *Extension* as such, being able to *Move* it self, or *Act* upon it self.

Wherefore were there no other *Substance* in the *World* besides this *Magnitude* or *Extension*, there could be no *Motion* or *Action* at all in it; no *Life*, *Cogitation*, *Consciousness*, No *Intellection*, *Appetite* or *Volition* (which things do yet make up the Greatest part of the *Universe*) but all would be a dead *Heap* or *Lump*: nor could any one Sub-

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stance, Penetrate another, and Co-Exist in the same Place with it. From whence it follows of necessity, that besides this *Outside Bulky Extension*, and *Unobscured Magnitude*, there must be another kind of *Entity*, whose *Essential Attribute or Character*, is *Life, Self-Activity, or Cogitation*. Which first, that it is not a meer *Mode or Accident* of *Magnitude and Extension*, is plain from hence, because *Cogitation* may be as well *Conceived* without *Extension*, as *Extension* without *Cogitation*; whereas no *Mode* of any thing can be *Conceived* without that whereof it is a *Mode*. And since there is unquestionably, much more of *Entity* in *Life and Cogitation*, than there is in meer *Extension or Magnitude*, which is the Lowest of all Being, and next to *Nothing*; it must needs be Imputed, to the meer *Delusion and Imposition of Imagination*, that men are so prone to think, this *Extension or Magnitude*, to be the only Substance, and all other things besides, the meer *Accidents* thereof, *Generable* out of it, and *Corruptible* again into it. For though that *Secondary and Participated Life*, (as it is called) in the *Bodies of Animals*, be indeed a meer *Accident*, and such as may be *Present or Absent* without the *Destruction* of its Subject; yet can there be no Reason given, why the *Primary and Original Life* it self, should not be as well a *Substantial Thing*, as meer *Extension and Magnitude*. Again that *Extension and Life, or Cogitation*, are not *Two Inadequate Conceptions* neither, of one and the self same Substance, considered brokenly and by piecemeal; as if either all *Extension* had *Life and Cogitation* Essentially belonging to it, (as the *Hylozoists* conclude) or at least all *Life and Cogitation* had *Extension*; and consequently all *Souls and Minds*, and even the *Deity* it self were, either *Extended Life and Cogitation*; or *Living and Thinking Extension* (there being nothing in Nature *Unextended*; but *Extension* the only *Entity*, so that whatsoever is devoid thereof, is *ipso facto, Absolutely Nothing*) This, I say, will also appear from hence, because as hath been already declared, we cannot *Conceive* a *Life or Mind or Thought*, nor any thing at all belonging to a *Cogitative Being* as such (as *Wisdom, Folly, Virtue, Vice, &c.*) to be *Extended* into *Length, Breadth, and Thickness*, and to be *Mensurable* by *Inches, Feet, and Yards*. From whence it may be concluded, that *Extension*, and *Life or Cogitation*, are no *Inadequate Conceptions* of One and the self same thing, since they cannot be *Complicated* together into one; but that they are distinct *Substances* from each other. *Lives and Minds*, are such *Tight and Compact Things* in themselves, and have such a *Self-Unity* in their Nature, as that they cannot be lodged, in that which is wholly *Scattered out* from it self into *Distance*, and *Dispersed* into *Infinite Multiplicity*; nor be spread all over upon the same as coextended with it. Nor is it conceivable, how all the several *Parts* of an *Extended Magnitude*, should Joynly concur and contribute, to the *Production* of One and the same *Single and Indivisible Cogitation*; or how that whole *Heap or Bundle* of things, should be One *Thinker*. A *Thinker*, is a *Monade*, or one *Single Substance*, and not a *Heap of Substances*: whereas no *Body or Extended thing*, is One, but *Many Substances*, every *Conceivable or Smallest part* thereof, being a *Real Substance* by it self.

But this will yet further appear, if we consider, what kind of *Atti-*

on *Cogitation* is. The *Action* of an *Extended Thing* as such, is nothing but *Local Motion*, Change of Distance, or Translation from Place to Place, a meer *Outside* and *Superficial* thing; but it is certain, that *Cogitation*, (*Phancy*, *Intellection*, and *Relition*) are no *Local Motions*; nor the meer *Fridging* up and and down, of the *Parts* of an *Extended Substance*, changing their *Place* and *Distance*; but it is Unquestionably, an *Internal Energie*; that is, such an *Energie* as is *Within* the very *Substance* or *Essence*, of that which *Thinketh*; or in the *Inside* of it. From which *Two kinds of Energies*, we may now conclude, that there are also *Two kinds of Entity* or *Substance* in Nature; the *One meer Outside*, and which hath Nothing *Within* it; the Other such a kind of *Entity*, as hath an *Internal Energie*; Aeth *From it self*, and *Within it self*, and *Upon it self*; an *Inside Thing*, whose *Action* is *Within* the very *Essence* or *Substance* thereof. It being plain, that the *Cogitative* or *Thinking Nature*, is such a thing, as hath an *Essential Inside* or *Profundity*. Now this *Inside* of *Cogitative Beings*, wherein they thus *Act* or *Think* Internally within themselves, cannot have any *Length*, *Breadth*, or *Thicknes* in it, because if it had, it would be again a meer *Outside thing*. Wherefore had all *Cogitative Beings*, (*Souls* and *Minds*) *Extension* and *Magnitude*; never so much belonging to them, as some suppose them to have; yet could this for all that, be Nothing but the meer *Outside* of their Being, besides which, they must of necessity have also, an *Unextended Inside*, that hath no *Outswelling Tumour*, and is not *Scattered* into *Distance*, nor *Dispersed* into *Multiplicity*, which therefore could not possibly Exist a *Part* in a *Part*, of the supposed *Extension*, as if one *Half* of a *Mind* or *Thought*, were in One *Half* of that *Extension*, and another in another; but must of necessity be All *Undividedly*, both in the *Whole* of it, and in every *Part*. For had every *Twentieth* or *Hundredth Part* of this *Extensum*, not the *Whole* of a *Life* or *Mind* in it, but only the *Twentieth* or *Hundredth Part* thereof, then could none of them have any true *Life* or *Mind* at all, nor consequently the *Whole* have any. Nor indeed is it otherwise conceivable, how a whole *Quantity* of *Extended Substance* should be *One thing*, and have *One Personality*, one *I My Self* in it all, were there not *One Indivisible thing*, Presiding over it, which *Held* it all together, and *Diffused* it self thorough all. And thus do we see, how this *Whole in the Whole* and *in every Part* (do men what they can) will like a *Ghost* still haunt them; and follow them every where. But now it is Impossible, that *One* and the self same *Substance*, should be both *Extended* and *Unextended*. Wherefore in this *Hypothesis* of *Extended Understanding Spirits*, having *One Part* without *Another*, there is an *Undiscerned Complication* of *Two Distinct Substances*, *Extended* and *Unextended*, or *Corporeal* and *Incorporeal*, both together; and a *Confusion* of them into *One*. Where notwithstanding, we must acknowledge, that there is so much of *Truth* aimed at; as that all *Finite Incorporeal Substances*, are always Naturally united to *Some Bodies*, so that the *Whole* of these *Created Animals*, is *Complicated* and *Made up* of Both these together, an *Extended Inside*, and an *Unextended Outside*; both of them *Substances* indeed Really distinct, but yet *Vitally United*, each to other.

The Sum of all is, That there are *Two kinds of Substances in Nature*, the First *Extension or Magnitude*, Really Existing without the Mind, which is a thing that hath no *Self-Unity* at all in it, but is *Infinite Alterity* and *Divisibility*, as it is also meer *Outside* and *Outwardness*, it having nothing *Within*; nor any other *Action* belonging to it, but only *Locally to Move*, when it is Moved. The Second, *Life and Mind*; or the Self Active *Cogitative Nature*, an *Inside Being*, whose *Action* is not *Local Motion*, but an *Internal Energy*, *Within* the Substance or *Essence* of the *Thinker* himself, or in the *Inside* of him; which therefore (though *Unextended*, yet) hath a certain *Inward Recess*; βάθος, or *Essential Profundity*. And this is a thing which can Act all of it Entirely, upon either a Greater or Lesser Quantity of *Extended Substance* or *Body*, and its Several Parts, Penetrating into it, and *Co-existing* in the same Place with it. Wherefore it is not to be looked upon, either as a *Mathematical*, or as a *Physical Point*, as an *Absolute Parvitude* or the *Least Extensum* possible; it having not only such an *Essential Inside*, βάθος, or *Profundity* in it, wherein it *Abeth* and *Thinketh* within it self, but also a certain *Amplitude of Active Power ad Extra*, or a *Sphere of Activity* upon *Body*. Upon which account, it was before affirmed by *Plotinus*; that an *Unextended Incorporeal*, is a thing *Bigger* than *Body*; because *Body* cannot Exist otherwise, than a *Point* of it in a *Point* of Space, whereas this *One* and the same *Indivisible*, can at once both comprehend a *Whole Extensum* within it, and be *All* of it in every Part thereof. And Lastly, all *Finite Incorporeals*, are always *Naturally United* to some *Body* or other; from both which together, is *Complemented and Made up*, in every Created Understanding Being, one entire *Animal*, consisting of *Soul and Body*, and having *Something Incorporeal*, and something *Corporeal* in it; an *Unextended Inside*, and an *Extended Outside*; by means whereof, it is determined to *Here and There*, and *Capable of moving Locally, or Changing Place*.

Thus have we represented the sense of the Ancient *Unextended Incorporealists* to the best advantage that we could; in way of Answer to the premised *Atheistick Argument*; against *Incorporeal Substance*; and in order to the Vindication of them from the Contempt of *Atheists*; And we do affirm, that the forementioned Argumentations of theirs, do evince, That there is some other *Substance* besides *Body*, which therefore according to the Principles of these *Atheists* themselves, must be acknowledged to be *Unextended*, it being concluded by them that whatsoever is *Extended* is *Body*. But whether they do also, absolutely prove, that there is, ὡς ἀμεγέθους, ἀδιάστον, ἀμερές, and ἀδιαιρέτον, A Substance Devoid of *Magnitude*, *Indistant*, *Without Parts*, and *Indivisible*; this we shall leave others to make a Judgment of. However it is certain that *Atheists* who maintain the contrary, must needs assert, that every *Thought*, and whatsoever belongeth to *Soul*, *Mind*, (as *Knowledge*, *Virtue*, &c.) is not only *Mentally* and *Mathematically Divisible*, so that there may be *Half*, a *Third Part*, or a *Quarter* of a *Thought*, and the Rest, supposed; but also *Physically Separable*, or *Discernible*, together

gether with the Soul wherein it is. They must also deny, that there is any *Internal Energy* at all, or any other Action besides that *Outside Superficial Action*, of *Local Motion*, and Consequently make all Cogitation nothing but *Local Motion*, or Translation. And Lastly, they must maintain, that no Substance can Co-exist with any other Substance (as Soul with Body) otherwise than by *Juxta-Position* only, and by Possessing the Pores, or filling up the Intervals thereof; as a Net with the water.

And this is the First Answer to the forementioned *Atheistical Argument*, against *Incorporeal Substance*. That though whatsoever is *Extended* be Body, yet Every thing is not *Extended*, but that *Life* and *Mind* or *Cogitation*, are an *Unextended*, Indistant and Indivisible Nature. But as we have already intimated, There are other Learned Asserters of *Incorporeal Substance*, who left, *God* and *Spirits*, being thus made *Unextended*; should quite Vanish into Nothing; Answer that *Atheistical Argumentation* after a different manner; by granting to these Atheists, that Proposition, that *whatsoever is*, is *Extended*; and what is *Unextended* is *Nothing*; but then denying that other of theirs, That *whatsoever* is *Extended* is *Body*: They asserting, Another *Extension*, Specifically Differing from that of Bodies. For whereas *Corporeal Extension*, is not only *Impenetrable*, so as that no one Part thereof, can Enter into another, but also both *Mentally* and *Really Divisible*; one Part being in its Nature Separable from another; they affirm, that there is another *Incorporeal Extension*, which is both *Penetrable*, and also *Indiscernible*; so that no One Part thereof, can possibly be Separated from another, or the whole; and that to such an *Incorporeal Extension*, as this, belongeth *Life*, *Cogitation*, and *Understanding*, the Deity having such an *Infinite Extension*, but all Created Spirits, a Finite and Limited one: which also is in them supposed to be *Contractible* and *Dilatable*. Now it is not our part here, to oppose *Theists*, but *Atheists*: wherefore we shall leave these Two Sorts of *Incorporeals* to dispute it out friendly amongst themselves; and indeed therefore with the more *Moderation*, *Equanimity*, and *Toleration* of Dissent Mutually; because it seemeth, that Some are in a manner Fatally Inclined, to think one way in this Controversie, and Some another. And what ever the Truth of the Case be, it must be acknowledged, that this Latter Hypothesis, may be very useful and Serviceable to retain some in Theism, who can by no means admit, of a Deity, or Any thing else, *Unextended*. Though perhaps, there will not be wanting others also; who would go in a middle way betwixt these Two, or Compound them together; by supposing the Deity to be indeed altogether *Unextended*, and all of it Every where; but *Finite Incorporeals* or *Created Spirits*, to have an *Unextended Inside*, a *Life* or *Mind*, Diffusing it self into a certain *Amplitude of Outward Extension*, whereby they are Determined to a Place; yet so as to be all in every Part thereof; which *Outward Extension*, is therefore not to be Accounted *Body*, because *Penetrable*, *Contractible*, and *Dilatable*; and because no one Part thereof is Separable from the rest, by the Rushing or Incurision of any Corporeal thing upon them: And thus is the

Atheist

Atheist's Argument, against Incorporeal Substance, Answered Two manner of ways; First, That there *Is Something Unextended*; and Secondly, That *If there were none, yet must there of necessity be, a Substance otherwise Extended than Body is*, so as to be neither *Antitypos* nor *Discerpible*. And Our selves would not be Understood here, Dogmatically to Assert any thing in this Point, save only what all *Incorporealisists* do agree in; To wit, That besides *Body*, which is *Impenetrably and Divisibly Extended*, there is in Nature another *Substance*, that is both *Penetrable of Body and Indiscerpible*; or which doth not Consist, of *Parts Separable from one another*. And that there is at least, such a Substance as this, is unquestionably manifest, from what hath been already declared.

But the *Atheist* will in the next place, give an Account of the *Original* of this *Error* (as He calls it) of *Incorporeal Substance*, and Undertake to show, from what *Mistake* it proceeded; which is yet another *Pretended Confutation* thereof. Namely, that it sprung Partly from the *Abuse of Abstract Names and Notions*, Men making *Substances* of them, and Partly from the *Scholastick Effences*, Distinct from the Things themselves, and said to be *Eternal*. From both which Delusions and Dotages together, the *Atheist* conceives, that Men have been first of all much Confirmed in the Belief of *Ghosts* and *Spirits*, *Demons* and *Devils*, *Invisible Beings* called by several Names. Which Belief had also another *Original*, mens *Mistaking* their own *Phancies* for *Realities*. The Chief of all which affrightful *Ghosts* and *Speetres*, according to these *Atheists* is the *Deity*, the *Oberon*, or *Prince of Fairies* and *Phancies*. But then whereas men by their Natural Reason, could not conceive otherwise, of these *Ghosts* and *Spirits*, then that they were a kind of *Thin*, *Aerial Bodies*; their Understandings have been so *Enchanted* by these *Abstract Names* (which are indeed the *Names of Nothing*) and those *Separate Effences* and *Quiddities* of *Scholasticks*, as that they have made *Incorporeal Substances* of them. The *Atheistick Conclusion* is; That they who assert an *Incorporeal Deity*, do Really but make a *Scholastick Separate Effence*, or the meet *Abstract Notion of an Accident, a Substantial Thing, and a Ghost or Spirit*, presiding over the whole world.

To which our Reply in General first of all is, That all this, is Nothing but *Idle Romantick Fiction*, The Belief of a *Deity* and *Substance Incorporeal*, standing upon none of those *Imaginary Foundations*. And then as for that *Impudent Atheistick Pretence*, That the *Deity* is *Nothing* but a *Figure* or *Creature* of Men's Fear and *Imagination*, and therefore the *Prince of Fairies* and *Phancies*. This hath been already Sufficiently Confuted, in our *Answer* to the First *Atheistick Argumentation*. Where we have also over and above shew'd, that there is not only a *Natural Prolepsis* or *Anticipation* of a God in the Minds of Men, but also that the Belief thereof, is Supported by the strongest and most Substantial Reason; His *Existence* Being indeed Demonstrable, with *Mathematical Evidence*, to such as are capable; and not blinded with Prejudice, nor *Enchanted* by the Witchcraft of Vice, and Wickedness, to the *Debauching* of their Understandings. It hath been

been also shewed, that the Opinion of other *Ghosts* and *Spirits* besides the *Deity*, Sprung not merely from *Fear* and *Phancy* neither, as *Childrens Fugbrars*, but from *Real Phenomena*; *True Sensible Apparitions*, with the *Histories* of them in all Ages, without which the Belief of such things could never have held up so Generally and Constantly in the World. As likewise that there is no Repugnancy at all to Reason, but that there may be as well, *Aerial* and *Esberial*, as there are *Terrestrial Animals*; and that the *Dull and Early Stupidity* of mens Minds, is the Only thing which makes them, so prone to think, that there is no *Understanding Nature*, Superior to Mankind; but that in the world, all is *Dead* about Us; and to disbelieve the *Existence* of any thing, which themselves Cannot, either *See* or *Feel*. Affuredly, The *Deity* is no *Phancy*; but the Greatest *Reality* in the world, and that without which, there could be *Nothing* at all *Real*; it being the only *Necessary Existent*; and Consequently *Atheism* is either meer *Sottisness*, or else a strange kind of *Irreligious Fanaticism*.

We now further add, that the *Belief* of *Ghosts* and *Spirits Incorporeal*, and consequently of an *Incorporeal Deity*, sprung neither from any Ridiculous Mistake of the *Abstract Names* and *Notions* of meer *Accidents*, for *Substances*, nor from the Scholastick *Essences*, said to be *Eternal*. For as for the Latter, none of those Scholasticks ever Dream'd, that there was any *Universal Man*, or *Universal Horse*, Existing alone by it self, and Separate from all Singulars; nor that the *Abstract Metaphysical Essences* of men, after they were Dead, Subsisting by themselves, did Walk up and down amongst Graves, in *Airy Bodies*. It being absolutely impossible, that the *Real Essence* of any thing should be *Separable* from the thing it self, or *Eternal*, when that is not so. And were the *Essences* of all things, look'd upon by these *Scholasticks*, as *Substances Incorporeal*, then must they have made all things, (even Body it self,) to be *Ghosts*, and *Spirits*, and *Incorporeals*, and *Accidents* also, (they having their *Essences* too) to be *Substantial*. But in very Truth, these *Scholastick Essences*, said to be *Eternal*, are nothing but the *Intelligible Essences* of things, or their *Natures* as *Conceivable*, and *Objects* of the Mind. And in this Sense, is it an acknowledged *Truth*, that the *Essences* of things, (as for example of a *Sphere*, or *Triangle*) are *Eternal*, and such as were never *Made*, because there could not otherwise be, *Eternal Verities* concerning them. So that the True meaning of these *Eternal Essences*, is indeed no other than this, *That Knowledge is Eternal*; or that there is an *Eternal Mind*, that comprehendeth the *Intelligible Natures* and *Ideas* of all things, whether *Actually* existing, or *Possible* only; their *Necessary* relations to one another, and all the *Immutable Verities* belonging to them. Wherefore though these *Eternal Essences* themselves, be no *Ghosts* nor *Spirits*, nor *Substances Incorporeal*, they being nothing but *Objective Entities* of the Mind, or *Noemata*, and *Ideas*; yet does it plainly follow, from the *Necessary Supposition* of them (as was before declared) That there is *One Eternal Unmade Mind*, and Perfect *Incorporeal Deity*, a *Real and Substantial Ghost* or *Spirit*, which comprehending *It self*, and all the *Extent* of its own *Power*, the *Possibilities* of things, and their *Intelligible Natures*, together with an *Exem-*

plar or *Platform* of the whole World ; Produced the same accordingly.

But our *Atheistick Argumentator*, yet further urges, That those *Scholasticks* and *Metaphysicians*, who because *Life* or *Cogitation*, can be considered alone *Abstractly*, without the *Consideration* of *Body*, therefore conclude it not to be the *Accident* or *Affion* of a *Body*, but a *Substance* by it self, (and which also after men are Dead, can Walk amongst the Graves) that these, (I say) do so far Abuse, those *Abstract Names* and *Notions* of meer *Accidents*, as plainly to make *Substances* *Incorporeal* of them. To which therefore we Reply also, That were the *Abstract Notions* of *Accidents* in General, made *Incorporeal Substances*, by those Philosophers aimed at ; then must they have supposed all the *Qualities* or *Affections* of *Bodies*, such as *Whiteness* and *blackness*, *Heat* and *Cold*, and the like, to have been *Substances* *Incorporeal* also ; a thing yet never heard, or thought of. But the Case is far otherwise, as to *Conscious Life*, or *Cogitation*, though it be an *Abstract* also ; because this, is no *Accident* of *Body*, as the *Atheist* (Serving his own *Hypothesis*,) securely takes it for granted, nor indeed, of any thing else ; but an *Essential Attribute*, of another *Substance*, distinct from *Body*, (or *Incorporeal* ;) after the same manner, as *Extension* or *Magnitude*, is the *Essential Attribute* of *Body*, and not a meer *Accident*.

And now having so copiously Confuted, all the most Considerable *Atheistick Grounds*, we are necessitated to dispatch those that follow, being of lesser Moment, with all possible Brevity and Compendiousness. The *Four* next, which are the *Fifth*, *Sixth*, *Seventh*, and *Eighth*, *Atheistick Argumentations*, pretend to no more than only this, to disprove a *Corporeal Deity* ; or from the Supposition, That there is no other *Substance* in the World besides *Body*, to infer the *Impossibility* of a *God*, that is, of an *Eternal Unmade Mind*, the *Maker* and *Governour* of the Whole World : all Which therefore signifie nothing at all, to the Asserters of a *Deity Incorporeal*, who are the only *Genuine Theists*. Nevertheless, though none but *Stoicks*, and such other *Corporealists*, as are notwithstanding *Theists*, be directly concerned in an Answer to them ; yet shall we first, so far consider the *Principles* of the *Atheistick Corporealism*, contained in those *Two Heads*, the *Fifth* and *Sixth*, as from the *Absolute Impossibility* of these *Hypotheses* to Demonstrate, a *Necessity* of *Incorporeal Substance* ; from whence a *Deity* will also follow.

Here therefore, are there *Two Atheistick Hypotheses*, founded upon the Supposition ; That *All* is *Body* ; The First, in the way of *Qualities*, *Generable* and *Corruptible*, which we call the *Hylopathian* ; The Second in the way of *Unqualified Atoms*, which is the *Atomick*, *Corporealism* and *Atheism*. The Former of these, was the most Ancient, and the First *Sciography*, or *Rude Delineation* of *Atheism*. For *Aristotle* tells us, That the most *Ancient Atheists*, were those who supposed, *Matter* or *Body*, that is *Bulkie Extension*, to be the only *Substance*, and *Unmade thing*, that out of which all things

things were Made, and into which all things are again Resolved; Whatsoever is else in the world, being nothing, but the *Passions*, *Qualities*, and *Accidents* thereof, *Generable* and *Corruptible*, or *Producible* out of *Nothing*, and *Reducible to Nothing* again. From whence the Necessary Consequence is, That there is no *Eternal Unmade Life* or *Understanding*; or that *Mind*, is no *God*, or *Principle* in the Universe, but *Essentially a Creature*.

And this *Hylopathian Atheism*, which supposeth whatsoever is in the Universe, to be either the Substance of *Matter* and *Bulk*, or else the *Qualities* and *Accidents* thereof, *Generable* and *Corruptible*, hath been called also by us *Anaximandrian*. Though we deny not, but that there might be formerly, some Difference amongst the Atheists of this Kind; nor are we ignorant, that *Simplicius* and others, conceive *Anaximander*, to have asserted besides *Matter*, *Qualities* also *Eternal* and *Unmade*, or an *Homœomery*, and *Similar Atomology*, just in the same manner as *Anaxagoras* afterwards did, save only, that He would not acknowledge any *Unmade Mind* or *Life*; *Anaximander* supposing all *Life* and *Understanding* whatsoever, all *Soul* and *Mind*, to have Risen up, and been Generated from a Fortuitous Commixture of those *Similar Atoms*, or the *Qualities* of *Heat* and *Cold*, *Moist* and *Dry*, and the like, Contempered together. And we confess, that there is some probability for this Opinion. Notwithstanding which, because there is no Absolute certainty thereof, and because all these Ancient Atheists agreed in this, that *Life* and *Understanding*, are either *First* and *Primary*, or else *Secondary Qualities* of *Body*, *Generable* and *Corruptible*; Therefore did we not think fit, to Multiply *Forms* of *Atheism*, but rather to make but one kind of *Atheism*, of all this, calling it indifferently, *Hylopathian*, or *Anaximandrian*.

The *Second Atheistick Hypothesis*, is that *Form of Atheism* described Under the *Sixth Head*, which likewise supposing *Body* to be the only Substance; and the *Principles* thereof, devoid of *Life* and *Understanding*, does reject all *Real Qualities*, according to the Vulgar Notion of them, and Generate all things whatsoever, besides *Matter* merely from the Combinations, of *Magnitudes*, *Figures*, *Sizes*, and *Motions*, or the *Textures* of *Unqualified Atoms*, *Life* and *Understanding* not excepted: Which therefore according to them being no *Simple Primitive* and *Primordial* thing, but *Secondary*, *Compound* and *Derivative*, the meer *Creature* of *Matter* and *Motion*, could not possibly be a *God* or *First Principle* in the Universe. This is that *Atomick Atheism*, called *Democritical*; *Leucippus* and *Democritus* being the First Founders thereof. For though there was before them, another *Atomology*, which made *Unqualified Atoms*, the Principles of all *Bodies*, it supposing besides *Body*, *Substance Incorporeal*, yet were these, as *Laertius* declareth, the First that ever made, ἀρχαὶ τῶ ὄντων ἀτέλεις, *Scissilest Atoms* the Principles of all things whatsoever, even of *Life* and *Understanding*, *Soul* and *Mind*.

Indeed it cannot be denied, but that from these *Two Things* granted, That all is *Body*, and That the *Principles* of *Body*, are devoid of

all *Life* and *Understanding*, it will follow unavoidably, that there can be, no *Corporeal Deity*. Wherefore the *Stoicks* who professed to acknowledge no other *Substance* besides *Body*, and yet nevertheless, had a strong Perswasion of the *Existence* of a *God*, or an *Eternal Unmade Mind*, the *Maker* of the whole *World*, denied that other Proposition of the *Atheistick Corporealists*, that the *Principles* of all *Bodies* were devoid of *Life* and *Understanding*, they asserting an *Intellectual Fire*, *Eternal* and *Unmade*, the *Maker* of the whole *Mundane System*, Which *Postulatum*, of a *Living Intellectual Body Eternal*, were it granted to these *Stoicks*, yet could not this their *Corporeal God* notwithstanding, be *Absolutely Incorruptible*, as *Origen* often inculcated, *ὁ θεὸς τῆς στωικῆς ἔστι σῶμα, καὶ αὐτὸς ἐμὲν λέγει αὐτὸν τερεῖσθαι, καὶ δι' ἐλάν ἀλλοιωτὸν καὶ μετακλητὸν, καὶ ἀπεξελκόμενον φθορῆσαι, ὅθεν τὸ μὲν ἐναι τὸ εὐερεῖν αὐτὸν. God to the Stoicks, is a Body, and therefore Mutable, Alterable, and Changeable, and he would indeed be perfectly Corruptible, were there any other Body to act upon him. Wherefore he is only Happy in this, that he wants a Corrupter or Destroyer. And thus much was therefore rightly urged, by the *Atheistick Argumentator*, that no *Corporeal Deity*, could be *Absolutely* in its own Nature *Incorruptible*, nor otherwise than by *Accident* only *Immortal*, because of its *Divisibility*. For were there any other *Matter* without this *World*, to make *Inroads* or *Incurfions* upon it, or to *Disunite* the *Parts* thereof, the *Life* and *Unity* of the *Stoical Corporeal God*, must needs be *Scattered* and *Destroyed*. And therefore of this *Stoical God*, does the same *Origen* thus further write, *ὁ καὶ στατικὸν θεὸς, ἀπὸ σώματος τυχεῖται, ἐπὶ μὲν ἡγεμονικὸν ἔχει τὴν ἐλάν εἶσαν, ὅταν ἡ ἐκείνου ᾖ· ἐπὶ ἡ ἐπὶ μέρος γινώσκει αὐτῆς, ὅταν ἡ διακρίμνηται· ἐπὶ γὰρ διδόνται ὅσα τερεῖσθαι τὴν φεμὴν τῷ θεῷ ἔνοιαν, ὡς πάλιν ἀφ' αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀπλῶς, καὶ ἀσυνθεῶς, καὶ ἀδιαίρετος· The God of the Stoicks being a Body, hath sometimes the whole for its Hegemonick in the Conflagration; and sometimes only a part of the Mundane Matter. For these Men were not able to reach, to a clear Notion of the Deity, as a Being every way Incorruptible, Simple, Uncompounded, and Indivisible. Notwithstanding which, these *Stoicks*, were not therefore to be ranked amongst the *Atheists*, but far to be preferred before them, and accounted only a kind of *Imperfect Theists*.**

L. 1 C. Cef.
P. 17.

T. 169.

But we shall now make it evident, that in both these *Atheistick Corporealisms*, (agreeing in those Two things, That *Body is the only Substance*, and That the *Principles of Body are not Vital*) there is an *Absolute Impossibility*; not only because, as *Aristotle* objecteth, they supposed no *Active Principle*; but also because their bringing of *Life* and *Understanding* (being *Real Entities*) out of *Dead* and *Senseless Matter* is also the Bringing of *Something* out of *Nothing*. And indeed the *Atomick Atheist*, is here of the two rather the more *Abfurd* and *Unreasonable*, for as much as he discarding all *Real Qualities*, and that for this very Reason, because *Nothing can come out of Nothing*, doth himself notwithstanding, produce *Life*, *Sense*, and *Understanding* (*Unquestionable Realities*) out of meer *Magnitudes*, *Figures*, *Sizes*, and *Motions*; that is, indeed, *Out of Nothing*. Wherefore there being an *Absolute Impossibility*, of both these *Atheistick Hypotheses*, (neither

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of which is able to save the *Phænomenon of Life and Understanding*) from that confessed Principle of theirs, that *Matter* as such, hath no *Life* nor *Understanding* belonging to it, it follows unavoidably, that there must be some other *Substance* besides *Body* or *Matter*, which is Essentially *Vital* and *Intellectual*: 'Ου γὰρ τινὲς γενναὶ ἐκμαλῶ ζῶσι, *Because all things cannot possibly have a Peregrine, Adventitious and Borrowed Life*, but something in the Universe, must needs have *Life* Naturally and Originally. All *Life* cannot be merely *Accidental*, *Generable* and *Corruptible*, producible out of nothing and *Reducible to Nothing* again, but there must of Necessity be, some *Substantial Life*, Which Point (That all *Life*, is not a meer *Accident*, but that there is *Life Substantial*) hath been of late with much Reason and Judgment, insisted upon, and Urged by the *Writer Of the Life of Nature*. Neither must there be only, such a *Substantial Life*, as is Naturally *Immortal* for the future, but also such as is *Eternal*, and was never Made; all other *Lives* and *Minds* whatsoever, (none of which could possibly be Generated out of *Matter*) being derived from this *Eternal Unmade Fountain*, of *Life and Understanding*.

Which thing, the *Hylozoick Atheists* being well aware of; namely, that there must of Necessity be, both *Substantial* and *Eternal Unmade Life*; but supposing also *Matter* to be the only Substance; thought themselves necessitated, to attribute to all *Matter* as such, *Life and Understanding*, though not *Animalish* and *Conscious*, but *Natural* only: they conceiving, that from the *Modification* thereof alone by *Organization*, all other *Animalish Life*, not only the *Sensitive* in *Brutes*, but also the *Rational* in *Men*, was derived. But this *Hylozoick Atheism*, thus bringing all *Conscious* and *Reflexive Life* or *Animality*, out of a Supposed *Senseless Stupid* and *Inconscious Life* of *Nature*, in *Matter*, and that merely from a different *Accidental Modification* thereof, or *Texture* of *Parts*, does again plainly bring *Something out of Nothing*, which is an *Absolute Impossibility*. Moreover this *Hylozoick Atheism*, was long since and in the first Emerſion thereof Solidly Confuted by the *Atomick Atheists*, after this manner; If *Matter* as such, had *Life*, *Perception*, and *Understanding* belonging to it, then of Necessity must every *Atom* or *Smallest Particle* thereof, be a *Distinct Percipient* by it self; from whence it will follow, that there could not possibly be, any such *Men* and *Animals* as now are, Compounded out of them, but every *Man* and *Animal*, would be a *Heap of Innumerable Percipients*, and have *Innumerable Perceptions* and *Intellections*; whereas it is plain, that there is but one *Life* and *Understanding*, one *Soul* or *Mind*, one *Perceiver* or *Thinker* in every one. And to say, that these innumerable *Particles of Matter*, Do all Confederates together; that is, to make every *Man* and *Animal*, to be a *Multitude* or *Common-wealth* of *Percipients* and *Persons* as it were clubbing together; is a thing so *Abſurd* and *Ridiculous*, that one would wonder, the *Hylozoists* should not rather chuse, to recant that their *Fundamental Error*, of the *Life of Matter*, than endeavour to seek Shelter and Sanctuary for the same, under such a *Pretence*. For though *Voluntary Agents* and *Persons*, may Many of them, resign up their wills to One, and by that means, have all but as it were One

Artificial

Artificial Will, yet can they not possibly resign up their *Sense* and *Understanding* too, so as to have all but one Artificial Life, Sense, and Understanding: much less could this be done, by Senseless *Atoms*, or *Particles of Matter* supposed, to be devoid of all *Consciousness* or *Animality*. Besides which, there have been other *Arguments* already suggested, which do sufficiently Evince, that *Sense* and *Understanding* cannot possibly belong to Matter any way, either *Originally* or *Secondarily*, to which more may be added else where.

And now from these Two things, That *Life* and *Understanding* do not *Essentially* belong to *Matter* as such, and that they cannot be Generated out of *Dead* and *Senseless Matter*, it is Demonstratively Certain, that there must be some other *Substance*, besides *Body* or *Matter*. However, the *Anaximandrian* and *Democritick Atheists* taking it for granted, that the First Principles of *Body*, are devoid of all *Life* and *Understanding*, must either acknowledge a Necessity, of some other *Substance* besides *Body*, or else deny the Truth of that Axiom, so much made use of by themselves, That *Nothing can come out of Nothing*. And this was our *Second Undertaking*, to shew that from the very Principles of the *Atheistick Corporealism*, represented in the *Fifth* and *Sixth* Heads, *Incorporeal Substance* is, against those Atheists themselves Demonstrable.

Our *Third* and *Last* was this, That there being undeniably *Substance Incorporeal*, the Two next following *Atheistick Argumentations*, built upon the contrary Supposition, are therefore altogether *Insignificant* also, and do no Execution at all. The first of which (being the *Seventh*) Impugning only, such a *Soul of the World*, as is Generated out of *Matter*, is not properly Directed against Theism neither, but only such a Form of Atheism (sometime before mentioned) as indeed cometh nearest to Theism. Which though concluding all things to have sprung Originally, from Senseless Matter, *Night* and *Chaos*; yet supposes things from thence to have ascended *Gradually*, to higher and higher perfection; First, *Inanimate Bodies*, as the *Elements*, then *Birds* and other *Brute Animals* (according to the fore-mentioned *Aristophanick Tradition*, with which agreeth this of *Lucretius*,

Principio Genus Alituum, varique Volucres.)

Afterward *Men*; and in the last place *Gods*; and that not only the Animated Stars, but *Jupiter* or a *Soul of the world*, Generated also out of *Night* and *Chaos*, as well as all other things. We grant indeed, that the True and Real Theists amongst the Ancient Pagans also, held the *World's Animation*, and whosoever denied the same, were therefore accounted *Absolute Atheists*. But the *World's Animation*, in a larger Sense, signifies no more than this, That all things are not Dead about us, but that there is a *Living Sentient* and *Understanding Nature Eternal*, that first Framed the World, and still Presideth over it: and it is certain, that in this Sense, all Theists whatsoever, must hold the *World's Animation*. But the Generality of Pagan Theists held the

World's

World's Animation also in a stricter Sense; as if the World were Truly and Properly an *Animal*, and therefore a *God*, Compleated and made up, of *Soul and Body together*, as other Animals are. Which *Soul* of this great *World-Animal*, was to some of them the *Highest or Supreme Deity*, but to others only a *Secondary God*, they supposing an *Abstract Mind* Superiour to it. But *God's* being the *Soul of the World* in this latter *Paganick* Sense, and the *World's* being an *Animal* or a *God*, are things Absolutely disclaimed and renounced by us. However this Seventh *Atheistick Argument*, is not directed against the *Soul* of the world in the Sense of the *Paganick Theists* neither, this being, as they think, already Confuted, but in the Sense of the *Atheistick Theogonists*, not an *Eternal Unmade Soul* or *Mind*, but a *Native and Generated One* only, such as resulted from the *Disposition of Matter*, and *Contexture of Atoms*, the *Offspring of Night and Chaos*: the *Atheists* here pretending, after their Confutation of the True and Genuine Theism, to take away all *Shadows* thereof also, and so to free Men from all manner of *Fear*, of being obnoxious to any Understanding Being, Superiour to themselves. Wherefore we might here omit the Confutation of this *Argument*, without any dettiment at all, to the *Cause of Theism*. Nevertheless because this in General, is an *Atheistick Assertion*, That there is no *Life and Understanding*, presiding over the Whole World, we shall briefly examine the Supposed Grounds thereof, which alone will be a sufficient Confutation of it. The First of them therefore is this, that there is no other *Substance* in the world besides *Body*; The Second, That the Principles of Bodies, are devoid of all *Life and Understanding*; and the Last, That *Life and Understanding* are but *Accidents of Bodies* resulting from such a Composition or Contexture of *Atoms*, as produceth soft *Flesh, Blood, and Brains*, in Bodies Organized, and of *Humane Form*. From all which, the Conclusion is, that there can be no *Life and Understanding* in the Whole, because it is not of *Humane Form*, and *Organized*, and hath no *Blood, and Brains*. But neither is *Body*, the only Substance, Nor are *Life and Understanding Accidents* resulting from any *Modification of Dead and Lifeless Matter*; Nor is *Blood or Brains*, that which *Understandeth* in us; but an *Incorporeal Soul* or *Mind*, Vitally united to a *Terrestrial Organized Body*; which will then understand with far greater advantage, when it comes to be Clothed with a *Pure, Spiritual and Heavenly One*. But there is in the Universe also, a higher kind of *Intellectual Animals*, which though consisting of *Soul and Body* likewise, yet have neither *Flesh, nor Blood, nor Brains*, nor *Parts* so *Organized* as ours are. And the most Perfect *Mind and Intellect* of all, is not the *Soul* of any *Body*, but Complete in it self, without such *Vital Union and Sympathy with Matter*. We conclude therefore, that this Passage of a Modern Writer; *We Worms, cannot conceive how, God can Understand without Brains*; is *Vox Pecudis*, the *Language and Philosophy*, rather of *Worms or Brute Animals*, than of *Men*.

The next, which is the *Eighth Atheistick Argumentation*, is briefly this, that whereas the *Deity* by Theists is generally supposed, to be a *Living Being Perfectly Happy*, and *Immortal or Incorruptible*; there can

can be no such *Living Being Immortal*, and Consequently, none *Perfectly Happy*. Because all *Living Beings* whatsoever, are *Concretions of Atoms*, which as they were at first *Generated*, so are they again liable to *Death and Corruption*; Life being no *Simple Primitive Nature*, nor *Substantial thing*, but a meer *Accidental Modification of Compounded Bodies* only, which upon the Disunion of their Parts, or the Disorder of their Texture, vanisheth again into *Nothing*. And there being no *Life Immortal*, *Happiness* must needs be a meer *Insignificant Word*, and but a *Romantick Fiction*. Where first, This is well, that the Atheists will confess, that according to their Principles, there can be no such thing at all, as *Happiness*; because no *Security of Future Permanency*; all *Life* perpetually coming *Out of Nothing*, and whirling back into *Nothing* again. But this *Atheistical Argument*, is likewise Founded, upon the *Former Error*; That *Body* is the *Only Substance*, the *First Principles* whereof are devoid of all *Life and Understanding*; whereas it is certain, that *Life* cannot possibly result, from any *Composition of Dead and Lifeless things*; and therefore must needs be a *Simple and Primitive Nature*. It is true indeed, that the *Participated Life*, in the *Bodies of Animals* (which yet is but improperly called *Life*, it being *Nothing*, but their being *Animated*, by a *Living Soul*) is a meer *Accidental thing*, *Generable and Corruptible*; since that *Body* which is now, *Vitally united* to a *Living Soul*, may be *Disunited* again from it, and thereby become a *Dead and Lifeless Carcase*; but the *Primary or Original Life* it self is *Substantial*, nor can there be any *Dead Carcase of a Humane Soul*. That which hath *Life Essentially* belonging to the *Substance* of it, must needs be *Naturally Immortal*, because no *Substance* can of it self *Perish*, or *Vanish into Nothing*. Besides which, there must be also, some, not only *Substantial*, but also *Eternal Unmade Life*, whose *Existence* is *Necessary*, and which is *Absolutely Unannihilable* by any thing else; which therefore must needs have, *Perfect Security* of its own future *Happiness*; And this is an *Incorporeal Deity*. And this is a *Brief Confutation*, of the *Eighth Atheistical Argument*.

BUT the *Democritick Atheist* proceeds, endeavouring further to Disprove a *God*, from the *Phænomena of Motion and Cogitation*; in the *Three following Argumentations*. First therefore, whereas *Theists*, commonly bring an *Argument from Motion*, to Prove a *God*, or *First Unmoved Mover*, the *Atheists* contend on the contrary; that from the very *Nature of Motion*, the *Impossibility* of any such *First Unmoved Mover*, is clearly *Demonstrable*. For, it being an *Axiom* of undoubted *Truth*, concerning *Motion*, That, *Whatsoever is Moved, is Moved by some other thing*; Or, That *Nothing can Move it self*; it follows from thence *Unavoydably*, That there is *No Æternum Immobile*, *No Eternal Unmoved Mover*; but on the contrary, that there was *Æternum Motum*, an *Eternal Moved*; Or, That *One thing* was *Moved by Another*, from *Eternity* *Ininitely*, *Without any First Mover or Cause*,

Cause, Because, as *Nothing could move it self*; So could nothing ever *Move Another*, but what was it self before *Moved*, by Something else.

To which we Reply; That this Axiom, *Whatsoever is Moved, is Moved by Another, and not by It self*, was by *Aristotle*, and those other Philosophers, who made so much use thereof, restrained to the *Local Motion of Bodies* only; That *no Body Locally Moved*, was ever Moved Originally from it self, but from something else. Now it will not at all follow from hence, That therefore *Nihil Movetur nisi à Moto*, That *No Body was ever Moved but by some other Body*, that was also before Moved, by Something else; or, That of necessity, *One Body was moved by another Body*, and that by another, and so backwards, *Infinitely*, without any *First Unmoved* or *Self-Moving* and *Self-Active Mover*; as the *Democritick Atheist* fondly Conceits. For the Motion of Bodies might proceed (as Unquestionably it did) from something else, which is not Body, and was not Before Moved. Moreover the *Democritick Atheist*, here also without any Ground imagines, That were there but One *Push* once given to the world, and no more; this Motion would from thence forward, always continue in it, one Body still moving another, to all Eternity. For though this be indeed a Part of the *Cartesian Hypothesis*, that according to the *Laws of Nature*, A Body Moving, will as well continue in Motion, as a Body Resting in Rest, until that Motion be Communicated and Transferred to some other Body; yet is the Case different here, Where it is supposed, not only one *Push* to have been given to the world at first, but also the same Quantity of Motion or Agitation, to be constantly Conserved and Maintained. But to let this pass, because it is something a Subtle Point; and not so rightly Understood by many of the *Cartesians themselves*. We say, that it is a thing Utterly *Impossible*, That One Body should be Moved by Another *Infinitely*, without any first Cause or Mover, which was *Self Active*; and that not from the Authority of *Aristotle* only, Pronouncing *ἐν δυνάμει ὅτι ἡ ἀρχὴ ἢ κίνησις ἢ οὐκ ἐστὶν ἀπείρου*, &c. That in the Causes of Motion, there could not Possibly be an Infinite Progress; but from the Reason there subjoyned by *Aristotle*, Because, *ὅτι καὶ μὴ ἐστὶ τὸ πρῶτον, ὅλας αὐτῶν οὐδὲν ἐστὶ*, If there were no First Unmoved Mover, there could be no Cause of Motion at all. For were all the Motion, that is in the World, a *Passion*, from something else, and yet no First Unmoved Active Mover; then must it be a *Passion* from no Agents, or without an *Action*; and Consequently proceed from Nothing, and either Cause it self, or be Made without a Cause. Now the Ground of the *Atheists* Error here, is only from hence, because He taketh it for granted, That there is no other Substance besides Body, nor any other Action but Local Motion; from whence it comes to pass, that to Him, this Proposition, *No Body can Move it self*, is one and the same with this, *Nothing can Act from It self, or be Self-Active*.

And thus is the *Atheistick Pretended Demonstration* against a God, or First Cause, from Motion, abundantly Confuted; we having made it Manifest, that there is no Consequence at all in this Argument,

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That because No Body can Move it Self, therefore there can be no First *Unmoved Mover*; as also having discovered, the *Ground* of the *Atheists Error* here, their taking it for granted, that there is *Nothing* but *Body*; and lastly having plainly shewed, that it implies a Contradiction, there should be *Action* and *Motion* in the World, and yet *Nothing Self-Moving* or *Self-Active*: So that it is Demonstratively certain from *Motion*, that there is a *First Cause* or *Unmoved Mover*. We shall now further add, That from the Principle acknowledged by the *Democritick Atheists* themselves, That *No Body can move it self*, it follows also undeniably, that there is some *Other Substance* besides *Body*, something *Incorporeal*, which is *Self-Moving* and *Self-Active*, and was the *First Unmoved Mover* of the *Heavens* or *World*. For if no *Body* from *Eternity*, was Ever able to Move it self, and yet there must of necessity be some *Active Cause* of that *Motion* which is in the World (since it could not Cause it self) then is there unquestionably, some *Other Substance* besides *Body*, which having a Power of Moving Matter, was the First Cause of Motion, it Self being *Unmoved*.

Moreover it is certain from hence also, That there is another Species of *Action*, distinct from *Local Motion*, and such as is not *Heterochinesic*, but *Autochinesic* or *Self-Activity*. For since the *Local Motion* of *Body* is Essentially *Heterochinesic*, not Caused by the Substance it self Moving, but by something else Acting upon it, that *Action* by which *Local Motion* is First Caused, cannot be it self *Local Motion*, but must be *Autochinesic* or *Self-Activity*, That which is not a *Passion* from any other Agent, but springs from the immediate Agent it self; which Species of Action is called *Cogitation*. All the *Local Motion* that is in the World, was First Caused by some *Cogitative* or *Thinking Being*, which not Acted upon by any thing without it, nor at all *Locally Moved*, but only *Mentally*, is the *Immoveable Mover* of the *Heaven*, or *Vortices*. So that *Cogitation* is in Order of Nature, before *Local Motion*, and *Incorporeal* before *Corporeal Substance*, the Former having a *Natural Imperium* upon the Latter. And now have we not only Confuted the Ninth *Atheistical Argument*, from *Motion*, but also Demonstrated against the *Democritick Atheists* from their own Principle, that there is an *Incorporeal* and *Cogitative Substance*, the First *Immoveable Mover* of the *Heavens*, and *Vortices*; that is, an *Incorporeal Deity*.

But the *Democritick Atheist*, will yet make a further Attempt, to prove that there can be *Nothing Self-Moving* or *Self-Active*, and that no *Thinking Being* could be a *First Cause*; He laying his Foundation in this Principle, That *Nothing taketh its Beginning from it self*, but from the Action of some other Agent without it. From whence he would infer, that *Cogitation* it self is *Heterochinesic*, the *Passion* of the *Thinker*, and the *Action* of something without it; no *Cogitation* ever rising up of it self without a Cause: and that *Cogitation* is indeed, *Nothing* but *Local Motion*, or *Mechanism*; and all *Living Understanding Beings* *Machines*, Moved from without: and then make this Conclusion. That therefore no *Understanding Being* could possibly be a *First Cause*. He further adding also, that no *Under-*
standing

derstanding Being as such, can be *Perfectly Happy* neither, as the *Deity* is supposed to be, because *Dependent* upon Something without it; and this is the *Tenth Atheistick Argumentation*.

Where we shall First consider, that which the *Democritick Atheist* makes his *Fundamental Principle*, or *Common Notion* to disprove all *Autochinesie* or *Self-Activity* by. That *Nothing taketh Beginning from it self*, but from the *Action of some other thing without it*. Which *Axiom*, if it be Understood of *Substantial Things*, then is it indeed acknowledged by us to be unquestionably true, it being the same with this, That *No Substance which once was not, could ever possibly cause it self or bring it self into Being; but must take its Beginning from the Action of something else*; but then it will make *Nothing* at all against *Theism*. As it is likewise True, That *No Action whatsoever*, (and therefore no *Cogitation*;) *taketh Beginning from it self*, or causeth it self to be, but is always produced by some *Substantial Agent*, but this will no way advantage the *Atheist* neither. Wherefore if he would direct his Force against *Theism*, he ought to understand this Proposition thus, That *No Action whatsoever, taketh Beginning from the Immediate Agent*, (which is the Subject of it) but from the *Action of some other thing without it*; or, That *Nothing can Move or Act otherwise*, then as it is *Moved and Acted upon*, by something else. But this is only to beg the *Question*, or to Prove the thing in Dispute, Identically, That *Nothing is Self-Active*, because *Nothing can Act from it self*. Whereas it is in the mean time, undeniably certain, That there could not possibly be any *Motion or Action* at all in the Universe, were there not something *Self-Moving or Self-Active*, for as much as otherwise all that *Motion or Action* would be a *Passion from Nothing*, and be *Made without a Cause*.

And whereas the *Atheists* would further prove, that no *Cogitation*, *Taketh its Beginning from the Thinker*, but always from the *Action of some other thing without it*, after this manner; Because it is not *Conceivable*, why This *Cogitation*, rather than that, should start up at any time, were there not some *Cause* for it, without the *Thinker*. Here in the first place we freely grant, that our *Humane Cogitations*, are indeed commonly Occasioned, by the *Incrursions of sensible Objects* upon us; as also, that the *Concatenations of those Thoughts and Phantasms* in us, which are distinguished from *Sensations*, (whether we be asleep or awake) do many times depend upon *Corporeal and Mechanical Causes* in the Brain. Notwithstanding which, that all our *Cogitations*, are *Obruded*, and *Imposed* upon us from without; and that there is no *Transition* in our *Thoughts* at any time, but such as had been before in *Sense*; (which the *Democritick Atheist* avers) this is a Thing, which we absolutely deny. For, had we no *Mastery* at all over our *Thoughts*, but they were all like *Tennis-Balls*, Banded, and Struck upon us, as it were by *Rackets* from without; then could we not steadily and constantly carry on any *Designs and Purposes of Life*. But on the contrary that of *Aristotle's*, is most true, (as will be elsewhere further Proved) that *Man and all Rational Beings*, are in some sense, *αὐτὰ καθ'αυτὰ*, a *Principle of Actions*, subordinate to the *Deity*;

which they could not possibly be, were they not also, a *Principle of Cogitations*, and had some Command over them; but these were all as much determined, by Causes without, as the *Motions* of the Weathercock are. The *Rational Soul* is it self an *Active* and *Enlivening Fountain of Thoughts*; that perpetual and Restless Desire, which is as *Natural* and *Essential* to us, as our very *Life*, Continually Raising up and Protruding, New and New Ones, in us; which are as it were Offered to us. Besides which, we have also, a further *Self Recollective Power*, and a Power of *Determining* and *Fixing* our Mind and Intention, upon some certain Objects, and of Ranging our Thoughts accordingly. But the Atheist is here also to be taught, yet a Further Lesson; that an Absolutely Perfect Mind, (such as the *Deity* is supposed to be,) doth not (as *Aristotle* writeth of it) *ἐστὶ μὲν νοῦν ἐστὶ ἔννοον*, Sometimes Understand, and sometime not Understand; it being Ignorant of Nothing, nor Syllgizing about any thing; but comprehending all *Intelligibles*, with their Relations and Verities at once, within it self; and its *Essence* and *Energie*, being the same. Which Notion, if it be above the Dull Capacity of *Atheists*, who measure all *Perfection* by their own Scantling, this is a thing, that We cannot help.

But as for that Prodigious Paradox of Atheists, that *Cogitation* it self, is nothing but *Local Motion* or *Mechanism*, we could not have thought it possible that ever any man should have given entertainment to such a Conceit; but that this was rather, a meer Slander raised upon Atheists; were it not certain from the Records of Antiquity, That whereas the old *Religious Atomists*, did upon Gond Reason, reduce all *Corporeal Action* (as Generation, Augmentation, and alteration) to *Local Motion*, or *Translation* from place to place; (there being no other *Motion* besides this Conceivable in Bodies) the ancient *Atheizers* of that *Philosophy* (*Leucippus* and *Democritus*) not contented herewith, did Really carry the business still on further, so as to make *Cogitation* it self also; Nothing but *Local Motion*. As it is also certain, that a Modern Atheistick Pretender to Wit, hath publickly owned this same Conclusion, That *Mind is Nothing else but Local Motion in the Organick parts of Mans Body*. These men have been sometimes indeed a little Troubled, with the *Phancy*, *Apparition*, or *Seeming* of *Cogitation*, that is The *Consciousness* of it, as knowing not well what to make thereof; but then they put it off again, and satisfie themselves worshipfully with this, that *Phancy* is but *Phancy*, but the *Reality* of *Cogitation*, nothing but *Local Motion*; as if there were not as much Reality in *Phancy* and *Consciousness*, as there is in *Local Motion*. That which inclined these men so much, to this Opinion, was only because, they were Sensible and Aware of this, that if there were any other *Action*, besides *Local Motion* admitted, there must needs be some other *Substance* acknowledged, besides *Body*. *Cartesius* indeed undertook to defend Brute Animals, to be Nothing else but *Machines*, but then he supposed that there was Nothing at all of *Cogitation*, in them, and Consequently nothing of true *Animality* or *Life*, no more, than is in Artificial *Automaton*, as a Wooden Eagle, or the like; Nevertheless, this was justly thought to be Paradox enough.

But

But that *Cogitation* it self, should be *Local Motion*, and *Men* nothing but *Machines*; this is such a *Paradox*, as none but either a Stupid and Be-fotted, or else an *Entbusfastick*, Bigotical, or Fanatick Atheist, could possibly give entertainment to. Nor are such men as these, fit to be Disputed with, any more than a *Machine* is.

But whereas the *Atheistick Objecter*, adds also over and above, in the last place, that no *Understanding Being* can be *Perfectly Happy* nei-ther, and therefore not a *God*; because *Essentially Dependent* upon something else without it; This is all one as if he should say, That there is no such thing as *Happiness* at all in *Nature*; Because it is cer-tain, that without *Consciousness* or *Understanding* nothing can be *Happy* (since it could not have any *Fruition* of it self) and if no *Understand-ing Being* can be *Happy* neither, then must the Conclusion needs be, that of the *Cyrenaicks*, that *ἁδυσμωία ἀνθρώπων*, *Happiness* is a meer *Chimera*, a *Phantastick Notion* or *Fiction* of *Mens Minds*; a thing which hath no *Existence in Nature*. These are the men, who after-wards Argue from *Interesse* also against a *God* and *Religion*. Not-withstanding that they confess their own Principles to be so far, from promising *Happiness* to any, as that they absolutely Cut off, all Hopes thereof. It may be further observed also in the last place, that there is another of the Atheists Dark Mysteries here likewise couched, That there is no *Scale* or *Ladder of Entity* and *Perfection* in *Nature*, one above another; the whole Universe from top to bottom, being Nothing but One and the same *Senseless Matter*, diversly *Modified*. As also, that *Understanding* as such, rather speaks *Imperfection*; it being but a meer *Whiffling*, *Evanescent*, and *Phantastick thing*; so that the most absolutely Perfect, of all things in the Universe, is *Grave*, *Solid*, and *Substantial Senseless Matter*: of which more afterwards. And thus is the Tenth Atheistick Argumentation also Confuted.

But the *Democritick* and *Epicurean Atheists*, will make yet a fur-ther *Assault*, from the *Nature of Knowledge, Understanding*, after this manner; If the World were Made by a *God*, or an *Antecedent Mind* and *Understanding*, having in it self an *Exemplar* or *Platform* there-of, before it was made, then must there be *Actual Knowledge*, both in order of *Nature*, and *Time*, before *Things*; whereas *Things* which are the *Objects* of *Knowledge* and *Understanding*, are unquestionably in order of *Nature* before *Knowledge*; this being but the *Signature* of them, and a *Passion* from them. Now the only *Things*, are *Singular Sensibles* or *Bodies*. From whence it follows, that *Mind* is the *Youngest* and most *Creaturely* Thing in the world; or that the *World* was before *Knowledge* and the *Conception* of any *Mind*; and no *Know-ledge* or *Mind*, before the world as its *Cause*. Which is the *Eleventh Atheistick Argumentation*.

But we have Prevented our selves here in the *Answer* to this *Argu-ment*, (which would make all *Knowledge, Mind, and Understanding Junior* to the *World*, and the very *Creature* of *Sensibles*,) having al-ready Fully Confuted it; and clearly Proved, That *Singular Bodies*, are not the only *Things*, and *Objects* of the *Mind*, but that it containeth

taineth its *Immediate Intelligibles within it self* ; which *Intelligibles* also are *Eternal*, and That *Mind* is no *Phantastick Image of Sensibles*, nor the *Stamp* and *Signature* of them, but *Archetypal* to them ; the *First Mind* being That of a *Perfect Being*, comprehending it self, and the *Extent* of its own *Omnipotence*, or the *Possibilities* of all things. So that *Knowledge* is *Older* than all *Sensible things* ; *Mind Senior* to the *World*, and the *Architect* thereof. Wherefore we shall refer the *Reader* for an *Answer* to this *Argument*, to *Page 729.* and so onwards, where the *Existence of a God*, (that is, a *Mind before the World*) is *Demonstrated* also, from this very *Topick*, viz. the *Nature of Knowledge and Understanding.*

We shall in this place only add ; that as the *Atheists* can no way *Salve* the *Phenomenon* of *Motion*, so can they much less that of *Cogitation*, or *Life* and *Understanding.* To make which yet the more *Evident*, we shall briefly represent, a *Syllabus* or *Catalogue* of the many *Atheistick Hallucinations* or *Delirations*, concerning it. As First, That *Senseless Matter* being the only *Substance*, and all things else but *Accidental Modifications* thereof, *Life* and *Mind* is all a meer *Accidental Thing*, *Genurable* and *Corruptible*, *Producible* out of *Nothing*, and *Reducible* to *Nothing* again ; and that there is no *Substantial Life* or *Mind* any where. In *Opposition* to which, we have before proved, That there must of necessity be some *Substantial Life*, and that *Humane Souls* being *Lives Substantial*, and not meer *Accidental Modifications* of *Matter*, they are consequently in their own *Nature Immortal*, since No *Substance* of it self ever vanisbeth into *Nothing.*

Again the *Democriticks*, and other *Atheists* conclude, that *Life* and *Mind*, are no *Simple* and *Primitive Natures*, but *Secondary* and *Compoundd things* ; they resulting from certain *Concretions* and *Contextures* of *Matter*, and either the *Commixtures* and *Contemporations* of *Qualities*, or else the *Combinations* of those *Simple Elements* of *Magnitude*, *Figure*, *Site*, and *Motion* ; and so being *Made up*, of that which hath *Nothing* of *Life* or *Mind* in it. For as *Flesh* is not *Made*, out of *Fleshy Particles*, nor *Bone* out of *Bony*, (as *Anaxagoras* of old dreamed) so may *Life* as they conceive, be as well *Made* out of *Lifeless Principles*, and *Mind* out of that which hath no *Mind* or *Understanding* at all in it : just as *Syllables* Pronounceable, do result from *Combinations* of *Letters*, some of which are *Mutes*, and cannot by themselves be Pronounced at all, others but *Semi-Vocal.* And from hence do these *Atheists* Infer, that there could be no *Eternal Unmade Life* or *Mind*, nor any that is *Immortal* or *Intercorruptible* ; since upon the *Dissolution* of that *Compages* or *Contexture* of *Matter*, from whence they *Rejult*, they must needs *Vanish into Nothing.* Wherefore according to them, there hath probably, sometime heretofore been, no *Life* nor *Understanding* at all in the *Universe*, and there may Possibly be None again. From whence the *Conclusion* is, That *Mind* and *Understanding*, is no *God*, or *Principle* in the *Universe* ; it being *Essentially Fallacious*, *Native* and *Corruptible* ; or as they express it in *Plato*, *ἡνίκά τις ἐκ θνητῶν*, *Mortal from Mortal things* : as also, That the *Souls* of men, cannot subsist Separately, after *Death*,

Death, and walk up and down in *Airy Bodies*; no more than the *Form* of a *House* or *Tree*, after the Dissolution thereof, can subsist by itself Separately, or appear in some other Body. But all this *Foolery* of *Atheists*, hath been already Confuted, we having before shewed, that *Life* and *Understanding* are *Active Powers*, *Vigours*, and *Perfections*, that could never possibly result from meer *Passive Bulk*, or *Dead and Senseless Matter*, however *Modified* and *Compound*ed; because *Nothing* can come *Effectively* from *Nothing*. Neither is there any Consequence at all in this, that because *Flesh* is not made out of *Fleshy Principles*, nor *Bone* out of *Bony*, *Red* out of *Red things*, nor *Green* out of *Green*; therefore *Life* and *Understanding*, may as well be *Compound*ed, out of things *Dead* and *Senseless*: because these are no *Syllables* or *Complexions*, as the others are, nor can either the *Qualities* of *Heat* and *Cold*, *Moist* and *Dry*; or else *Magnitudes*, *Figures*, *Sizes*, and *Motions*, however *Combined* together, as *Letters* Spell them out, and make them up; but they are *Simple* and *Primitive things*. And accordingly it hath been proved, that there must of necessity be, some *Eternal Unmade Life* and *Mind*: For though there be no necessity that there should be any *Eternal Unmade Red*, or *Green*, because *Red* and *Green* may be *Made* out of things not *Red* nor *Green*, they and all other *Corporeal Qualities* (so called) being but several *Contextures* of *Matter*, or *Combinations*, of *Magnitudes*, *Figures*, *Sizes*, and *Motions*, causing those several *Phanacies* in us: and though there be no necessity, that there should be *Eternal Motion*, because if there were once no *Motion* at all in *Matter*, but all *Bodies* *Rest*ed, yet might *Motion* have been *Produced* by a *Self-Moving* or *Self-Active Principle*; And *Lastly*, though there be no necessity that there should be *Eternal Unmade Matter* or *Body* neither, because had there been once no *Body* at all, yet might it be *Made* or *Produced* by a *Perfect Omnipotent Incorporeal Being*: nevertheless there is an *Absolute Necessity*, that there should be *Eternal Unmade Life*, and *Mind*, because were there once no *Life* nor *Mind* at all, these could never have been produced out of *Matter* altogether *Lifeless* and *Mindless*. And though the *Form* of a *House* cannot possibly Exist Separately from the *Matter* and *Substance* thereof, it being a *Meer Accidental Thing*, resulting from such a *Compages* of *Stone*, *Timber* and *Mortar*, yet are *Humane Souls* and *Minds*, no such *Accidental Forms* of *Compound*ed *Matter*, but *Active Substantial things*, that may therefore subsist Separately from these *Bodies*, and *Enliven* other *Bodies* of a different *Contexture*. And however some that are no *Atheists*, be over prone to conceive, *Life*, *Sense*, *Cogitation*, and *Consciousness* in *Brutes*, to be *Generated* out of *Dead*, *Senseless*, and *Unthinking Matter*, (they being disposed thereunto by certain *Mistaken Principles*, and ill *Methods* of *Philosophy*) nevertheless is this unquestionably in it self, a *Seed* of *Atheism*; because if any *Life*, *Cogitation*, and *Consciousness*, may be *Produced* out of *Dead* and *Senseless Matter*, then can no *Philosophy* hinder, but that all might have been so.

But the *Democritick Atheists*, will yet venture further to deny, that there is any thing in *Nature Self-Moving* or *Self-Active*, but that whatsoever

whatsoever *Moveth* and *Acteth*, was before *Moved* by something else, and *Made to Act* thereby; and again, that from some other thing; and So backward Infinitely; from whence it would follow, that there is no *First* in the *Order of Causes*, but an *Endless Retro-Infinity*. But as this is all one, as to Affirm, that there is no such thing at all as *Life* in the *World*, but that the *Universe* is a *Compas of Dead and Stupid Matter*, so has this *Infinity* in the *Order of Causes* been already exploded for an *Absolute Impossibility*.

Nevertheless the *Atheists* will here advance yet an *Higher Paradox*; That all *Action* whatsoever, and therefore *Cogitation*, *Phancy*, and *Consciousness* it self, is Really Nothing else but *Local Motion*; and Consequently not only *Brute-Animals*, but also *Men* themselves meer *Machins*, Which is an equal, either *Sottishness* or *Impudence*, as to assert, a *Triangle* to be a *Square*, or a *Sphere*, a *Cube*, *Number* to be *Figure*, or any thing else to be any thing: and it is Really all one as to affirm, that there is indeed no such thing in our selves, as *Cogitation*: there being no other *Action* in *Nature*, but *Local Motion* and *Mechanism*.

Furthermore the *Democritick* and *Epicurean Atheists*, Universally agree in this, that not only *Sensations*, but also all the *Cogitations* of the *Mind*, are the meer *Passions* of the *Thinker*, and the *Actions* of *Bodies* Existing without, upon him: though they do not all declare themselves, as the same manner herein. For First, the *Democriticks* conclude, that *Sense* is Caused by certain *Grosser Corporeal Effluvia*, streaming from the *Surfaces* of *Bodies* Continually, and entering through the *Nerves*; But that all other *Cogitations* of the *Mind*, and mens either sleeping or waking *Imaginations*, proceed from another sort of *Simulachra*, *Idols* and *Images*, of a more *Fine* and *Subtle* *Texture*, coming into the *Brain*, not through those open *Tubes*, or *Channels* of the *Nerves*, but immediately through all the smaller *Pores* of the *Body*: so that, as we never have *sense* of Any thing, but by means of those *Grosser Corporeal Images*, obtruding themselves upon the *Nerves*; so have we not the least *Cogitation* at any *Time* in our *Mind* neither, which was not *Caused* by those *Finer Corporeal Images*, and *Exuvius Membranes*, or *Effluvia*, rushing upon the *Brain*, or *Texture* of the *Soul*. ἡ ἀκίνητος ἡ ἀνέκδοτος τῶν αἰσθημάτων ἡ τῶν νοημάτων εἰδωλὸν ἔχον προεόντων· μηδὲν γὰρ ἔστιν αἰσθάνειν μηδὲν νοεῖν χωρὶς τῶν περὶ τῶν αἰσθημάτων, *Leucippus* and *Democritus* determined, that as well *Noesis* as *Aisthesis*, *Mental Cogitation* or *External Sensation*, was *Caused* by certain *Corporeal Idols*, coming from *Bodies* without; since neither *Sensation* nor *Cogitation*, could otherwise possibly be produced. And thus does *Laertius* also represent the *Sense* of these *Atheistick Philosophers*, that the *Effluvia* from *Bodies* called *Idols*, were the only *Causes*, τῶν καὶ τῶν πάθων καὶ βολημάτων τῶν αἰσθημάτων καὶ τῶν νοημάτων, *Of all the Motions, Passions, and Affections, and even the very Volitions* of the *Soul*. So that as we could not have the least *Sensation*, *Imagination*, nor *Conception*, of any thing otherwise than from those *Corporeal Effluvia*, rushing upon us from *Bodies* without, and begetting the same in us, at such a time; so neither could we have

have any *Passion*, *Appetite*, or *Volition*, which we were not in like manner, *Corporeally Passive* to. And this was the Ground of the *Democritick Fate*, or *Necessity* of all *Humane Actions*, maintained by them, in opposition to the $\tau\acute{\iota} \epsilon\phi' \eta\mu\acute{\iota}\nu$, or *Liberty of Will*, which cannot be conceived without *Self-Activity*, and something of *Contingency*. They supposing *Humane Volitions* also, as well as all the other *Cogitations*, to be *Mechanically Caused* and *Necessitated*, from those *Effluvious Images* of Bodies, coming in upon the *Willers*. And however *Epicurus* sometime pretended to *Assert Liberty of Will*, against *Democritus*, yet forgetting himself, did he also here securely *Philosophize*, after the very same manner,

*Nunc age quæ moveant Animum res, accipe paucis ;
Quæ veniunt veniant in Mentem, percipe paucis.
Principio hoc dico Rerum Simulachra vagari, &c.*

*Lucret. L. 4.
p. 358 360.*

But others there were amongst the *Ancient Atomists*, who could not conceive *Sensations* themselves, to be thus Caused by *Corporeal Effluvia*, or *Exuvius Membranes*, streaming from Bodies Continually, and that for Divers Reasons alledged by them; but only by a *Pressure* from them upon the *Optick Nerve* by Reason of a *Tension* of the *Intermedius Air* or *Æther* (being that which is called *Light*) whereby the distant Object is *Touched* and *Felt*, $\epsilon\lambda\epsilon\nu \delta\iota\alpha \pi\alpha\upsilon\tau\eta\nu\epsilon\iota\alpha\varsigma$, as it were by a *Staff*. Which *Hypothesis* concerning the *Corporeal Part of Sense*, is indeed much more *Ingenious*, and agreeable to Reason than the Former. But the *Atheizers* of this *Atomology*, as they supposed *Sense* to be Nothing else but such a *Pressure* from Bodies without, so did they conclude *Imagination* and *Mental Cogitation*, to be but the *Reliques* and *Remainders* of those *Motions of Sense* formerly Made, and *Conserved* afterwards in the *Brain* (like the *Tremulous Vibrations* of a *Clock* or *Bell*, after the *striking* of the *Hammer*, or the *Rouling* of the *Waves*, after that the *Wind* is ceased) *Melting*, *Fading*, and *Decaying* insensibly by degrees. So that according to these, *Knowledge* and *Understanding*, is Nothing but *Fading* and *Decaying Sense*, and all our *Volitions* but *Mechanick Motions* caused from the *Actions* or *Trussions* of Bodies upon us. Now though it be true, that in *Sensation*, there is always a *Passion Antecedent*, made upon the *Body* of the *Sentient* from without; yet is not *Sensation* it self this very *Passion*, but a *Perception* of that *Passion*; much less can *Mental Conceptions* be said to be the *Action of Bodies* without, and the *meer Passion of the Thinker*; and least of all *Volitions* such, there being plainly here, something $\epsilon\phi' \eta\mu\acute{\iota}\nu$, *In our own Power*, (by means whereof, we become a *Principle of Actions*, accordingly deserving *Commendation* or *Blame*,) that is, something of *Self-Activity*.

Again according to the *Democritick* and *Epicurean Atheists*, all *Knowledge* and *Understanding* is Really the same thing with *Sense*: the Difference between these Two, to some of them being only this, That what is commonly called *Sense*, is *Primary* and *Original Knowledge*, and *Knowledge* but *Secondary*, or *Fading* and *Decaying Sense*: but to others, that *Sense* is Caused by those more *Vigorous Idols*, or *Effluvia*

via from Bodies, intromitted through the Nerves; but *Understanding* and *Knowledge*, by those more *Weak* and *Thin*, *Umbratile* and *Evanescent* ones, that penetrate the other smaller Pores of the Body: so that both ways, *Understanding* and *Knowledge*, will be but a *Weaker Sense*. Now from this Doctrine of the *Atheistical Atomists*, that all *Conception* and *Cogitation* of the *Mind* whatsoever, is Nothing else but *Sense* and *Passion* from *Bodies* without, this Absurdity first of all follows unavoidably, that there cannot possibly be, any *Errour*, or *False Judgment*, because it is certain, that all *Passion* is *True Passion*, and all *Sense* or *Seeming*, and *Appearance*, *True Seeming* and *Appearance*. Wherefore though some *Sense* and *Passion*, may be more *Obscure* than other, yet can there be none *False*; it self being the very *Essence* of *Truth*. And thus *Protagoras*, one of these *Atheistical Atomists*, having first asserted, That *Knowledge* is *Nothing else but Sense*, did thereupon admit this as a *Necessary Consequence*, That $\pi\acute{\alpha}\nu\tau\alpha\ \delta\delta\epsilon\alpha\ \alpha\lambda\epsilon\theta\acute{\iota}\nu\epsilon\iota$, Every *Opinion* is *True*; because it is Nothing but *Seeming* and *Appearance*, and every *Seeming* and *Appearance* is truly such: and because it is not possible, for any one to *Opine* that which is *Not*, or to *Think* otherwise than he *Suffers*. Wherefore *Epicurus* being Sensible of this Inconvenience, endeavoured to Salve this *Phænomenon* of *Errour* and *False Opinion* or *Judgement*, consistently with his own *Principles*, after this manner, That though all *Knowledge* be *Sense* and all *Sense* *True*, yet may *Errour* arise notwithstanding, *Ex Animæ Opinatu*, From the *Opination* of the *Mind*, adding something of its own, over and above, to the *Passion* and *Phæsie* of *Sense*. But herein he shamefully contradicts himself; For if the *Mind* in *Judging*, and *Opining*, can *Superadd* any thing of its own, over and above, to what it *Suffers*, then is it not a meer *Passive Thing*, but must needs have a *Self Active Power* of its own, and consequently will prove also *Incorporeal*, because no *Body* can *Act* otherwise, than it *Suffers*, or is *Made* to *Act* by something else without it. We conclude therefore, That since there is such a thing as *Errour*, or *False Judgment*, all *Cogitations* of the *Mind* cannot be meer *Passions*; but there must be something of *Self-Activity* in the *Soul* it *Self*, by means whereof, it can give its *Assent*, to things not clearly *Perceived*, and so *Err*.

Again from this *Atheistical Opinion*, That all *Knowledge* is Nothing else but *Sense*, either *Primary* or *Secondary*, it follows also; That there is no *Absolute Truth* nor *Falshood*, and that *Knowledge* is of a *Private Nature*, *Relative*, and *Phantastical* only, or meer *Seeming*; that is, Nothing but *Opinion*: because *Sense* is plainly, *Seeming*, *Phantastie*, and *Appearance*; a *Private thing* and *Relative* to the *Sentient* only. And here also did *Protagoras*, according to his wonted Freedom, admit this *Consequence*, That *Knowledge* being *Sense*, there was no *Absoluteness* at all therein, and That nothing was *True* otherwise, than $\tau\acute{o}\tau\omega\ \kappa\epsilon\ \pi\acute{\iota}$, To this and to that man so *Thinking*; That every man did, but $\tau\acute{\alpha}\ \epsilon\omega\tau\acute{\alpha}\ \mu\epsilon\omicron\upsilon\sigma\iota\ \delta\epsilon\lambda\acute{\alpha}\lambda\epsilon\iota\upsilon$, *Opine only his Own things*; That $\pi\acute{\alpha}\nu\tau\omega\ \chi\epsilon\iota\mu\acute{\alpha}\tau\omega\ \mu\acute{\alpha}\tau\epsilon\varsigma\ \alpha\iota\delta\epsilon\sigma\alpha\iota$, Every man was the *Measure of Things*, and *Truth* to himself; and Lastly, $\tau\acute{\alpha}\ \phi\alpha\iota\eta\mu\epsilon\iota\omega\varsigma\ \epsilon\kappa\alpha\iota\sigma\tau\ \tau\acute{o}\tau\omega\ \kappa\epsilon\ \epsilon\pi\alpha\iota\ \epsilon\varsigma\ \phi\alpha\iota\eta\delta\alpha\iota$, That whatsoever *Seemed* to every one, was *True* to him to whom it *Seemed*. Neither could *Democritus* himself, though a man of more discretion than *Protagoras*, dissemble this *Consequence* from

from the same Principle asserted by him, that Understanding is *Phantastical*, and Knowledge but *Opinion* ; he owning it sometimes before he was aware, as in these words of his, γινώσκων καὶ κατὰ ἀπορίαν τῶν κατὰ φύσιν, ὅτι αἰτίας ἀπώλλαιται. *We ought to know Man, according to this Rule, That he is such a thing, as hath Nothing to do with Absolute Truth* ; and again, αἰσθη (or ἐπιστ) ὅθεν ἴσμεν ὅτι ὁ ἀληθὺς, ἀλλ' ἐπινοούμεν ἡ δόξα. *We know nothing Absolutely, concerning any things, and all our Knowledge is Opinion.* Agreeably to which, he determined, that mens Knowledge was diversified by the Temper of their Bodies, and the Things without them. And Aristotle Judiciously observing both these Doctrines, That there is no Error or False Judgment, but every Opinion True ; and again, That Nothing is Absolutely True but Relatively only ; to be Really and Fundamentally One and the same ; imputeth them both together, to *Democritus*, in these words of his, ὅθεν ἔπαι ἀληθὺς· ὅλας δὲ διὰ τὸ ὑπολαμβάνειν φερόμεν μὲν τὴν αἰσθησιν, τὸ φαινόμενον καὶ τὴν αἰσθησιν ὡς ἀνάγκης ἀληθὺς ἔπαι, *Democritus held, that there was Nothing Absolutely True : but because he thought Knowledge or Understanding, to be Sense ; therefore did he conclude that whatsoever Seemed according to Sense, must of necessity be True (not Absolutely, but Relatively) to whom it so Seemed.* These Gross Absurdities did the *Atheistick Atomists* plunge themselves into, whilst they endeavoured to Salve the Phenomenon of Cogitation, Mind, or Understanding, agreeably to their own Hypothesis. And it is certain, that all of them, *Democritus* himself not excepted, were but meer Blunderers in that Atomick Physiology, which they so much pretended to, and never rightly Understood the Same. For as much as that with Equal Clearness teaches these Two things at once, That Sense indeed is *Phantastical* and *Relative* to the Sensitive ; But that there is a Higher Faculty, of *Understanding* and *Reason* in us, which thus discovers the *Phantastery* of Sense, and reaches to the *Absoluteness* of Truth ; or is the *Criterion* thereof.

But the *Democritick* and *Epicurean Atheists* will further Conclude, that the only Things or Objects of the Mind, are Singular Sensibles, or Bodies Existing without it ; which therefore must needs be in Order of Nature, before all Knowledge, Mind, and Understanding whatsoever ; this being but a *Phantastick Image* or Representation of them. From whence they Infer, that the Corporeal World, and these Sensible things, could not possibly be Made, by any Mind or Understanding ; because Essentially Junior to them, and the very Image and Creature of them. Thus does Aristotle Observe, concerning both *Democritus* and *Protagoras*, that they did ὑπολαμβάνειν τὰ ὄντα μόνον εἶναι τὰ αἰσθητὰ, Suppose the only Things or Objects of the Mind to be Sensibles ; and that this was the Reason, why they made Knowledge to be Sense, and therefore Relative and Phantastical : But we have already Proved, that Mind and Understanding is not the Phantastick Image of Sensibles or Bodies ; and that it is in its own Nature not Eὑχάλ, but Archetypal, and Architectonical of all. That it is Senior to the World, and all Sensible Things, it not looking abroad, for its Objects any where without, but containing them within it self ; The first Original Mind, being an Absolutely perfect Being, Comprehending it self, and the Extent of its

own Omnipotence, or all Possibilities of things, together with the Best Platform of the whole, and producing the same accordingly.

But it being plain, that there are besides *Singulars*, other Objects of the *Mind Universal*; from whence it seems to follow, that *Sensibles*, are not the only Things; some *Modern Atheistical* Wits, have therefore invented, this further device to maintain the Cause, and carry the Business on; That *Universals* are nothing else but Names or Words, by which *Singular Bodies* are called, and Consequently, that in all Axioms and Propositions, Sententious Affirmations and Negations (in which the Predicate at least is *Universal*) we do but Add or Subtract, Affirm or Deny, Names of *Singular Bodies*; and that *Reason* or *Syllogism*, is Nothing but the *Reckoning* or *Computing*, the *Consequences* of these Names or Words. Neither do they want the Impudence, to Affirm, that besides those Passions or Phantasies, which we have from things by Sense; we know Nothing at all of any thing, but only the Names, by which it is called. Then which there cannot be a greater Sottishness or Madness: For if Geometry, were nothing but the Knowledge of Names by which *Singular Bodies* are called, as it self could not deserve that Name of a Science; so neither could its Truths be the same in *Greek* and in *Latine*; and *Geometricians*, in all the several distant Ages and Places of the World, must be supposed to have had, the same *Singular Bodies* before them, of which they Affirmed and Denied, those *Universal Names*.

In the Last place, the *Epicurean* and *Anaximandrian* Atheists, agreeably to the Premised Principles, and the Tenor of their Hypothesis, do both of them endeavour to Depreciate and Undervalue, Knowledge or Understanding, as a thing which hath not any Higher Degree of Perfection or Entity in it, than is in Dead and Senseless Matter. It being according to them, but a Possion from *Singular Bodies* Existing without, and therefore both Junior, and Inferior to them; a Tumult raised in the Brain, by Motions made upon it, from the Objects of Sense; That which Essentially includeth in it, Dependence upon Something else; at best, but a Thin and Evanescent Image of Sensibles, or rather an Image of those Images of Sense; a meer Whiffling and Phantastick thing; upon which account they conclude it, not fit to be attributed, to that which is the First Root and Source of all things, which therefore is to them no other, than Grave and Solid, Senseless Matter; the only Substantial, Self-Existent, Independent thing, and Consequently the most Perfect and Divine. Life and Understanding, Soul and Mind are to them, no Simple and Primitive Nature, but Secondary and Derivative, or Syllables and Complexions of things, which Sprung up afterwards, from certain Combinations of Magnitudes, Figures, Sites, and Motions, or Contemperations of Qualities; Contextures either of Similar or Dissimilar Atoms. And as themselves are Juniors to Senseless Matter and Motion, and to those Inanimate Elements, Fire, Water, Air and Earth, the First, and most Real Productions of Nature and Chance; so are their Effects, and the Things that belong to them, comparatively with those other Real Things of Nature, but Slight, Ludicrous, and Umbratill; as Land-
skip

skip in Picture, compared with the Real Prospect, of High Mountains, and Low Valleys, *Win'ling* or Meandering Rivers, Towering Steeples, and the Shady Tops of Trees and Groves: as they are accordingly, commonly disparaged, under those Names of *Notional* and *Artificial*. And thus was the Sence of the *Ancient Atheists* represented by Plato; φαί τοι μὲν μέγιστα καὶ κάλλιστα ἀπεργάζεσθαι θύον καὶ τέχνην, τῷ ὃ Σμικρότερον. De Leg. L. 10. πρὸς τέχνην ὅτι δὲ πρὸς φύσιν λαμβάνουσιν, τὸν τῶν μεγάλων καὶ πρώτων. 889. γένεσιν ἔργον, πλάττειν καὶ τυλάσασθαι πάντα τοῖς σμικρότερον, ὃ δὲ τεχνικὰ προσεργόμενον. They say, that the Greatest and most Excellent Things of all, were made by Senseless Nature, and Chance: but all the Smaller and more Inconsiderable, by Art, Mind, and Understanding; which taking from Nature, those First and Greater Things as its Ground-work to Affix upon, doth Frame and Fabricate all the other Lesser Things, which are therefore Commonly called Artificial. And the Mind of these Atheists, is there also further declared, by that Philosopher after this manner. The First, most Real, Solid and Substantial things in the whole World, are those Elements, Fire, Water, Air and Earth, made by Senseless Nature and Chance, without any Art, Mind, or Understanding: and next to these the Bodies of the Sun, Moon, and Stars, and this Terrestrial Globe, produced out of the foresaid Inanimate Elements, by Unknowing Nature or Chance likewise, without any Art, Mind or God. The Fortuitous Concourse of Similar or Dissimilar Atoms, begetting this whole System and Compages of Heaven and Earth; τέχνην ὃ ἔργον ἐκ τούτων ἰστέον γινώσκω, αὐτῶν δινῶν ἐκ θινῶν, ἕνεκα γινώσκω παιδὶς πᾶς ἀληθείας ὃ ζῶντος. μετεχέρας, ἀλλ' ἑδῶν' ἄλλα εἶναι γὰρ ἰαυτῶν, οὐκ ἔστι γινώσκω, καὶ τὰ ἔστι. Ent that afterwards, Art or Mind and Understanding, being Generated also in the last place, out of those same Senseless and Inanimate Bodies or Elements, (it rising up in certain Smaller Pieces of the Universe, and Particular Concretions of Matter, called Animals) Mortal from Mortal things, did produce certain other Ludicrous things, which partake little of Truth and Reality, but are meer Images, Umbrages and Imitations, as Picture and Land-skip, &c. but above all, those Moral Differences of Just and Unjust, Honest and Dishonest, the meer Figments of Political Art, and Slight Umbratil Things, compared with Good and Evil Natural; that consist in nothing, but Agreement and Disagreement with Sense, and Appetite: τὰ δὲ καλὰ φύσιν μὲν ἀμα νόμος ὃ ἔστι, τὰ δὲ δίκαια ἔστι τί ἁπλοῦς φύσιν. For, as for Things Good and Honest, those that are such by Nature, differ from those which are such by Law; but as for Just and Unjust, there is by Nature no such thing at all. The Uphot and Conclusion of all is, That there is no such Scale or Ladder in Nature, as Theists and Metaphysicians suppose, no Degrees of Real Perfection and Entity one above another, as of Life and Sense, above Inanimate Matter, of Reason and Understanding above Sense; from whence it would be Inferred, that the Order of things in Nature, was in Way of Descent, from Higher and Greater Perfection, Downward to Lesser and Lower, which is indeed to Introduce a God. And that there is no such Scale or Ladder of Perfection and Entity, they endeavour further to prove from hence, because according to that Hypothesis, it would follow, that every the Smallest and most Contemptible Animal, that could see the Sun, had a Higher degree of Entity and Perfection in

in it, than the Sun it self; a thing ridiculously Absurd: or else according to *Cotta's* Instance; *Idcirco Formicam anteponebam esse huic Pulcherimæ Urbi, quod in Urbe Sensus sit nullus, in Formica non modo Sensus, sed etiam Mens, Ratio, Memoria.* That therefore every Ant or Pismire, were far to be preferred, before this most beautiful City of Rome; because in the City, there is no Sense; whereas an Ant hath not only Sense, but also Mind, Reason and Memory; that is, a certain Sagacity superiour to Sense. Wherefore they conclude that there is no such Scale or Ladder in Nature, no such Climbing Stairs of Entity and Perfection, one above another, but that the whole Universe is One Flat and Level, it being indeed all, Nothing but the same Uniform Matter, Under several Forms, Dresses, and Disguises; or Variegated by Diversity of Accidental Modifications: one of which, is that of such Beings as have Phancy in them, commonly called Animals; which are but some of Sportful or Wanton Natures, more trimly Artificial and Finer Gamesters, or Pretty Toys; but by reason of this Phancy, they have no Higher Degree of Entity and Perfection in them, than is in Senseless Matter: as they will also, be all of them quickly transformed again, into other seemingly dull, Unthinking and Inanimate Shapes. Hitherto the Sense of Atheists.

But the Pretended Grounds, of this Atheistical Doctrine, (or rather Madness) have been already also confuted, over and over again. Knowledge and Understanding, is not a meer Passion from the thing Known, Existing without the Knower, because to Know and Understand, as *Anaxagoras* of old determined, is *νεγλῆν*, to Master and Conquer the thing Known, and consequently not merely to Suffer from it, or Passively to Lie Under it, this being *νεγλῆναι*, to be Mastered and Conquered by it. The Knowledge of Universal Theoremes in Sciences, is not from the Force of the thing Known existing without the Knower, but from the Active Power, and Exerted Vigour or Strength, of that which Knows. Thus *Severinus Boetius*; *Videsne ut in cognoscendo, cuncta sua potius Facultate, quam Eorum quæ Cognoscuntur Utantur? Neque id injuria, nam cum omne Judicium Judicantis Animæ existat, necesse est ut suam quisque Operam, non ex Alienâ, sed ex propriâ Potestate perficiat.* See you not, how all things in Knowing, use their own Power and Faculty, rather, than that of the thing Known? For since Judgment is the Action of that which Judgeth, every thing must of necessity perform its own Action, by its own Power, Strength, and Faculty, and not by that of another. Sense it self is not a meer Passion; or Reception of the Motion from Bodies without the Sentient, for if it were so, then would a Looking-Glass, and Other Dead things See: but it is a Perception of a Passion, made upon the Body of the Sentient, and therefore hath something of the Soul's own Self-Activity in it. But Understanding and the Knowledge of Abstract Sciences, is neither Primary Sense, nor yet the Fading and Decaying Remainers, of the Motions thereof, but a Perception of another kind, and more Inward than that of Sense; not Sympathetical but Unpassionate, the Noemata of the Mind, being things distinct from the Phantasmata of Sense and Imagination; which are but a Kind of Confused Cogitations. And though the Objects of Sense be only Singular Bodies, Existing without the Sentient, yet are not

not these *Sensibles* therefore, the only *Things* and *Cogitables*; but there are other *Objects* of *Science*, or *Intelligibles*, which the *Mind* containeth within it Self. That *Dark Philosophy* of some, tending so directly to *Atheism*, That there is Nothing in the *Mind* or *Understanding* which was, not *First* in *Corporeal Sense*, and derived in way of *Passion* from *Matter*, was both *Elegantly* and *Solidly* Confuted by *Boetius* his *Philosophick Muse*, after this manner,

*Bibi Conf.
L. 3. M. 4.*

*Quondam Porticus attulit,
Qui Sensus & Imagines,
Credant Mentibus imprimi;
Mos est a quore pagine,
Pressas Figere literas.
Nihil motibus explicat,
Notis subdita Corporum,
Rerum reddit imagines,
Cernens omnia Notio?
Aut que cognita dividit?
Alternumque legens iter,
Nunc decedit in Infima;
Veris falsa redarguit?
Longe Causa potentior,
Impressas patitur notas.
Et Vires Animi movens,
Cum vel Lux oculos ferit,
Tum Mentis Vigor excitus,
Ad Motus similes vocans,*

*Obscuros nimium Senes,
E Corporibus extimēs,
Ut quondam Celeri stylo
Quæ nullas habeat notas,
Sed Mens si propriis wigens
Sed tantum patiens jacet
Cassasque in Speculi vicem
Unde hæc sic animis wiget
Quæ vis singula prospicit?
Quæ divisa recolligit?
Nunc Summis Caput inserit,
Tum sese referens sibi
Hæc est Efficiens magis
Quam quæ Materia modo
Præcedit tamen Excitans
Vivo in corpore Passio.
Vel Vox auribus instrepit:
Quas intus species tenet,
Notis applicat exteris.*

It is true indeed, that the *NORTH*, or *Thing Understood*, is in order of Nature before the *Intellection* and *Conception* of it, and from hence was it, that the *Pythagoreans* and *Platonists* concluded, that *NES*, *Mind* or *Intellect*, was not the very *First* and *Highest* Thing in the *Scale of the Universe*, but that there was another *Divine Hypostasis*, in order of Nature before it, called by them "ΕΥ and Τ' ἀγαθόν, *One* and *The Good*, as the *NORTH* or *Intelligible* thereof. But as those *Three Archical Hypostases* of the *Platonists* and *Pythagoreans*, are all of them Really but *One* *Θεόν* or *Divinity*: And the First of those *Three*, (Superiour to that which is properly called by them, *Mind* or *Intellect*) is not supposed therefore to be Ignorant of it self: So is the *First Mind* or *Understanding*, no other, than that of a Perfect Being, Infinitely Good, Fertund, and Powersul, and virtually Containing all things; comprehending it self and the Extent of its own Goodness, Fertundity, Vertue, and Power; that is, all Possibilities of things, their Relations to one another, and Verities; a *Mind before Sense*, and *Sensible Things*. An Omnipotent Understanding Being, which is it self its own *Intelligible*, is the *First Original* of all things. Again, that there must of necessity be some other Substance besides *Body* or *Matter*, and which in the *Scale of Nature* is Superiour to it, is evident from hence, because otherwise, there could be no *Motion* at all therein, no *Body* being ever able to move it self. There must be something *Self-Active* and *Hylarchical*, something that can Act both from

from it self, and upon Matter, as having a *Natural Imperium*, or Command over it. *Cogitation* is in order of Nature, before *Local Motion*. *Life* and *Understanding*, Soul and *Mind*, are no *Syllables* or *Complexions* of things, *Secondary* and *Derivative*, which might therefore be made out of things devoid of *Life* and *Understanding*; but *Simple*, *Primitive*, and *Uncompounded* Natures: they are no *Qualities* or *Accidental Modifications* of *Matter*, but *Substantial Things*. For which Cause *Souls* or *Minds* can no more be Generated out of *Matter*, than *Matter* it Self, can be Generated out of Something else: and therefore are they both alike (in some sense) Principles, Naturally Ingenerable and Incorruptible; though both *Matter*, and all *Imperfect Souls* and *Minds*, were at first Created by one *Perfect Omnipotent Understanding Being*. Moreover Nothing can be more Evident than this, that *Mind* and *Understanding* hath a *Higher Degree* of *Entity* or *Perfection* in it, and is a *Greater Reality* in Nature, than meer *Senseless Matter* or *Bulkie Extension*. And Consequently the things which belong to *Souls* and *Minds*, to *Rational* and *Intellectual Beings* as such, must not have *Less*, but *More Reality* in them, than the things which belong to *Inanimate Bodies*. Wherefore the Differences of *Just* and *Unjust*, *Honest* and *Dishonest*, are greater *Realities* in Nature, than the Differences of *Hard* and *Soft*, *Hot* and *Cold*, *Moist* and *Dry*. He that does not perceive any *Higher Degree* of Perfection, in a *Man*, than in an *Oyster*, nay than in a *Clod* of *Earth* or *Lump* of *Ice*, in a *Piece* of *Past*, or *Pye-Crust*, hath not the Reason or Understanding of a *Man* in him. There is unquestionably, a *Scale* or *Ladder* of *Nature*, and Degrees of *Perfection* and *Entity*, one above another, as of *Life*, *Sense*, and *Cogitation*, above *Dead*, *Senseless* and *Unthinking Matter*; of *Reason* and *Understanding* above *Sense*, &c. And if the *Sun* be Nothing but a *Mass* of *Fire*, or *Inanimate Subtle Matter* Agitated, then hath the most Contemptible Animal, that can see the *Sun*, and hath *Consciousness* and *Self-enjoyment*, a *Higher Degree* of *Entity* and *Perfection* in it, than that whole *Fiery Globe*; as also than the *Materials*, (*Stone*, *Timber*, *Brick* and *Mortar*) of the most Stately Structure, or *City*. Notwithstanding which, the *Sun* in other regards, and as its vastly Extended *Light* and *Heat*, hath so great an Influence, upon the *Good* of the whole *World*, *Plants* and *Animals*; may be said to be a far more *Noble* and *Useful* thing in the *Universe*, than any one *Particular Animal* whatsoever. Wherefore there being plainly a *Scale* or *Ladder* of *Entity*; the *Order* of Things was unquestionably, in way of *Descent*, from *Higher Perfection*, Downward to *Lower*, it being as Impossible, for a *Greater Perfection* to be produced from a *Lesser*, as for *Something* to be Caused by *Nothing*. Neither are the *Steps* or *Degrees* of this *Ladder*, (either upward or downward) *Infinite*; but as the *Foot*, *Bottom*, or *Lowest Round* thereof, is *Stupid* and *Senseless Matter*, devoid of all *Life* and *Understanding*; so is the *Head*, *Top*, and *Summit* of it, a *Perfect Omnipotent Being*, Comprehending it self, and all Possibilities of things. A *Perfect Understanding Being*, is the *Beginning* and *Head* of the *Scale* of *Entity*; from whence things *Gradually* Descend downward; lower and lower, till they end in *Senseless Matter*. ἡ πρώτη ἀρχὴ τοῦ κόσμου, *Mind* is the *Oldest* of all things, Senior to the Elements,

lements, and the whole Corporeal World; and likewise according to the same Ancient Theists, it is *κύριον καὶ φύσις*, by *Nature Lord over all*, or hath a *Natural Imperium* and Dominion over all; it being the most *Hegemonical thing*. And thus was it also affirmed by *Anaxagoras*, *νῦν βασιλεὺς ὡραίου τι καὶ ὅς ὄν*, that *Mind is the Sovereign King of Heaven and Earth*.

We have now made it evident, that the *Epicurean* and *Anaximandrian Atheists*, who derive the Original of all things from *Senseless Matter*, devoid of all Manner of *Life*, can no way *Salve the Phenomenon of Cogitation* (*Life and Understanding, Soul and Mind*) no more than they can that of *Local Motion*. And the Reason why we have insisted so much upon this Point, is because these *Atheists*, do not only pretend to *Salve this Phenomenon of Cogitation* without a *God*, and so to take away the Argument for a *Deity* from thence; but also to *Demonstrate the Impossibility* of its Existence, from the very Nature of *Knowledge, Mind, and Understanding*. For if *Knowledge*, be in its own Nature, *Nothing but a Passion from Singular Bodies* Existing without the *Knower*; and if *Life and Understanding, Soul and Mind*, be *Junior to Body*, and Generated out of *Senseless Matter*, then could no *Mind or Understanding Being*, Possibly be a *God*, that is a *First Principle*, and the *Maker* of all things. And though Modern Writers, take little or no Notice of this, yet did *Plato* anciently, make the very State of the *Controversie*, betwixt Theists and Atheists principally to consist in this very thing, *viz.* Whether *Life and Understanding, Soul and Mind*, were *Juniors to Body*, and Sprung out of *Senseless Matter*, as *Accidental Modifications* thereof, or else were *Substantial things*, and in order of Nature *Before* it. For after the Passages before Cited, he thus concludeth, *καθενὲν δὲ ὁ λόγος ταύτῃ. Π. L. 10. Διότι, πῦρ καὶ ὕδωρ καὶ γῆ καὶ αἶρ, πρῶτα ἦσαν καὶ τῶν πάντων ἑσσι, καὶ τῶν ζώων φύσις ἐπομάζην ταῦτα αὐτὰ, ψυχὴ δὲ καὶ τέλει ὕστερον. ἔπειτα δὲ καθενὲν αὐτῶν, ἀλλὰ ὅπως σημαίνει ταῦτα ἡμῶν τῶ λόγου. Ἄντι πρὸς αὐτὸς οὐκ ἐστὶν πῶς ἀνόητος δόξας ἀνολογισαμένον ἀνθρώπων, ὅτι οὐκ ἐστὶν αἰτίας ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ ζετημάτων. These men seem to suppose, Fire, Water, Air and Earth, to be the very First things in the Universe, and the Principles of all, calling them only Nature; but Soul and Mind, to have sprung up afterwards out of them. Nay, they do not only seem to suppose this, but also in Express Words declare the same. And thus (by Jupiter) have we discovered, the very Fountain of that *Atheistical Madnes*, of the Ancient Physiologers; to wit, their making *Inanimate Bodies*, Senior to *Soul and Mind*. And accordingly, that Philosopher addresses himself to the Confutation of *Atheism*, no otherwise than thus, by proving *Soul* not to be *Junior to Senseless Body*, or *Inanimate Matter*, and Generated out of it; ὁ πρῶτος γένεσις καὶ φθορὰς αὐτῶν ἀπείκτων, πῶς ἐπὶ πρῶτον, ἀλλὰ ὕστερον ἀπερήκτων εἶναι γινώσκοντες, οἱ τῶν καὶ ἀσθενῶν ψυχῶν ἀπεργασσάμενοι λόγοι. ὁ δὲ ὕστερον περίεστιν ὅτι ἡμετέρεστιν ὡς Σίαν ὃ ὅλος ὁλόας ψυχῶν ἡσυχάζοντες καθενὲν αὐτῶν ὅλος ἐξυμπαίτες, οἷον τι δὲ τοιούτου καὶ θύναται ἢ ἐχέει. καὶ τὴν ἄλλαν αὐτῶς πᾶσι καὶ δὲ καὶ γένεσις, ὡς αὐτὸς πρῶτος ἐστὶ, σωμάτων ἐμπεριέχον πάντων γινώσκοντες, καὶ μεταβολῆς πάσης ἀρχή. That which is the First Cause of the Generation and Corruption of all Things, the Atheistical Doctrine supposes, not to have been*

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First

First Made; but what is indeed the Last thing, to be the First, And hence is it, that they erre concerning the Essence of the Gods. For they are ignorant what kind of thing Soul is, and what power it hath; as also especially concerning its Generation and Production, That it was First of all made before Body, it being that which Governs the Motions, Changes, and Transformations thereof. But if Soul be First in Order of Nature before Body, then must those things which are Cognate to Soul, be also before the Things which appertain to Body; and so Mind and Understanding, Art and Law be before Hard and Soft, Heavy and Light; and that which these Atheists call Nature, (the Motion of Inanimate Bodies) Junior to Art and Mind, it being Governed by the same. Now that Soul is in order of Nature before Body, this Philosopher demonstrates only from the Topick or Head of Motion, because it is Impossible, that one Body should Move another Infinitely, without any First Cause or Mover; but there must of Necessity be something Self-Moving, and Self-Active, or which had a power of Changing it Self, that was the first Cause of all Local Motion in Bodies. And this being the very Notion of Soul, that it is such a thing, as can Move or Change it self (in which also the Essence of Life consisteth.) He thus inferreth, *ἡ ἀρχαία ψυχή ἡ πρώτη καὶ παλαιὰ καὶ ἀρχαία νοῦς*. It is therefore sufficiently demonstrated from hence, that Soul is the Oldest of all things in the Corporeal World; it being the Principle of all the Motion, and Generation in it. And his Conclusion is, *ἡ ψυχή ἀρχαία καὶ ἡ πρώτη καὶ παλαιὰ καὶ ἀρχαία νοῦς*. It hath been therefore rightly affirmed by us, that Soul is Older than Body, and was Made Before it, and Body Younger and Junior to Soul; Soul being that which Ruleth, and Body that which is Ruled. From whence it follows that the Things of Soul also, are Older than the things of Body; and therefore Cogitation, Intelligence, Volition, and Appetite, in order of Nature before Length, Breadth and Profundity. Now it is Evident, that Plato in all this Understood, not only the Mundane Soul, or his Third Divine Hypothesis, the Original of that Motion that is in the Heavens and the whole Corporeal Universe, but also all other Particular Lives and Souls whatsoever, or that whole Rank of Beings called Soul; he supposing it all to have been at first made, before the Corporeal System, or at least to have been in order of Nature Senior to it, as Superiour and more excellent, (that which Ruleth being Superiour to that which is Ruled) and no Soul or Life whatsoever, to be Generated out of Senseless Matter.

Wherefore we must needs here condemn that Doctrine of some Professed Theists and Christians of Latter Times, who Generate all Souls, not only the *Sensitive* in Brutes, but also the *Rational* in Men, out of Matter. For as much as hereby, not only that Argument for the Existence of a God, from Souls, is quite taken away; and nothing could hinder but that *Senseless Matter* might be the Original of all things; if Life and Understanding, Soul and Mind (sprung out of it; but also the Atheist will have an advantage, to prove the *Impossibility* of a God from hence. Because if Life and Understanding, in their own Nature be *Fallacious*, and *Generable* out of Matter, then

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are they no *Substantial Things*, but *Accidental* only, from whence it will plainly follow, that no Mind could possibly be a *God*, or *First Cause* of all things, it being not so much as able to Subsist by it Self. Moreover if Mind as such, be *Generable*, and *Educible out of Nothing*, then must it needs be in its own Nature *Corruptible* also, and *Reducible to Nothing* again ; whereas the Deity is both an *Unmade* and *Incorruptible Being*. So that there could not possibly be according to this Hypothesis, any other *God*, than such a *Jupiter*, or *Soul of the World*, as the *Atheistick Theogonists* acknowledged, that Sprung out of *Night*, *Chaos*, and *Non-Entity*, and may be again Swallowed up into that *Dark Abyss*. Senseless Matter therefore, being the only *Unmade* and *Incorruptible thing* ; and the Fountain of all things, *Even of Life and Understanding* ; it must needs be acknowledged to be the Only Real *Numen*.

Neither will the Case be much different, as to some others ; who though indeed they do not professedly Generaie, the *Rational*, but only the *Sensitive Soul*, both in Men and Brutes ; yet do nevertheless maintain, the *Humane Soul* it self, to be but a meer *Blank*, or *White Sheet* of Paper, that hath nothing at all in it, but what was *Scribled* upon it, by the *Objects of Sense* ; and Knowledge or Understanding to be nothing but the *Results of Sense*, and so a *Passion* from Sensible Bodies existing without the Knower. For hereby, as they plainly make *Knowledge* and *Understanding*, to be in its own Nature, *Junior to Sense*, and the very *Creature of Sensibles* ; so do they also imply, the *Rational Soul* and *Mind* it self, to be as well *Generated* as the *Sensitive*, wherein it is Virtually Contained : or to be nothing but a *Higher Modification of Matter* ; agreeably to that *Leviathan-Doctrine*, That men differ no otherwise from *Brute Animals*, then only in their *Organization*, and the Use of *Speech* or *Words*.

In very truth, Whoever maintaineth, that any *Life* or *Soul*, any *Cogitation* or *Consciousness*, *Self-Perception* and *Self-Activity*, can spring out of Dead, Senseless and Unactive Matter, the same can never possibly have any Rational Assurance, but that his own Soul, had also a like Original, and Consequently is *Mortal* and *Corruptible*. For if any *Life* and *Cogitation* can be thus Generated, then is there no Reason, but that all Lives may be so ; they being but Higher Degrees in the same Kind : and neither *Life*, nor any thing else, can be in its own Nature Indifferent, to be either *Substance* or *Accident*, and sometimes one, sometimes the other : but either all *Life*, *Cogitation*, and *Consciousness*, is *Accidental*, *Generable* and *Corruptible* ; or else none at all.

That which hath inclined so many, to think the *Sensitive Life* at least, to be nothing but a *Quality* or *Accident of Matter*, *Generable* out of it, and *Corruptible* into it, is that strange Protean Transformation of Matter, into so many seemingly Unaccountable Forms and Shapes, together with the Scholastick Opinion threupon, of *Real Qualities* ; that is, *Entities* distinct from the *Substance of Body*, and its *Modifications*, but yet Generable out of it, and Corruptible, into

it. They concluding that as *Light*, and *Colours*, *Heat* and *Cold*, &c. according to those *Phancies* which we have of them, are *Real Qualities* of *Matter*, distinct from its *Substance* and *Modifications*, so may *Life*, *Sense*, and *Cogitation*, be in like manner *Qualities* of *Matter* also *Generable* and *Corruptible*. But these *Real Qualities* of *Body* in the *Sense* declared, are things that were long since justly exploded, by the Ancient Atomists, and expunged out of the Catalogue of Entities, of whom *Laetius* hath Recorded, that they did ἐκείνας τὰς ποιότητες, quite cashier and banish *Qualities* out of their Philosophy: they resolving all Corporeal *Phænomena*, and therefore those of *Heat* and *Cold*, *Light* and *Colours*, *Fire* and *Flame*, &c. intelligibly, into nothing but the Different *Modifications* of Extended *Substance*, viz. More or Less *Magnitude* of *Parts*, *Figure*, *Site*, *Motion* or *Rest*, (or the *Combinations* of them) and those different *Phancies* Caused in us by them. Indeed there is no other Entity, but *Substance* and its *Modifications*. Wherefore the *Democriticks* and *Epicureans*, did most shamefully contradict themselves, when pretending to reject and explode, all those Entities of *Real Qualities*, themselves nevertheless, made *Life* and *Understanding*: such *Real Qualities* of *Matter*, *Generable* out of it, and *Corruptible* again into it.

There is nothing in *Body* or *Matter*, but *Magnitude*, *Figure*, *Site*, and *Motion* or *Rest*; now it is Mathematically Certain, that these however Combin'd together, can never possibly Compound or Make up *Life* or *Cogitation*: which therefore cannot be an *Accident* of *Matter*, but must of necessity be a *Substantial* thing. We speak not here of that *Life* (improperly so called) which is in *Vulgar Speech* attributed to the Bodies of Men and Animals: for it is plainly *Accidental* to a *Body*, to be *Vitally United* to a *Soul*, or not. Therefore is this *Life* of the Compound, *Corruptible* and *Destroyable*, without the *Destruction* of any *Real Entity*; there being nothing *Destroyed*, nor *Lost* to the Universe, in the Deaths of Men and Animals, as such; but only a *Disunion* or *Separation* made, of those Two *Substances*, *Soul* and *Body* one from another. But we speak here of the *Original Life* of the *Soul* it self, that this is *Substantial*, neither *Generable* nor *Corruptible*, but only *Creatable* and *Annihilable* by the Deity. And it is strange, that any men should persuade themselves, that that which Rules and Commands, in the Bodies of Animals, moving them up and down, and hath *Sense* or *Perception* in it, should not be as *Substantial*, as that *Stupid* and *Senseless Matter*, that is *Ruled* by it. Neither can *Matter*, (which is also but a meer *Passive* thing) Efficiently produce *Soul*, any more than *Soul Matter*: no Finite Imperfect *Substance*, being able to produce another *Substance* out of *Nothing*. Much less can such a *Substance* as hath a *Lower Degree* of *Entity* and *Perfection* in it, Create that, which hath a *Higher*. There is a *Scale* or *Ladder* of *Entities* and *Perfections* in the Universe, one above another, and the Production of things cannot possibly be in Way of *Ascent* from *Lower* to *Higher*, but must of necessity be in way of *Descent* from *Higher* to *Lower*. Now to produce any One *Higher Rank* of Being, from the *Lower*, as *Cogitation* from *Magnitude* and *Body*, is plainly to invert this *Order*, in the *Scale* of the Universe, from
Downward

Downwards to *Upwards*; and therefore is it *Atheistical*; and by the Same reason, that One *Higher Rank* or Degree in this *Scale*, is thus unnaturally Produced from a Lower, may all the rest be so produced also. Wherefore we have great reason to stand upon our Guard here, and to defend this *Post* against the *Atheists*; That no *Life* or *Cogitation*, can either *Materially* or *Efficiently* result from *Dead* and *Senseless Body*; or that Souls being all *Substantial*, and *Immaterial* things, can neither be *Generated* out of *Matter*, nor *Corrupted* into the same, but only *Created* or *Annihilated* by the *Deity*.

The Grand Objection against this *Substantiality* of Souls *Sensitive*, as well as *Rational*, is from that Consequence, which will be from thence inferred, of their *Permanent Subsistence* after Death, their *Perpetuity*, or *Immortality*. This seeming very absurd, that the Souls of Brutes also should be *Immortal*, or subsist after the Deaths of the Respective *Animals*: But especially to Two Sorts of Men; First, such as scarcely in good earnest believe, their own Soul's *Immortality*; and Secondly, such *Religionists*, as conclude, that if *Irrational* or *Sensitive Souls*, subsist after Death, then must they needs go presently, either into Heaven or Hell. And *R. Cartesius* was so sensible of the *Offensiveness* of this *Opinion*, that though he were fully convinced of the necessity of this *Disjunction*, that either *Brutes* have nothing of *Sense* or *Cogitation* at all, or else they must have some other *Substance* in them besides *Matter*, he chose rather to make them meet *Senseless Machins*, then to allow them *Substantial Souls*. Wherein avoiding a *Lesser Absurdity* or *Paradox*, he plainly plunged himself into a Greater; scarcely any thing being more generally received, than the *Sense* of *Brutes*. Though in truth all those, who deny the *Substantiality* of *Sensitive Souls*, and will have *Brutes* to have nothing but *Matter* in them, ought consequently according to Reason, to do as *Cartesius* did, deplete them of all *Sense*. But on the contrary, if it be evident from the *Phænomena*, that *Brutes* are not meer *Senseless Machins* or *Automata*, and only like *Clocks* or *Watches*, then ought not *Popular Opinion* and *Vulgar Prejudice* so far to prevail with us, as to hinder our Assent, to that which sound Reason and Philosophy clearly dictates, that therefore they must have something more than *Matter* in them. Neither ought we, when we clearly conceive any thing to be true, as this, That *Life* and *Cogitation* cannot possibly rise, out of *Dead* and *Senseless Matter*; to abandon it, or deny our Assent thereunto because we find it attended with some Difficulty, not easily Extricable by us, or cannot free all the Consequences thereof from some Inconvenience or Absurdity, such as seems to be in the *Permanent Subsistence* of *Brutish Souls*.

For the giving an Account of which notwithstanding, *Plato* and the Ancient *Pythagoreans*, proposed this following *Hypothesis*. That Souls as well *Sensitive*, as *Rational*, being all *Substantial*, but not *Self-Existent*, (because there is but one Fountain, and Principle of all things) were therefore Produced or Caused by the *Deity*. But this; not in the *Generations* of the respective *Animals*; it being indecorous that this Divine *Miraculous Creative Power*, should constantly

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lacquey by and attend upon Natural Generations; as also incongruous, that *Souls* should be so much Juniors to Every Atom of Dust, that is in the whole World; but either all of them from Eternity; according to those who Denied the *Novity* of the *World*; or rather according to others, who asserted the *Cosmogonia*, in the first beginning of the *World's Creation*. Wherefore, it being also Natural to Souls as such, to *Assume* and *Enliven* some Body, or to be as it were clothed therewith, these as soon as Created, were immediately Invested with certain *Thin* and *Subtle Bodies*, or put into *Light Ethereal* or *Aereal Chariots* and *Vehicles*; wherein they subsist both before their Entrance into other *Gross Terrestrial Bodies* and after their Egress out of them. So that the *Souls* not only of men, but also of other Animals, have sometimes a *Thicker*, and sometimes a *Thinner Indument* or *Clothing*. And thus do we understand *Eoetius*, not only of the Rational; but also of the other Inferior *Sensitive Souls*, in these Verses of his,

*Tu Causas Animas paribus Vitisque Minores,
Provehis, & Levibus sublimis Curribus aptans,
In Cælum Terramque seris.*

Where his *Light Chariots*, which all *Lives* or *Souls* at their very First Creation, by God are placed in, and in which being wafted, they are both together as as it were Sowed into the *Gross Terrestrial Matter*; are *Thin, Aereal* and *Ethereal Bodies*. But this is plainly declared by *Proclus* upon the *Timæus*, after he had spoken of the *Souls* of *Demons* and *Men*, in this manner; *ὅτι πᾶσαι ψυχὴν ἀνάγκη πρὸ τῆς συντίθεσσι σώματων, αἰδίοις καὶ ἀκινήτοις τινι χεῖνθαι σῶματι, ὡς καὶ ὅταν ἔχουσιν τὸ κοινόν, And every Soul, must of necessity have, before these Mortal Bodies, certain Eternal and easily moveable Bodies, it being Essential to them to move.* There is indeed mention made by the same *Proclus*, and others, of an Opinion of *ἄλλοι δαίμονες, Irrational* or *Brutish Demons*, or *Demoniack Aereal Brutes*; of which he sometime speaks doubtfully, as *ἢ περὶ τῶν ἄλλων δαίμονων ὡς οἱ θεουργοί, If there be any Irrational Demons, as the Theurgists affirm.* But the Dispute, Doubt or Controversie here only was, Whether there were any such *Irrational Demons Immortal* or no. For thus we learn from these Words of *Ammonius* upon the *Porphyrion Isagoge*, *οἱ μὲν γὰρ φασὶ ἕνα τὸ δαίμονιον ἀλόγον ζῷον ἀθάνατον, οἱ δὲ φασὶ καὶ τὸ πᾶν ζῷον συντίθεσθαι, Some affirm, that there is a certain kind of Irrational Demons Immortal; but others, that all these Irrational or Brutish Demons, are Mortal: Where by Irrational Demons Immortal, seem to be understood, such as never Descend into Terrestrial Bodies, (and these are there disclaimed by *Ammonius*) but the Mortal Ones, such as act also upon Gross Terrestrial Bodies, obnoxious to Death and Corruption. As if *Ammonius* should have said, There are no other Brutish or Irrational Demons, than only the Souls of such Brute Animals, as are here amongst us, sometimes acting only Aereal Bodies. Thus according to the ancient *Pythagorick Hypothesis*; There is neither any New Substantial thing now Made, which was not before, nor yet any Real Entity Destroyed into Nothing; not only no Matter, but also no Soul nor Life :
God*

L. 5 p. 250.

L. 4 p. 188.

God after the First Creation, neither making any *New Substance*, nor yet *Annihilating* any thing made. He then Creating nothing that was not fit to be *Conserved* in Being, and which could not be well *Used* and *Placed* in the Universe; and afterward never *Repenting* him of what he had before done. And *Natural Generations* and *Corruptions*, being nothing but *Accidental Mutations*, *Concretions* and *Secretions*, or *Anagrammatical Transpositions* of *Præ-* and *Post-Existing* things, the same *Souls* and *Lives* being sometimes *United* to one *Body*, and sometimes to another, Sometimes in *Thicker* and sometimes in *Thinner Clothing*; and sometimes in the *Visible*, sometimes in the *Invisible*: (they having *Aereal* as well as *Terrestrial Vehicles*) and never any *Soul* quite naked of all *Body*. And thus does *Proclus* complain of some as *Spurious Platonists*, οὐ φησεντες τὸ ὅζωον ἀνάλειν. In Tim p. 330. ζῶντα πρὸς αὐτῷ σώματι ἢ ἐξω τοῦ σώματος ψυχῆς, *Who Destroying the Thinner Vehicles of Souls, were therefore necessitated sometimes, to leave them in a State of Separation from all Body; or without any Corporeal Indument.* Which *Cabbala* probably derived from the *Egyptians*, by *Pythagoras*; was before fully represented by us out of *Ovid*, though that *Transmigration* of *Humane Souls* there into *Ferine Bodies*, hath not been by all acknowledged, as a *Genuine Part* thereof. And the same was likewise insisted upon by *Virgil*, *Georg. L. 4.* as also owned and confirmed by *Macrobius*, for a *Great Truth*, *Constat secundum veræ rationis Assertionem, quam nec Cicero nescit, nec Virgilius ignorat, dicendo,* Sonn. Scip. L. C. 11.

Nec Morti esse Locum; —

Constat inquam, Nihil intra Vivum Mundum perire, sed eorum quæ interire videntur, solam mutari Speciem. It is manifest according to *Reason* and *True Philosophy*, which neither *Cicero*, nor *Virgil*, were unacquainted with, (the *Latter* of these affirming, *That there is no place at all left for Death*) I say, it is manifest, that none of those things, that to us seem to die, do absolutely perish, within the *Living World*, but only their *Forms* changed.

Now how extravagant soever this *Hypothesis* seem to be, yet is there no *Question*, but that a *Pythagorean* would endeavour to find some *Countenance* and *Shelter* for it, in the *Scripture*; especially that place which hath so puzzled and *non-plus'd* *Interpreters*, *Rom. 8. 19.* *For the Earnest expectation of the Creature, waiteth for the Manifestation of the Sons of God. For the Creature was made subject unto Vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the Creature it self also shall be delivered from the Bondage of Corruption, into the glorious Liberty of the Children of God. For we know, that the whole Creation Groaneth, and Travelleth in pain together; until now. And not only they, but our selves also which have the First Fruits of the Spirit, Groan within Our selves, Waiting for the Adoption, even the Redemption of our Bodies.* Where it is first of all evident, that the *Ktins*, *Creature* or *Creation* Spoken of, is not the very same with the τέκνα or υἱοὶ τοῦ Θεοῦ, the *Children* or *Sons of God*, but something distinct from them. Wherefore in the next place the *Pythagorean* will add, that it must of necessity be understood, either of the *Inanimate Creature only*, or of the *Lower Animal Creation*, or else of both these together.

gether. Now though it be readily acknowledged, that there is a *Prosopopœia* here; yet cannot all those Expressions for all that, without difficulty and violence be understood, of the *Inanimate Creation* only, or *Senseless Matter*. *Viz.* That this hath ἀπογοητεύειν, an *Earnest Expectation* of some future Good to it self; That it is now made Subject πρὸς ματαιότητα, to *Vanity*, *Frustration* and *Disappointment* of Desire; and φθίσκει, to *Corruption* and *Death*: And that ἐκ ἡδονῆς, not *Willingly*, but *Reluctantly*; And yet ἐκ ἡλπίδος too, In *Hope* notwithstanding of some further Good to follow afterward; and that it doth in the mean time στεναίνειν and στεναίνειν *Groan* and *Travel* in Pain together, till it be at length delivered, from the *Bondage of Corruption*, into the glorious *Liberty of the Children of God*. Moreover, in the *Generations* and *Corruptions of Senseless Bodies*, as of *Minerals* and *Vegetables*, or when for example, Oyl is turned into Flame, Flame into Smoke; Water into Vapour, Vapour into Snow or Hail; Grass into Milk, Milk into Blood and Bones; and the like, there is I say in all this, no Hurt done to any thing, nor any *Real Entity* destroyed, all the *Substance* of Matter still remaining intirely the same, without the least diminution, and only *Accidental Transformations* thereof made. All this, is Really Nothing, but *Local Motion*; and there is no more *Toyl* nor *Labour* to an *Inanimate Body* in *Motion*, than in *Rest*; it being altogether as Natural for a Body to be Moved by something else, as of it self to Rest. It is all nothing, but *Change* of *Figure*, *Distance*, *Site*, and *Magnitude* of Parts, causing several *Sensations*, *Phancies*, and *Apparitions* in us. And they who would have the meaning of this place to be, That all such like *Mutations*, and *Alternate Vicissitudes* in *Inanimate Bodies*, shall at Length quite cease, these *Groaning* in the mean time, and travelling in Pain, to be delivered from the *Toylsome Labour* of such *Useless Motion*, and to be at *Ease* and *Quiet*; by taking away all Motion thus, out of a fond regard, to the *Ease* and *Quiet* of *Senseless Matter*, they would thereby ipso facto *Petrify* the whole *Corporeal Universe*, and Consequently the *Bodies* of Good Men also after the *Resurrection*, and Congeal all into *Rockie Marble* or *Adamant*. And as vain is that other Conceit of some, that the whole *Terrestrial Globe*, shall at last be *Vitrified*, or turned into *Transparent Crystal*, as if it also *Groaned* in the mean time for this. For whatsoever *Change* shall be made of the World, In the *New Heaven*, and the *New Earth* to come, it is Reasonable to think, that it will not be made, for the sake of the *Senseless Matter*, or the *Inanimate Bodies* themselves, to which all is alike, but only for the Sake of *Men* and *Animals*, the *Living Spectators*, and *Inhabitants* thereof, that it may be fitter, both for their *Use* and *Delight*. Neither indeed can those words; For the Creature it self shall be delivered from the *Bondage of Corruption*, into the *Glorious Liberty of the Children of God*, be understood of any other, than *Animals*; for as much as this *Liberty of the Children of God*, here meant, is their being *Clothed*, instead of *Mortal*, with *Immortal Bodies*, of which no other *Creatures* are Capable, but only such as consist of *Soul* and *Body*. And that πᾶσα κτίσις, that *Whole Creation*, which is said afterwards to *Groan* and *Travel* in Pain, together, may be well understood, of all That of the Creation, which *Can Groan*, or

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be *Sensible* of Evil or Misery. Wherefore the *Pythagorean* would interpret this place, of the *Lower Animal Creation* only, which is *Sensible* of Good and Evil; That as this, was Unwillingly, or against its own Inclination (after the *Fall* of man, or *Lapse* of Souls) made subject to *Vanity*, and the *Bondage* of *Corruption*, Pain, Misery and Death, in those *Gross Terrestrial Bodies*: In the manifestation of the *Sons of God*, when they in stead of these *Mortal Bodies*, shall be clothed with *Celestial* and *Immortal ones*, then shall this *Creature* also have its certain share in the *Felicity* of that *Glorious Time*, and partake in some Measure of such a *Liberty*, by being Freed in like manner from these their *Gross Terrestrial Bodies*, and now living only in *Thin Aerial* and *Immortal ones*: and so a *Period* put to all their *Miseries* and *Calamities*, by him who made not *Death*, neither hath pleasure in the *Destruction* of the *Living*, but Created whatsoever liveth, to this end, that it might have its *Being*, and enjoy it self. But however thus much is certain, that *Brute Animals*, in this place cannot be quite excluded; because the *πᾶσι κτίσας* the *Whole Creation*, will not Suffer that: and therefore a *Pythagorist* would conclude it a warrantable Inference, from this Text of Scripture, That that whole Rank in the Creation, of *Irrational & Brutish Animals*, below Men, shall not be utterly Annihilated, in the *Consummation* of things, or *Future Renovation* of the *World*, quite strip'd of all this *Furniture*; Men being then left alone in it: but that there shall be a Continuation of this Species or Rank of Being. And not only so neither; as if there should still be a constant Succession of such Alternate *Generations* and *Corruptions*, Productions or Births and Deaths of *Brute Animals*, to all Eternity; but also that the *Individuals* themselves shall continue the same, for as much as otherwise there would be none at all delivered from the *Bondage* of *Corruption*. And Lastly, that these very *Souls* of Brutes, which at this time Groan and Travel in Pain, shall themselves be made partakers of that *Liberty* of the Children of God; since otherwise, they should be *With Child*, or *Parturient* of Nothing; Groaning not for themselves, but others. But enough of this *Pythagorick Hypothesis*, which supposing all manner of Souls, *Sensitive* as well as *Rational*, to be *Substantial* things, and therefore to have a *Permanency* after *Death*, in their distinct Natures, allows them certain *Thin Aerial Ochemata*, or *Vehicles*, to Subsist in, when these *Gross Terrestrial ones* shall fail them.

But let these *Aerial Vehicles* of the *Souls* of Brutes go for a *Whimsy* or meer *Figment*; nor let them be allowed, to Act or Enliven any other, than *Terrestrial Bodies* only, by means whereof they must needs be, immediately after *Death*, quite Destitute of all Body; they Subsisting nevertheless, and not vanishing into Nothing, because they are not meer *Accidents*, but *Substantial* things: We say that in this case, though the Substances of them remain, yet must they needs continue in a State of *Insensibility* and *Inactivity*, unless perhaps they be again afterwards united to some other *Terrestrial Bodies*. Because though *Intelluction* be the *Energie* of the *Rational Soul* alone, without the Concurrence of *Body*, yet is the *Energie* of the *Sensitive*, always Conjoynd with it: Sense being, as *Aristotle* hath rightly de-

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termined;

terminated, a *Complication of Soul and Body* together, as *Weaving* is of the *Weaver and Weaving Instruments*. Wherefore we say, that if the *Irrational and Sensitive Souls* in Brutes, being *Substantial* things also, be after Death quite destitute of all *Body*, then can they neither have *Sense* of any thing, nor *All* upon any thing, but mult continue for so long a time, in a State of *Insensibility* and *Inactivity*. Which is a thing therefore to be thought the less Impossible, because no man can be certain, that his own Soul in Sleep, Lethargies, and Apoplexies, &c. hath always an uninterrupted Consciousness of it self; and that it was never without *Thoughts*, even in the Mother's Womb. However there is little Reason to doubt, but that the *Sensitive Souls* of such Animals, as Lie Dead or Asleep all the Winter, and Revive or Awake again, at the Approaching warmth of Summer, do for that time continue, in a State of *Inactivity* and *Insensibility*. Upon which account, though these *Souls of Brutes* may be said in one Sense to be *Immortal*, because the *Substance* of them, and the *Root of Life* in them, still remains, yet may they in another Sense, be said also to be *Mortal*, as having the *Exercise* of that *Life* for a time at least, quite suspended. From whence it appears, that there is no Reason at all, for that *Fear and Suspicion* of some; That if the *Souls of Brutes* be *Substantial*, and continue in Being after Death, they must therefore needs go either to *Heaven* or *Hell*. But as for that Supposed Possibility, of their awakening again afterwards, in some other *Terrestrial Bodies*, this seemeth to be no more, than what is found by daily Experience, in the Course of Nature, when the *Silk-worm* and other *Worms*, dying, are transformed into Butterflies. For there is little Reason to doubt, but that the same *Soul* which before Acted the *Body* of the *Silk-worm*, doth afterward *All* that of the *Butterfly*: upon which account it is, that this hath been made by Christian Theologers, an *Emblem of the Resurrection*.

Hitherto have we declared Two several *Opinions*, concerning the *Substantial Souls* of Brutes, supposed therefore to have a *Permanent Subsistence* after Death, one of *Plato's* and the *Pythagorean's*, that when they are destitute of these Gross *Terrestrial Bodies*, they Live and have a *Sense* of themselves, in *Thin Aerial* ones. The other, of such as Exploding these *Aerial Vehicles* of Brutes, and allowing them none but *Terrestrial Bodies*, affirm the *Substances* of them Surviving Death, to continue in a State of *Inactivity* and *Insensibility*, *Sleep*, *Silence*, or *Stupor*. But now to say the Truth, there is no *Absolute Necessity*, that these *Souls of Brutes*, because *Substantial*, should therefore have a *Permanent Subsistence* after Death to all Eternity; Because though it be True, that no Substance once Created by God, will of it self ever vanish into nothing, yet is it true also, that whatsoever was Created by God out of Nothing, may possibly by him be Annihilated and Reduced to nothing again. Wherefore when it is said, that the *Immortality of the Humane Soul is Demonstrable by Natural Reason*, the meaning hereof is no more than this, that its *Substantiality* is so Demonstrable; from whence it follows, that it will Naturally no more perish or vanish into Nothing, than the Substance of *Matter* it self: and not that it is Impossible, either for it, or *Matter*

ter, by Divine Power to be Annihilated. Wherefore the assurance that we have of our own Souls Immortality, must depend upon something else, besides their *Substantiality*, namely a *Faith* also in the *Divine Goodness*, that he will conserve in Being or not Annihilate, all such *Substances* Created by him; whose *Permanent Subsistence*, is neither Inconsistent with his own *Attributes*, nor the *Good of the Universe*; as this of Rational Souls unquestionably is not; they having both *Morality* and *Liberty of Will*, and thereby being capable of *Rewards* and *Punishments*, and Consequently *Fits Objects* for the *Divine Justice* to display it self upon. But for ought we can be certain, the case may be otherwise, as to the *Souls of Brute Animals* devoid both of *Morality* and *Liberty of Will*, and therefore *Uncapable of Reward and Punishment*, That though they will not Naturally of themselves, vanish into Nothing, yet having been Created by God, in the *Generations* of the Respective Animals, and had some enjoyment of themselves for a time, they may by him again be as well Annihilated in their Deaths and Corruptions: and if this be Absolutely the Best, then doubtless is it so. And to this seemeth agreeable the Opinion of *Porphyrius* amongst the Philosophers, when he affirmed every *Irrational Power or Soul*, to be resolved into the *Life of the Whole*; that is, Retracted and Refumed into the Deity, and so Annihilated as to its *Creaturely Nature*. Though possibly there may be another Interpretation of that Philosophers meaning here, *Viz.* That all the *Sensitive Souls* of Brutes, are Really but one and the same *Mundane Soul*, as it were Out-flowing, and variously Displaying it self, and Acting upon all the several parts of Matter, that are capable to receive it, but at their Deaths retiring again back into it self. But we have Sufficiently retundd the Force of that *Objection* against the *Ingenerability* of all *Souls*, and the *Substantiality* of those of Brutes also, from their consequent *Permanence* after Death; we having shewed, That notwithstanding this their *Substantiality*, there is no *Absolute Necessity*, of their Perpetuity after Death, and *Permanency* to all Eternity, or else that if they do continue to Subsist, (God Annihilating no Substance) unless they have *Aerial Vehicles* to Act, they must remain in a State of *Inactivity*, and *Insensibility*, *Silence*, or *Sleep*.

Now therefore if no *Souls*; no *Life* not *Cogitation*, could possibly be ever Generated out of *Dead and Senseless Matter*, they being not meer *Accidents*, but *Substantial things*, which must in this case have come from *Nothing*; then either all Souls Existed of themselves from Eternity, or else there must of Necessity be some *Eternal Unmade Life and Mind*, from whence all the other *Lives and Minds* were derived. And that this was the Doctrine of the Ancient Theists, That no *Soul or Mind*, no *Life or Understanding*, was ever Generated out of *Matter*, but all Produced by the Deity, the Sole Fountain of Life and Understanding; might be here proved, were it needful, at large by sundry Testimonies, but it may sufficiently appear from those Verses of *Virgil*, First in his Sixth *Aeneid*, where after he had spoken of God, as a Spirit and Mind diffused thorough out the whole world, he addeth,

*Inde hominum pecudumque genus, Vitæque Volantum,
Et quæ marmoreo fert monstra sub æquore Pontus,*

That from thence, are the Lives of all Men and Beasts, Birds flying in the Air, and Monsters swimming in the Sea. And again in his *Georgicks*, where after these words,

—Deum namque ire per omnes
Terrasque Tractusque Maris, Cælumque profundum,

That God passeth, through all Tracts, of Earths, Seas, and Heavens, He subjoyneth,

*Hinc Pecudes, Armenta, Viros, genus omne Ferarum
Quemque sibi vennes nascentem arcessere Vitæ.
Scilicet huc Reddi deinde & Resoluta Referri,
Omnia, nec Morti esse locum.*

And from Hence, not only Men, but also all manner of Brute Animals and Beasts, when produced into this world, do every one derive their Lives or Souls, as also at their Deaths they render the same back again, to him, in whose hand or custody they remain undestroyed; so that there is no place anywhere in the world, left for Death. This was therefore undoubtedly, the Genuine Doctrine of the Ancient Theists, however some of late, have Deviated and Swerved from it; That no Life was Generated out of Matter, but all Created by the Deity, or Derived from it, the Sole Fountain of Lives and Souls.

And it is a Truth so evident, That Life being Substantial, and not a meer Accidental thing Generated and Corrupted, there must therefore of Necessity, be Some Eternal Unmade Life and Mind, from whence all other Lives and Minds are derived, That the Hylozoick Atheists themselves (in this far wiser than the Atomicks) were fully convinced thereof: Nevertheless being strongly possessed with that Atheistick Prejudice, that there is no other Substance besides Body, they Attribute this first Original Unmade Life and Understanding, to all Matter as such, (but without Animal Consciousness) as an Essential part thereof, or Inadequate Conception of it. From which Fundamental Life of Nature, Modified by Organization, they phancy the Lives of all Animals and Men, to have proceeded. So that though the Modified Lives of Animals and Men, as such, according to them be Accidental things, Generated and Corrupted, produced out of Nothing and reduced to Nothing again; yet this Fundamental Life of Matter, which is the Basis upon which they stand, being Substantial, is also Eternal and Incorruptible. These Hylozoists therefore, to avoid a Deity, Suppose every Atom of Senseless Matter, to have been from all Eternity, Infinitely Omniscient, that is, to know all things without either Error or Ignorance, and to have a Knowledge before Sense, and Undersived from Sensibles (quite contrary to the Doctrine of the Atomick Atheists, who make all Knowledge Sense,

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or the Product thereof) though without any *Animal Consciousness* and *Self-Perception*.

But as nothing can be more Prodigiously Absurd, than thus to attribute *Infallible Omniscience*, to every *Atom* of *Matter*; so is it also directly Contradictory, to suppose *Perfect Knowledge*, *Wisdom*, or *Understanding*, without any *Consciousness* or *Self-Perception*; *Consciousness* being Essential to *Cogitation*: as also, that the *Substantial* and *Fundamental Life* in men and other Animals, should never Perish, and yet Notwithstanding their *Souls* and *Personalities*, in *Death*, utterly vanish into *Nothing*. Moreover this *Hypothesis*, can never possibly Salve the *Phænomenon* of *Men* and *Animals* neither; not only because no *Organization* or *Modification* of *Matter* whatsoever, could ever produce *Consciousness* and *Self-Perception*, in what was before *Inconscient*; but also because every *Smallest Atom* thereof being supposed to be a *Percipient* by it self, and to have a *Perfect Life* and *Understanding* of its own, there must be in every one *Man* and *Animal*, not one, but a *Heap* or *Commonwealth* of innumerable *Percipients*. Lastly, whereas these *Hylozoick Atheists*, make every *Atom* of *Matter* *Omniscient*, but nothing at all *Omnipotent*, or assert *Perfect Knowledge*, without any *Perfect Power*, a *Knowledge* without *Sense* and *Unders*derived from *Sensibles*; we demand of them, where the *Intelligibles*, or *Objects* of this *Knowledge* are? and whence the *Ideas* thereof are derived? for since they proceed not in a way of *Passion* from *Sensibles* Existing without, nor could result from those *Atoms* neither as *Comprehending* themselves; they must needs Come from *Nothing*, and many of them at least, be the *Conceptions* of *Nothing*. There cannot possibly be any other *Original* by the wit of man devised, of *Knowledge* and *Understanding*, than from an *Absolutely Perfect* and *Omnipotent Being*, *Comprehending* it self, and the *Extent* of its own *Infinite Power*, or all *Possibilities* of things, that is, all *Intelligibles*. But there can be but *One* such *Omnipotent Being*, and therefore no more, than *One Original*, and *Eternal Unmade Mind*, from whence all the other *Minds* are *Derived*. Whetefore this *Hylozoick Atheism*, is nothing but the *Breaking* and *Crumbling* of the *Simple Deity*, *One Perfect Understanding Being*, into *Matter*, and all the several *Atoms* of it.

And now have we made it manifest, that these *Atheists*, are so far from being able to disprove a *God*, from this *Topick* of *Cogitation*, *Knowledge* or *Understanding*, that they cannot possibly Salve the *Phænomenon* thereof, without a *God*; it indeed affording *Invincible Arguments* of his *Existence*. For First; If no *Life* or *Cogitation*, *Soul* or *Mind*, can possibly Spring out of *Matter* or *Body*, devoid of *Life* and *Understanding*; and which is nothing but a *Thing Extended*, into *Length*, *Breadth* and *Thicknes*; then is it so far from being *True*, that all *Life* and *Understanding* is *Junior* to *Senseless Matter*, and the *Off-spring* thereof; that of necessity, either all *Lives* and *Souls*, were *Self-Existent* from *Eternity*, or else there must be *One Perfect Unmade Life and Mind*, from whence all other *Imperfect ones* were derived: there must be an *Eternal Knowledge*, before *Sense* and *Sensibles*;

Sensibles; which is that that hath printed the *Stamps* and *Signatures* of it self, upon the Matter of the whole world. Indeed nothing can be more certain than this, that all *Knowledge* and *Understanding* in Our selves, is not a meer *Passion* from Singular *Sensibles*, or Bodies Existing without us, as the forementioned *Atheists* also conclude; (from whence they would again Infer, that *Knowledge* as such, is in its own Nature *Junior* to *Sensibles*, and the meer *Creature* of them, and Consequently no *Creator*.) There being nothing which comes to us, from the *Objects* of Sense without, but Only *Local Motion* and *Pressure*, and there being other *Objects* of the Mind, besides Singular *Sensibles*; not only all *Universals*, but also such *Intelligibles*, as never were nor can be in Sense. Now if our Humane *Knowledge* and *Understanding* be not a *Passion* from things Existing without us; then can it have no other Original, than in way of *Participation*, from a *Perfect Mind*, the Mind of an *Infinitely Fecund* and *Powerful Being*, comprehending It self, and in It self all things; all the *Possibilities* of things before they were Made, their *Respects* and the *Verities* belonging to them. So that a *Perfect Omnipotent Being* together with the *Possibilities* of things contained in it; is the *First North*, *Intelligible*, or *Object* of *Mind* and *Understanding*, by which all other Singulars are Understood. And were there no such *Perfect*, *Infinitely Fecund*, and *Powerful Being*, there could have been, no *Mind* or *Understanding* at all. As also, were there no *Perfect Mind*, viz. That of an *Omnipotent Being* Comprehending It self, and all *Possibilities* of things virtually contained in it; all the *Knowledge*, and *Intelligible Ideas*, of our *Imperfect Minds*, must needs have Sprung from *Nothing*. And thus is the Existence of a *God*, again Demonstrated, from that *Phenomenon* of *Knowledge* or *Understanding*.

HAVING quite Routed and Vanquished the Atheists *Main Body*, we shall now blow away the Remainder of their weaker and scattered Forces (viz. Their *Objections* against *Providence*, their *Queries*, and their *Arguments* from *Interest*) with a Breath or two. Their *First Objection* is against *Providence*, as to the *Fabrick* of the World, from the *Faultiness* of the *Mundane System*, Intellectually considered, and in Order to Ends; *Quia tantâ stat Prædita Culpâ*; That *Because it is so Ill-Made*, therefore it could not be made by a *God*. Where the *Atheist* takes it for granted, that whosoever asserts a *God*, or a *Perfect Mind* to be the Original of all things, does therefore *ipso facto* suppose All things to be Well Made, and as they *Should* be. And this doubtless was the Sense of all the Ancient *Theologians*; however some Modern *Theists* deviate there from; these Concluding the *Perfection* of the Deity, not at all to consist in *Goodness*; but in *Power* and *Arbitrary Will* only. As if to have a *Will* determined by a *Rule* or *Reason* of Good, were the Virtue of *Weak*, *Impotent*, and *Obnoxious* Beings only, or of such as have a *Superior* over them to give *Law* to them, that is of *Creatures*; but the *Prerogative* of a
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Being Irresistibly powerful, to have a Will absolutely Indifferent to all things, and Undetermined by any thing but it self; or to Will nothing because it is Good, but to make its own Arbitrary or Contingent and Fortuitous Determination, the Sole Reason of all its Actions, nay the very Rule or Measure, of Goodness, Justice, and Wisdom it self. And this is supposed by them, to be the Liberty, Sovereignty, and Dominion of the Deity. Wherefore such Theists as these, would think themselves altogether Uncorrupted, in these Atheistical Objections against Providence, or in Defending, the Fabrick of the World, as Faultless; they being as ready as the Atheists themselves, to acknowledge, that the World might really have been much better made, than now it is; (Only that it must be said to be Well, because so made) but pretending nevertheless, that this is no Impeachment at all of the Existence of a God, *Quia Deus non tenetur ad Optimum*, Because God is No way Bound or Obliged to the Best; he being indeed according to them, nothing but Arbitrary Will Omnipotent. But what do these Theists here else, then whilst they deny, the Fortuitous Motion of Senseless Matter, to be the First Original of all things, themselves in the mean time, Enthroned Fortuitously and Contingently, in the Will of an Omnipotent Being, and there give it an Absolute Sovereignty and Dominion over all? So that the Controversie betwixt the Atheists, and these Theists, seems to be no other than this; Whether Senseless Matter Fortuitously Moved, or a Fortuitous Will Omnipotent, such as is altogether undetermined, by Goodness, Justice and Wisdom, be the Sovereign Numen, and Original of all things. Certainly, we Mortals could have little better Ground, for our Faith and Hope, in such an Omnipotent Arbitrary Will as this, then we could have in the Motions of Senseless Atoms, furiously agitated; or of a Rapid Whirlwind. Nay one would think, that of the Two, it should be more desirable, to be under the Empire of Senseless Atoms, Fortuitously moved, then of a Will altogether Undetermined by Goodness, Justice, and Wisdom, armed with Omnipotence; because the Former could harbour no Hurtful or Mischievous Designs, against any, as the Latter might. But this Irrational Will, altogether Undetermined by Goodness, Justice, and Wisdom, is so far from being the Highest, Liberty, Sovereignty and Dominion; the Greatest Perfection, and the Divinest thing of all; that it is indeed nothing else but Weakness and Impotency it self, or Brutish Folly and Madness. And therefore those Ancients who affirmed, that Mind was Lord over all, and the Supreme King of Heaven and Earth, held at the Same time, that Good was the Sovereign Monarch of the Universe, Good Reigning in Mind and together with it; because Mind is that which orders all things for the Sake of Good, and whatsoever doth otherwise, was according to them, not *Nos*, but *Amia*, not *Mens*, but *Dementia*, and Consequently no God. And thus does Celsus in Origen declare the Nature of God, ὁ θεὸς ὡλομελὴς ὁρβήας, ὅθι ὁ πεπλατυμένος ἀκοσμίαις, ἀλλὰ ὁ ὁρβῆς καὶ δικαίας φύσεως οὐδὲ ἔστιν ἀρχηγός, God is not the President or Head of Irregular and Irrational Lust or Appetite, and of loose Erratick Disorderliness, but of the Just and Righteous Nature. And though this were there misapply'd by him, against the Christian Doctrine of the Resurrection (not understood) yet is the Passage highly

highly approved by *Origen*; he adding further in Confirmation thereof, and that as the general Sense of Christians too, φαμέν ὅτι ὁ θεὸς αἰσχρὸν ὁ οὐδὲς, ἢ καὶ ἴσα ὁ οὐδὲς δύναμεν· μὴ εἶναι οὐδὲς, εἰ γὰρ αἰσχρὸν πᾶσι ὁ οὐδὲς, ὅτι ἴσα οὐδὲς. *We Christians* (who hold the Resurrection) say as well as you, that God can do nothing, which is in itself Evil, Inept, or Absurd; no more than he is able not to be God. For if God do any Evil he is no God. And again, ὁδὸν μὴ κέπειν ἰαυ- τῷ ὁ οὐδὲς βέβαιον, ἀναλείπειν τυγχέειν τῷ ἴσῳ αὐτῷ θεῷ, God willetb nothing Unbecoming himself, or what is truly Indecorous; for as much as this is inconsistent with his Godship. And to the same purpose *Plotinus*, * πῶς τὸ οὐκ ἔστιν ἡ φύσις, φύσις ἡ καὶ τὸ αὐτῷ ὅλον, ὃ τὸ καλὸν ἐστὶν ταῖς ἐκτετακταῖς αὐτῷ καὶ τὸ δύναναι συνιέναι, εἰ γὰρ μὴ ἐκὼς ταῦτα, πῶς ἂν εἴη, The Deity aeth according to its own Nature and Essence; and its Nature and Essence displaith Goodness and Justice: For if these Things be not there, where should they else be found? And again elsewhere, οὐδὲς ὅτις ἔχον εἶναι, ὃ τὸν ὅλον συνίη, ἀλλ' ἔστω ὅτι τὸ δ' ἔστω τὸτο, ἀρχὴ τῆς ὅλης ἑσθ'· God is Essentially That which Ought to be; and therefore he did not Happen to be such as he is: and this First Ought to be, is the Principle of all things whatsoever, that Ought to be. Wherefore the Deity is not to be conceived, as meer Arbitrariness, Humour, or Irrational Will and Appetite Omnipotent, (which would indeed be but Omnipotent Chance) but as an Overflowing Fountain of Love and Goodness, Justly and Wisely dispensing it self, and Omnipotently reaching all things. The Will of God, is Goodness, Justice, and Wisdom; or Decorousness, Fitness, and Ought it self, Willing; so that the τὸ βέλτερον, that which is Absolutely The Best, is νόμος ἀπαραλλάττος, an Indispensable Law to it, because its Very Essence. God is μέτερον πάντων, an Impartial Ballance, lying Even Equal and Indifferent to all things, and Weighing out Heaven and Earth, and all the Things therein, in the most just and exact Proportions, and not a Grain too much or too little of any thing. Nor is the Deity therefore Bound or Obligated to do the Best, in any way of Servility (as men fondly imagine this to be contrary to his Liberty) much less by the Law and Command of any Superiour (which is a Contradiction) but only by the Perfection of its own Nature, which it cannot possibly deviate from, no more than Ungod it self. In Conclusion therefore, we acknowledge the *Atheists* Argument to be thus far Good; that If there be a God, then of Necessity must all things be Well made, and as they should be; & vice versâ. But no *Atheist* will ever be able to prove, that either the Whole System of the World, could have been Better Made, or that so much as any one thing therein is Made Ineptly.

There are indeed many things in the Frame of Nature, which we cannot reach to the Reasons of, they being made by a Knowledge far Superior and Transcendent, to that of Ours, and our Experience and Ratiocination, but Slowly discovering the Intrigues and contrivances of Providence therein; Witness the Circulation of the Blood, the Milkie and Lymphatick Vessels, and other things, (without which the Mechanick Structure of the Bodies of Animals cannot be understood) all but so lately brought to light: wherefore we must not conclude, that what-
foever

So likewise, p. 247. αἰσχρὸν ὁ οὐδὲς ἢ καὶ ἴσα ὁ οὐδὲς δύναμεν· μὴ εἶναι οὐδὲς, εἰ γὰρ αἰσχρὸν πᾶσι ὁ οὐδὲς, ὅτι ἴσα οὐδὲς. According to the sense, God can do nothing that is Absurd, or Ineptly.

P. 743.

* P. 265.

soever we cannot find out the Reason of, or the use that it serveth to, is therefore *Imptly Made*. We shall give one Instance of this; The *Intestinum Cæcum*, in the Bodies of Men and other Animals seems at first sight, to be but a meer *Botch* or *Bungle* of Nature, and an *Odd* impertinent *Appendix*; neither do we know that any *Anatomist* or *Physiologer*, hath given a Rational Account thereof, or discovered its Use, and yet there being a *Valve* at the Entrance of it, these Two both together, are a most *Artificial Contrivance* of Nature, and of great advantage for Animals, to hinder the *Regurgitation* of the *Fæces* upward, towards the *Ventricle*.

The First *Atheistick Instance* of the *Faulsineß* of things, in the *Frame of Nature*, is from the *Constitution* of the Heavens, and the Disposition of the *Æquator* and *Ecliptick*, intersecting each other in an *Angle*, of Three and Twenty Degrees and upwards; whereby as they pretend, the Terrestrial Globe, is rendred much more Uninhabitable, than otherwise it might be. But this is built upon a *False Supposition* of the Ancients, that the *Torrid Zone*, or all between the *Tropicks*, was utterly Uninhabitable by reason of the Extremity of Heat. And it is certain, that there is nothing which doth more demonstrate a *Providence* than this very thing, it being the most Convenient Site or Disposition, that could be devised, as will appear if the Inconveniences of other Dispositions be considered, especially these Three; First, If the Axes of those Circles should be *Parallel*, and their *Plains* Coincident; Secondly, If they should Intersect each other in *Right Angles*; and Thirdly, (which is a Middle betwixt both) If they should cut one another in an Angle of *Forty Five Degrees*. For it is evident, that each of these *Dispositions* would be attended with far greater *Inconveniences* to the Terrestrial Inhabitants, in respect of the Length of Days and Nights, Heat and Cold. And that these two *Circles* should continue thus, to keep the same *Angular Intersection*, when *Physical* and *Mechanick Causes*, would bring them still nearer together; this is a farther Eviden of a *Providence* also.

In the next place, the *Atheist* supposes, that according to the general Perswasion of *Theists*, the world and all things therein, were Created only for the Sake of *Man*, he thinking to make some advantage for his Cause from hence. But this seemeth, at first, to have been an Opinion only, of some strait-laced *Stoicks*, though afterward indeed recommended to others also, by their own *Self-love*, their *Over-Weaning*, and *Puffy Conceit* of themselves. And so *Fleas* and *Lice*, had they Understanding, might conclude the Bodies of other greater Animals and Men also, to have been made only for them. But the *Whole* was not properly made for any *Part*, but the *Parts* for the *Whole*, and the *Whole* for the *Maker* thereof. And yet may the things of this Lower World, be well said, to have been *Made*, *Principally*, (though not *Only*) for Man. For we ought not to Monopolize the Divine Goodness to our selves, there being other Animals Superiour to us, that are not altogether Unconcerned neither in this *Visible Creation*: and it being reasonable to think, that Even the *Low-*

Thw Plato,
μὴδὲ μὴν
ἕκαστος τῶν
ἐξ ὧν ὁ κόσμος
ᾠκεῖται ἐκ-
τα. De Leg.
p. 903.

or Animals likewise, and whatsoever, hath *Conscious Life* ; was made partly also, to *Enjoy* it self. But Atheists, can be no Fit Judges, of Worlds being made *Well* or *Ill*, either in general, or respectively to Mankind, they having no *Standing Measure* for *Well* and *Ill*, without a *God* and *Morality*, nor any True Knowledge of themselves, and what their own *Good* or *Evil* Consisteth in. That was at first but a *Forward Speech*, of some sullen discontented Persons, when things falling not out agreeably, to their own *Private*, *Selfish*, and *Partial Appetites*, they would Revenge themselves, by *Railing* upon *Nature*, (that is, *Providence*) and calling her a *Stepmother* only to Mankind, whilst she was a *Fond*, *Partial*, and *Indulgent Mother* to other Animals; and though this be Elegantly set off by *Lucretius*, yet is there nothing but *Poetick Flourish*, in it all, without any *Philosophick Truth*. The Advantages of Mankind being so notoriously conspicuous above those of Brutes.

But as for *Evils* in general, from whence the *Atheist* would conclude, the *God* of the *Theist*, to be either *Impotent* or *Envious*; it hath been already declared, that the *True Original* of them: is from the *Necessity* of *Imperfect* Beings, and the *Impossibility* of things; but that the *Divine Art* and *Skill*, most of all appeareth, in *Bonifying* these *Evils*, and making them like *Discords* in *Musick*, to contribute to the *Harmony* of the *Whole*, and the *Good* of *Particular Persons*.

Moreover a great part of those *Evils*, which men are afflicted with, is not from the *Reality* of Things, but only from their own *Phancy* and *Opinions*, according to that of the *Moralist*, ταραχὰς τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἢ τὰ πράγματα, ἀλλὰ τὰ ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ πρακτικῶν δόγματα, *It is not Things themselves that disturb men, but only their Own Opinions concerning things*; and therefore it being much in our own Power to be freed from these, *Providence* is not to be Blamed upon the account of them. *Pain*, is many times nearly linked with *Pleasure*, according to that *Socratick Fable*, That when *God* could not reconcile their *Contrary Natures* (as he would) he Tied them *Head and Tail* together. And good men know that *Pain* is not the *Evil* of the *Man*. but only of the *Part* so affected, (as *Socrates* also) τὸ ἀλγὺν ὡς τὸ ἑλάναι μὲν, *It goes no further than the Leg where it is*. But this is many times very Serviceable, to free us from the *Greater Evils* of the *Mind*; upon which all our *Happiness* dependeth. To the *Atheists*, who acknowledge no *Malum Culpæ*, No *Evil* of *Fault*, (*Impiety*, or *Dis honesty*) *Death* is the *Greatest* and *most Tragical* of all *Evils*. But though this according to their forlorn *Hypothesis*, be nothing less than an *Absolute Extinction* of *Life*; yet according to the *Doctrine* of the *Genuine Theists*, which makes all *Souls Substantial*, no *Life* of it self (without *Divine Annihilation*) will ever quite *Vanish* into *Nothing*, any more than the *Substance* of *Matter* doth. And the *Ancient Pythagoreans* and *Platonists* have been here so Kind, even to the *Souls* of *Brutes* also, as that they might not be left in a *State of Inactivity* and *Insensibility* after *Death*, as to bestow upon them certain *Subtle Bodies*, which they may then continue to *Act* in. Nor can we think otherwise, but that *Aristotle* from this Fountain, derived that *Doctrine* of his in his

Second Book, *De Gen. An.* c. 3. where after he had declared the *Sensitive Soul*, to be *Inseparable* from *Body*, he addeth. *πάντες οὖν ψυχῆς ὁμοίους ἑτέρῃ σώματι οἷα κακοῦσιν καὶ ἰσχυρότερον τῷ καλεσμένῳ στοιχείῳ ὥς ἡ διαφέρουσι τιμῇτιν αἱ ψυχὰς καὶ ἀπὸ αἰθέρων, ὅπου καὶ ἡ ταύτης διαφέρει φύσιν.* All Souls therefore, seem to have another Body, and Diviner than that of the Elements; and as themselves differ in Dignity and Nobility, so do these Bodies of theirs, differ from one another. And afterwards calling this *Subtle Body* πνεῦμα, or a Spirit, he affirmeth it to be, *ἀνάλογον τῷ τῷ ἄστρου στοιχείῳ*, Analogous to the Element of the Stars. Only as *Galen*, and *S. Austin*, and others have conceived, *Aristotle* deviated here from the *Pythagoreans* in this, that he supposed the *Sensitive Soul* in itself, to be really nothing else, but this Very *Subtle* and *Star-like Body*, and not a distinct Substance from it, using it only as a *Vehicle*. Nevertheless he there plainly affirmeth the *Mind* or *Rational Soul*, to be really distinct from the *Body*, and to come into it *From Without Pre-Existing*; and consequently, should acknowledge also its *After-Immortality*. But whatsoever *Aristotle's* Judgment were (which is not very Material) it is Certain that *Dying*, to the *Rational* or *Humane Soul*, is nothing but a withdrawing into the *Tyring-house*, and putting off the *Clothing* of this *Terrestrial Body*. So that it will still continue after death, to live to God, whether in a *Body*, or without it. Though according to *Plato's* Express Doctrine, the *Soul* is never quite Naked of all *Body*, he writting thus, *αἱ ψυχὲς ὁππότερ' ἐκείνῃ σώματι, τοῖς μὲν ἄλλω τοῖς ἄλλω* the Soul is always conjoined with a *Body*, but sometimes of one kind, and sometimes of another; which many *Christian Doctors* also, as is before declared, have thought highly probable. However our *Christian Faith*, assures us, that the *Souls* of Good men, shall at length be clothed, with *Spiritual* and *Heavenly Bodies*, such as are, in *Aristotle's* Language, *ἀνάλογον τῷ τῷ ἄστρου στοιχείῳ*, Analogous to the Element of the Stars. Which *Christian Resurrection* therefore, to *Life* and *Immortality*, is far from being, as *Celsus* reproched it, *κελεύειν ἰλπίς*, The Meer Hope of Worms. And thus much shall suffice, in way of Confutation, of the First *Atheistical Objection* against *Providence*, which is the *Twelfth Argument* propounded, in the *Second Chapter*.

De Leg. 10.
p. 903.

The *Thirteenth Atheistical Argument*, or *Second Objection* against *Providence*; is from the *Seeming Confusion* of *Humane Affairs*; That all things fall alike to all; the *Innocent* and the *Nocent*, the *Pious* and the *Impious*, the *Religious* and the *Prophane*: nay, That many times the *Worser Causes* and *Men*, prevail against the *Better*, as is intimated in that *Passage* of the *Poet*, though in the *Person* of a *Theist*,

Vilrix Causa Deo placuit, sed Vilis Catoni;

And That the *Unjust* and *Ungodly*, often flow in all kind of *Prosperity*, whilst the *Innocent* and *Devout* Worshipers of the *Deity*, all their *Lives* long, conflict with *Adversity*. Whereas were there a *God* and *Providence*, as they conceive, *Prophane* and *Irreligious Persons* would be presently *Thunder-struck* from *Heaven*, or otherwise made remarkable *Objects* of *Divine Vengeance*, as also the *Pious Miracu-*

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lously protected and rescued from Evil and Harms.

Now we grant indeed, that this Consideration hath too much puzzled and staggered *Weak Minds* in all Ages. Because *Sentence against an Evil Work is not executed speedily, therefore is the heart of the Sons of men fully set in them to do Evil.* And the *Psalmist* himself, was sometime much perplexed with this *Phenomenon*, the *Prosperity* of the *Ungodly*; who set their *Mouths against Heaven*, and whose *Tongue walketh through the Earth*; so that he was Tempted to think, *He had cleansed his Heart in Vain, and Washed his hands in Innocency*; (till at length entering into the Sanctuary of God, his Mind became Illuminated, and his Soul fixed in a firm Trust and Confidence upon *Divine Providence*; *Whom have I in Heaven but thee, &c. My Flesh and my Heart faileth, but God is the Strength of my Heart, and my Portion for ever.*) For as some will from hence be apt to infer, That there is no God at all, but that blind *Chance* and *Fortune* steer all (*the Fool hath said in his heart, there is no God*;) So will others conclude, That though there be a God, yet he either does not know things done here below, (*How does God Know? and is there Knowledge in the most High?*) or else will not so far *Humble* himself, or *Disturb* his own *Ease* and *Quiet*, as to concern himself in our *Low Humane Affairs*.

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Leg. 10.

First of all therefore we here say, That it is altogether unreasonable, to require that *Divine Providence* should *Miraculously* interpose upon every turn, in *Punishing the Ungodly* and *Preserving the Pious*, and thus perpetually interrupt the *Course of Nature*, (which would look but like a *Botch* or *Bungle*, and a violent *business*) but rather carry things on ἀΐψω καὶ ἄφω, in a *Still and Silent Path*, and shew his *Art and Skill*, in making things of themselves fairly unwind, and clear up at last into a *Satisfactory Close*. *Passion* and *Self-Interest* is blind, or short sighted; but that which steers the whole world is no *Fond*, *Pettish*, *Impatient* and *Passionate* thing; but an *Impartial*, *Disinterested*, and *Uncaptivated Nature*. Nevertheless it is certain, that sometimes we have not wanted *Instances*, in *Cases extraordinary*, of a θεὸς ἀπὸ μυχῶν, *God appearing, as it were Miraculously upon the Stage*, and manifesting himself in taking immediate *Vengeance* upon *Notorious Malefactors*, or delivering his *Faithful Servants* from imminent *Dangers* or *Evils Threatned*; as the same is often done also, by a *secret* and *Undiscovered overruling*, of the things of *Nature*. But it must be granted, that it is not always thus, but the *Periods of Divine Providence*, here in this World, are commonly *Longer*, and the *Evolution* thereof *Slower*: According to that of *Enripides*, which yet has a Tange of *Prophaneness* in the Expression,

ΜΕΛΛΙ Τὸ ΘΕΟΝ ἄ' ἔστι τοῖσιν φέρεϊ,

The Deity is Slow or Dilatory, and this is the Nature of it. For it is not from *Slackness* and *Remissness* in the Deity, but either from his *Patience* and *Long-suffering*, he willing that men should *Repent*, or else to teach us *Patience* by his Example (as *Plutarch* suggesteth) or that

that all things may be carried on with the more *Pomp* and *Solemnity* ; or Lastly, for other particular Reasons, as *Plutarch* ventures to allign one, why it might not be expedient, for *Dionysus* the Tyrant, though so Prophane and Irreligious a Person, to have been cut off suddenly. But Wicked and Ungodly Persons often times fail not, to be met withal at last, and at the long run, here in this Life, and either in Themselves or Posterity to be notoriously Branded with the Marks of Divine Displeasure : according to that of the Poet, *Rare antecedentem Scelerum, &c.* It is seldom that Wickedness altogether escapes Punishment; though it come slowly after, limping with a *Lame Foot* ; and those Proverbial Speeches amongst the *Pagans*,

Ὅψι θεῶν ἀλεῖσιν μέλῃσι, αἰεὶς ὃ λεπτά.

*Mills of the Gods, do slowly wind,
But they at length to powder grind.*

And ; Divine Justice steals on softly with *Woollen Feet*, but Strikes at last with *Iron Hands*.

Nevertheless we cannot say, that it is always thus neither, but that Wicked Persons, may possibly sometimes, have an Uninterrupted Prosperity here in this Life, and no visible Marks of Divine Displeasure upon them : but as the generously virtuous, will not Envy them upon this account, nor repine at their own condition they knowing, that ὅθεν κακὰ τὰ ἀγαθὰ ἐστὶ αὐτὰ φαῖναι ἀγαθὰ, *There is neither any thing truly Evil to the Good, nor Good to the Evil* ; so are they so far from being staggered herewith, in their Belief of a God and Providence, that they are rather the more confirmed, in their Persuasions of a Future Immortality and Judgment after Death, when all things shall be set straight and right, and Rewards and Punishments Impartially Dispensed. That of *Plutarch* therefore, is most true here, ὅς ἐστι ὁ λόγος ὁ τῷ θεῷ τὴν πρόνοιαν ἅμα καὶ τὴν δικαιοσύνην ἀθροῦς ψυχῆς βελούων, καὶ διατερεῖν ὅτι θεὸν ἀπολυτῶν ἀναίρετον διατερεῖ, *That there is a Necessary Connexion betwixt those Two things, Divine Providence, and the Permanence or Immortality of Humane Souls, one and the same Reason confirming them both ; neither can one of these be taken alone without the other.* But they who because Judgment is not presently Executed upon the Ungodly, blame the Management of things as Faulty, and Providence as Defective, are like such Spectators of a Dramatick Poem, as when wicked and injurious Persons are brought upon the Stage, for a while Swaggering and Triumpling ; impatiently cry out against the Dramatist, and presently condemn the Plot : whereas if they would but expect the winding up of things, and stay till the last Close they should then see them come off with shame and sufficient punishment. The Evolution of the World, as *Plotinus* calls it, is ἀνέλασθαι πῶμα, a Truer Poem, and we men Histrionical Actors upon the Stage, who notwithstanding insert something of our Own into the Poem too ; but God Almighty, is that skilful Dramatist, who always connecteth that of ours which went before, with what of his follows after, into good Coherent Sense ; and will

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at last make it appear, that a *Thread* of exact *Justice* did run through all, and that *Rewards* and *Punishments* are measured out in *Geometrical Proportion*.

Lastly, it is in it self Fit, that there should be some where, a *Doubtful* and *Cloudy State* of things, for the better Exercise of *Virtue* and *Faith*. For as there could have been no *Hercules*, had there not been *Monsters* to subdue, so were there no such Difficulties to encounter with, no *Puzzles* and *Entanglements* of things, no *Temptations* and *Trials* to assault us; *Virtue* would grow *Languid*; and that Excellent *Grace* of *Faith*, want due *Occasions* and *Objects* to exercise it self upon. Here have we therefore, such a State of things, and this World is as it were a *Stage* erected, for the more Difficult part of *Virtue* to Act upon; and where we are to Live by *Faith* and not by *Sight*: That *Faith*, which is the *Substance of Things to be Hoped for*, and the *Evidence of things not Seen*; a Belief in the *Goodness*, *Power*, and *Wisdom* of God, when all things are *Dark* and *Cloudy* round about us. *The Just shall live by his Faith*.

We have now sufficiently Confuted, the *Second Atheistical Objection* also, against *Providence*, as to the *Conduct* and *Oeconomy* of *Human Affairs*. Nevertheless this is a large Field, and much more might be said in *Defense* of *Providence*, both as to these and other Instances, had we room here to Expatiate in. Wherefore, for a Supplement of what remains, we shall refer the Reader, to the Writings of others, who have professedly undertaken, *Apology's* for *Providence*, both as to the *Fabrick*, and *Oeconomy* of the World; but especially the Learned and Ingenious Author of the *Divine Dialogues*. Only we shall here add Some few *Considerations* not so much for the *Confutation* of *Atheists*, as for the better *Satisfaction* of such *Religionists*, who too easily Concluding, That *all Things might have been much Better than they are*; are thereupon apt to call in *Question* the *Divine Attribute* of *Goodness* in its full Extent; which yet is the only Foundation of our *Christian Faith*.

First, therefore we say, that in *Judging* of the Works of *God*, we ought not to consider, the *Parts* of the World alone by themselves; and then because we could Phancy much *Finer* things, thereupon blame the *Maker* of the *Whole*. As if one should attend only to this *Earth*, which is but the Lowest and most Dreggy Part of the Universe; or blame *Plants*, because they have not *Sense*, *Brutes* because they have not *Reason*, *Men* because they are not *Demons* or *Angels*, and *Angels* because they are not *Gods*, or want *Divine Perfection*. Upon which Account, God should either have made nothing at all, since there can be nothing besides himself *Absolutely Perfect*; or else nothing but the Higher Rank of *Angelical Beings*, free from *Mortality* and all those other Evils, that attend mankind; or such *Fine things*, as *Epicurus* his Gods were feigned to be, living in certain delicious Regions, where there was neither *Blustering Winds*, nor any *Lowring Clouds*; nor *Nipping Frosts*, nor *Scorching Heat*, nor *Night* nor *Shadow*; but the *Calm* and *Unclouded Æther* always, *Smiling* with gentle *Serenity*. Whereas

Whereas were there but one kind of thing, (the Best) thus made; there could have been no *Musick* nor *Harmony* at all, in the World for want of *Variety*. But We ought in the first place, to consider the *Whole*, Whether that be not the *Best*, that Could be Made, having all that belongeth to it; and then the *Parts* in reference to the *Whole*, whether they be not in their several Degrees and Ranks, *Congruous* and *Agreeable* thereunto. But this is a thing which hath been so well insisted upon by *Plotinus*, that we cannot speak better to it, than in his Words. Ὅλον γὰρ τί ἐποίησι πάσιαιον, καὶ αὐταρκές, καὶ φίλον
 αὐτῷ, καὶ τοῖς μέρει τῆς αὐτῆς, τοῖς τε κυριωτέροις καὶ τοῖς ἐλάττωσι ἀσπύ-
 τως προσφάροις· ὁ τοίνυν ὅσα τῶν μέρων τὸ ὅλον αἰσπόμενον, ἀποπύ-
 ῃν ἢ αἰσπύ-· τά τε γὰρ μέρη πρὸς αὐτὸ τὸ ὅλον διὰ εὐνοίας εἰ συμφωνοῦν καὶ
 ἀμειβόμενα εὐαίως, καὶ τὸ ὅλον σκοπούμενον, μὴ πρὸς μὲν ἅψα μικρὰ βλε-
 πῆς· τί το γὰρ ἐπὶ τὴν κόσμιον αἰτιωμένην ἀλλὰ πᾶσα τῶν αὐτῶν χάρις λαέεται,
 οἷοι εἰ, καὶ τὰ ἐξῆς. *God made the Whole most Beautiful, Entire, Com-*
pleat, and Sufficient; all agreeing friendly with it self and its parts; both the Nobler and the meaner of them being alike Congruous there-
unto. Whosoever therefore, from the Parts thereof will blame the whole,
is an Absurd and Unjust Conjuror. For we ought to Consider the Parts,
not alone by themselves, but in reference to the whole, whether they be
Harmonious and Agreeable to the same. Otherwise we shall not blame
the Universe, but some of its Parts only, taken by themselves; as if one
should blame the Hair or Toes of a man, taking no notice at all of his
Divine Visage and Countenance; or omitting all other Animals, one
should attend only to the most contemptible of them: or lastly overlook-
ing all other men, consider only the most Deformed Thetivites. But that
which God made was the Whole as one thing; which he that attends
to, may hear it speaking to him after this manner. God Almighty
hath made me, and from thence came I, Perfect and Compleat, and
standing in need of nothing, because in me are contained all things; Plants
and Animals, and Good Souls, and Men happy with Virtue; and
innumerable Demons, and many Gods. Nor is the Earth alone in me
adorned, with all manner of Plants, and Variety of Animals; or does
the Power of Soul, extend at most no further than to the Seat; as if
the whole Air and Ether and Heaven, in the mean time, were quite
devoid of Soul, and altogether unadorned with Living Inhabitants.
Moreover all things in me desire Good, and every thing reaches to
it, according to its Power and Nature. For the whole World depends
upon that First and Highest Good, the Gods themselves who reign in my
several parts, and all Animals and Plants, and whatsoever seems to be
Inanimate in me. For Some things in me, partake only of Being, some
of Life also, some of Sense, some of Reason, and some of Intellect above
Reason. But no man ought to require Equal things from Unequal; nor
that the Finger should see, but the Eye; it being enough for the Finger
to be a Finger, and to perform its own Office. And again afterwards,
 ἡ ὧσα παντὶς ἐστὶ πάντα καὶ ἐν τῷ ἑαυτοῦ ὁφθαλμῷ καὶ, ὅτις ἐστὶ δ' ὁ λόγος
 πάντα ὅτις ἀναρτῶνται· ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν δῖος, καὶ ἡ δαιμονίας δ' ἀπὸ τῶν φύων,
 ἔτα ἀνθρώπων, καὶ ἑαυτοῦ ἐφ' ἑαυτῶν, ἀλλὰ λόγος πανταχὶ τοιοῦτον ἔχει
 πᾶσι ἡμῶν ὃ ἡ ὧσα οἱ ἀπαιροῖ γοηφικῶς τῆς αἰσπόμεναι, ὡς ἐστὶ καλὰ τὰ
 χρώματα πανταχῶς, ὁ δ' ἄρα τὰ προσήκοντα ἀπιδάσκον ἐκείνῳ τῷ ὅτι
 εὐεχόμενα μέμφοντο, ὅτι μὴ πάντες ἦσαν αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὰ ἐξῆς· *As an Arti-*
ficer

ficer would not make all things in an Animal to be Eyes; so neither has the Divine Myſtery, or Spermatick Reason of the World made all things Gods; but ſome Gods, and ſome Demons, and ſome Men, and ſome Lower Animals. Not out of Envy, but to diſplay its own Variety and Fecundity. But we are like Unſkilful Spectators of a Picture, who condemn the Limner, becauſe he hath not put bright Colours every where; whereas he had ſuited his Colours to every part reſpectively, giving to each ſuch as belonged to it. Or elſe are we like thoſe who would blame a Comedy or Tragedy, becauſe they were not all Kings or Heroes that acted in it, but ſome Servants and Ruſtick Clowns, introduced alſo, talking after their Rude faſhion. Whereas the Dramatick Poem would neither be Compleat, nor Elegant and Delightful, were all thoſe Worſer Parts taken out of it.

Again; We cannot certainly conclude that the Works of God and his Creation do not tranſcend thoſe narrow Limits, which Vulgar Opinion and Imagination ſets them; that commonly terminates the Univerſe, but a little above the Clouds, or at moſt ſuppoſes the Fixed Stars, being all faſtned in One Solid Sphere, to be the Utmoſt Wall, or Arched Roof, and Rowling Circumference thereof. Much leſs ought we, upon ſuch Groundleſs Suppoſitions, to infer, That the World might therefore have been made much Better than it is, becauſe it might have been much more Roomy and Capacious. We explode the Atheiſtick Infinity of Diſtant Worlds; nor can we admit that Cartefian, ſeemingly more Modeſt, Indefinite Extension of one Corporeal Univerſe, which yet really according to that Philoſophers meaning, hath Nullos Finis, no Bounds nor Limits at all. For We perſwade our ſelves that the Corporeal World, is as Uncapable of a Poſitive Infinity of Magnitude, as it is of Time; there being no Magnitude ſo Great, but that more ſtill might be Added to it. Nevertheless, as we cannot poſſibly Imagine the Sun, to be a Quarter, or an Hundredth Part ſo big as we know it to be; ſo much more may the whole Corporeal Univerſe, far tranſcend thoſe narrow Bounds, which our Imagination would circumscribe it in. The New Celeſtial Phenomena, and the late Improvements of Aſtronomy and Philoſophy made thereupon, render it ſo probable, that even this Dull Earth of ours is a Planet, and the Sun a Fixed Star, in the Centre of that Vortex, wherein it moves, that many have ſhrewdly ſuſpected, that there are other Habitable Globes, beſides this Earth of ours, (which may be Sayled round about in a year or two) as alſo more Suns, with their reſpective Planets, than One. However the Diſtance of all the Fixed Stars from us, being ſo Vaſt, that the Diameter of the Great Orb, makes no diſcernible Parallax in the Site of them; from whence it is alſo probable, that the other Fixed Stars are likewise vaſtly diſtant from one another; This, I ſay, widens the Corporeal Univerſe to us, and makes thoſe Flammantia Mœnia Mundi, as Lucretius calls them, Thoſe Flaming Walls of the World, to fly away before us. Now it is not reaſonable to think, that all this Immenſe Vaſtneſs, ſhould lie Waſte, Deſert, and Uninhabited, and have nothing in it, that could Praise the Creator thereof, ſave only this One Small Spot of Earth. In my Father's Houſe, (ſaith our Saviour) are Many Mansions. And Baruch,

ruch (chap. 3. appointed by our Church to be read publicly) of *Is-
rael*. how great is the House of God, and how large is the place of his
possession? Great and hath no End, High and Unmeasurable. Which
yet we understand not, of an Absolute Infinity, but only such an Im-
mense vastness, as far transcends Vulgar Opinion and Imagination.

We shall add but one thing more; That to make a right Judg-
ment of the Ways of Providence, and the Justice thereof, as to the
Oeconomy of mankind, we must look both Forwards and Backwards; P. 264.
or besides the Present, not only upon the Future; but also the Past
Time. Which Rule is likewise thus set down by Plotinus, ὅδ' ἐκεῖ-
νι ἀποκρίνεται ὁ λόγος, ὅς ἐστι πρὸς τὸ παρὸν ἔχοντι φῶς βλέπειν· ἀλλὰ
πρὸς τὰς προέχον περιόδους, καὶ αὐτὸ τὸ μέλλον· Neither is that Doctrine of
the Ancients to be neglected, that to give an Account of Providence;
we ought to look back upon former Periods, as well as forward, to What
is Future. Indeed he and those other Philosophers, who were Religi-
ous, understood this so, as to conclude a Pre-Existent State of all
Particular Souls, wherein they were at first Created by God Pure; P. 264.
but by the Abuse of their own Liberty Degenerated, to be a Necessa-
ry Hypothesis, for the Salving that Phenomenon, of the Depraved State
of Mankind in general here in this Life. And not only so, but they
endeavoured in like manner to give an account also, of those Differ-
ent Conditions of Particular Persons as to Morality, from their In-
fancy, and their other different Fates here, deriving them all, ἐκ τοῦ
προϋπάρχοντος, from their several Demerits heretofore in a Pre-Ex-
istent State. And there have not wanted Christian Doctors, who
have complied with these Philosophers in both. But our Common
Christianity only agrees thus far; as to suppose a Kind of Imputative
Pre-Existence in Adam, in whom all were created Pure, and so conse-
quently involved in his after miscarriage, to save the Purity of Hu-
mane Nature; upon which account we are all said to be, φύσιν τέκνα
τοῦ ὀργῆς, by Nature Children of Wrath. But as for the different Con-
ditions of Persons, and their several Fates, more disadvantageous to
some than others this indeed the Generality of Christian Doctors,
have been content to resolve, only into an Occult, but Just Provi-
dence. And thus does Origen himself sometimes modestly pass it o-
ver. As in his Third Book against Celsus, * πολλοὶ καὶ τὰ ἄνθρωπος
πύστος γινώσκουσι, ὅς μιν ἐκ παιδείας ἐπὶ τὴν αἰσθησίνην λαβόντες
ἀλλ' αὐτοὶ καὶ ἐκ πρώτης ἡλικίας ἵπτι ἐκ παιδικῆς ὄναι ἀκατάστατον ἀνδρῶν, ἢ
διζυγίων ἢ ἐκ ἄλλῃ τινὶ κακῶς ἢ τῷ δολῶ ἀναβλέποντι κακοδαίμονια.
τὰς δ' αὖτε τὸν αἰτίαν πότμος μὲν εἰκός ἵπτι, ἐκ τοῦ ἄνθρωπος λόγου
πύστος ἢ αὐτὰς ἐκ ἀνθρώπου ἐκ ἐκείνης· It happeneth to many; so to have
been brought up from their very Childhood, as that, by one means or other,
they could have no opportunity at all of thinking of the Better things,
&c. And it is very probable, that there are Causes of these things in
the Reasons of Providence, though they do not easily fall under Humane
Notice.

But there is yet a Third Atheistical Objection against Providence be-
hind; That it is impossible, any One Being should Animadvert and Or-
der all things in the Distant places of the world at once; and were

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this possible, yet would such Infinite Negotiosity be very Uneasie and Distractions to it, and altogether Inconsistent with Happiness. Nor would a Being Irresistibly Powerful, concern it self in the Good or Welfare of any thing else; it standing in Need of nothing; and all Benevolence and Good will arising from Indigency and Imbecillity. Wherefore such a Being, would wholly be taken up in the Enjoyment of it self, and its own Happiness; utterly Regardless of all other things.

To which the Reply is, First; That though our selves and all Created Beings, have but a Finite *Animadversion*, and Narrow Sphere of Activity, yet does it not therefore follow, that the Case must be the same with the Deity, supposed to be a Being Infinitely Perfect, ἀπλῆς δυνάμεως, that hath no manner of Defect, either of Knowledge or Power in it. But this is a meer *Idolum Specus*, an Idol of the Cave or Den, Men Measuring the Deity, by their own Scantling, and Narrowness. And indeed were there Nothing at all, but what we our selves could fully Comprehend, there could be no God. Were the Sun an Animal, and had Life Co-Extended with its Rays and Light, it would see and perceive every Atom of Matter, that its out stretched Beams reached to, and touched. Now all Created Beings, are themselves in some sense, but the Rays of the Deity; which therefore cannot but Feel and Sensibly Perceive, all these its own Effluxes and Emanations. Men themselves can order and manage Affairs, in several distant Places at once, without any Disturbance, and we have innumerable Notions of things in our Mind, that lie there easily together, without Crowding one another, or Causing any Distraction to us.

Nevertheless the Minds of weak Mortals may here be somewhat eased and helped by considering, what hath been before suggested. That there is no necessity, God Almighty should ἀντὶ πάντων ἀπαντα, do all things himself Immediately and Drudgingly; but he may have his Inferiour Ministers and Executioners under him, to discharge him of that Supposed Encumberment. As First of all, an Artificial Plastick Nature, which without Knowledge and Animal Conscienceness, disposes the Matter of the Universe, according to the Platform or Idea of a Perfect Mind, and forms the Bodies of all Animals. And this was the Reason why we did before insist so much upon this Artificial Regular and Methodical Nature; namely that Divine Providence, might neither be excluded, from having an Influence upon all things in this Lower World, as resulting only from the Fortuitous Motions of Senseless Matter, unguided by any Mind; nor yet the Deity be supposed to do every thing it self Immediately and Miraculously, without the Subservient Ministry of any Natural Causes; which would seem to us Mortals, to be not only a Violent, but also an Operose, Cumbrous, and Moliminous Business. And thus did Plato acknowledge, that there were, ἑμπροσθεν φρονως αὐτου τις ὑποεταστικὴ χεῖρ τοῦ θεοῦ, Certain Causes of a Prudent, that is, Artificial and Orderly Nature, which God makes use of, as Subservient to himself, in the Mundane Oeconomy. Besides which those Instincts also impressed upon Animals, and which they are Passive to, directing them to Act for Ends either not understood, or not attended to by them, in order to their own Good and

and the Good of the Universe, are another part of that *Divine Fate*, which infered into things themselves, is the *Servant and Executioner of Providence*. Above all which there are yet other *Knowing and Understanding Ministers*, of the Deity, as its *Eyes and Hands*; *Demoniack or Angelick Beings*, appointed to preside over Mankind, all Mundane Affairs, and the Things of Nature, they having their several distinct Offices and Provinces assigned them. Of which also *Plato* thus, τῶτοις οὖν ἀρχαῖς περιστάμενοι ἑκάσταις, ἐπὶ τὸ Σμικρότατον ἀπὸ P. 903. τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ προέβηκεν. *There are certain Rulers or Presidents appointed by that Supreme God, who Governs the whole world, over all the several things and parts therein, even to the smallest Distribution of them. All which Inferiour Causes, are constantly over looked and supervised by the Watchful Eye of God Almighty, himself, who may also sometimes Extraordinarily Interpose.*

We need not therefore, restrain and confine *Divine Providence*, to a Few Greater things only, as some do, that we may thereby consult the ease of the Deity, and its *Freedom from Distraction*, but may and ought to Extend it, to all things whatsoever, *Small* as well as *Great*. And indeed the *Great things* of the World cannot well be ordered neither, without some regard to the *Small and Little*: ἐδὴ γὰρ οὕτως Σμικρῶν τὰς μεγάλας φασὶν οἱ λιθολόγοι λίθους ὅς κούσθαι. *As ArchitecUs affirm, that great stones cannot be well placed together in a Building, without little.* Neither can Generals of Armies, or Governours of Families, nor Masters of Ships, nor Mechanick Artificers, discharge their several Functions, and do their Works respectively as they ought, did they not mind the *Small things* also as well as the *Great*, καὶ τοίνυν (saith the forementioned Philosopher) τῶν οὖν ἀξιόσμων κατὰ Σμικτῶν δημιουργῶν, φιλοτέλεσι, οἱ τὰ περὶ αὐτοὺς ἔργα, ὅσῳτε ἂν ἀμείνους ᾖεν, τοῦ ἀπορροῦσθαι καὶ περὶ αὐτοὺς καὶ μικροῖς ἀπερροῦσθαι. *Let us not therefore make God Almighty Inferiour to Mortal Officers who by one and the same Art, can order Small things as well as Great: and so suppose him to be Supine and negligent.* Nevertheless the Chief Concernment and Employment of *Divine Providence* in the World; is the *Ordering of Souls*, or *Goverment of Rational Beings*; which is by *Plato* contracted into this Compendium, ἐδὴν ἄλλο ἔργον τοῦ περὶ αὐτῶν λαμβάνει πλὴν μετακινῆσαι τὸ μὲν ἀμείνονα καὶ P. 903. ὡς βελτίον τι πρὸς ἑαυτὸν ἢ ὡς τὸ χεῖρον, &c. *There is no other work left, for the Supreme Governour of all, then only to Translate Better Souls into Better places and Conditions, and Worker into Worker: or, as he after addeth, to dispose of every one in the world in such a manner as might best render, νικῶσαν ἀρετῶν, ὑπερβαίνοντα καὶ κακίαν, Virtue victorious, and triumphant over Vice.* And thus may the slow and Imperfect wits of Mortals, be satisfied; that *Providence to the Deity*, is no *Moliminous, Laborious, and Distractious thing.*

But that there is no higher Spring of Life in Rational Animals, than *Contracted Self Love*, and that all *Good Will and Benevolence*, arises only from *Indigency and Imbecillity*, and That no Being whatsoever is concerned in the welfare of any other thing, but only what it self stands in Need of; and Lastly therefore, That what is Irresistibly Po-

werful and Needs nothing; would have no manner of *Benevolence*, nor concern it self in the *Good and Welfare* of any thing whatsoever; This is but another *Idol of the Atheists Den*; and only argues their *Bad Nature*, *Low-sunk Minds*, and *Gross Immorality*. And the same is to be said also of that other Maxim of theirs, That what is perfectly *Happy*, would have nothing at all *To Do*, but only enjoy its own *Ease and Quiet*: whereas there is nothing more troublesome to our selves, than this ἀρεσκία, *this having Nothing to Do*; and the *Activity* of the Deity or a Perfect Being, is altogether *as Easy* to it, as its *Effence*.

The *Atheistical Queries* come next to be Answered; which being but *Three*, are Naturally to be disposed in this order: First, *If there were a God or Perfect Being, who therefore was sufficiently Happy in the enjoyment of himself, Why would he go about to make a World?* Secondly, *If he must needs make a World, why did he not make it sooner?* *this Late production thereof, looking, as if he had but newly awaked out out of a long sleep, throughout Infinite Past Ages, or else had in length of time contracted a Satiety of his Solitude.* Thirdly and Lastly, *What Tools or Instruments? what Machines or Engines had he? or How could he move the Matter of the whole world; especially if Incorporeal; because then he would run through all things, and could not lay hold nor fasten upon any thing.*

To the First therefore, we say, That the reason why God made the World, was from his own *Overflowing and Communicative Goodness*, that there might be other Beings also *Happy* besides him, and enjoy themselves. Nor does this at all clash, with God's making of the world, for his own *Glory and Honour*, though *Plotinus* were so shy of that, γελῶν ὡς τιμᾶται, ἡ μεταφορά ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγαθοποιίας τῆς ἐκείνου, *It is ridiculous to say, that God made the world, that he might be Honoured; this being to transfer the affections of humane Artificers and Statuaries upon him.* But the chief Reason of his saying so, was, because that Philosopher conceived, the World to have proceeded, not so much from the *Will of the Deity*, as the *Necessity of its Nature*. Though this be true also, that God did not make the World, merely to *Ostentate his Skill and Power*; but to communicate his *Goodness*, which is chiefly and properly his *Glory*, as the *Light and Splendor of the Sun*, is the *Glory of it*. But the Atheist demands, What hurt had it been for us, never to have been made? and the Answer is easy, we should then never have enjoyed any *Good*; or been capable of *Happiness*; and had there been no Rational Creatures at all made, it must have been either from *Impotent Sterility in the Deity*, or else from an *Invidious, Narrow and Contracted Selfishness*; or want of *Benignity, and Communicative Goodness*; both which are Inconsistent with a Perfect Being. But the Argument may be thus Retorted upon these Atheists; *What Hurt would it be for us, to Cease to Be, or Become Nothing?* And why then are these Atheists as well as others, so Unwilling to Die?

But then in the next place they Urge; Why was not the World made

made Sooner, since this Goodness of God was without Date, and from Everlasting? But this *Question* may be taken in two different Senses, Either, *Why was not the world from Eternity, as God and his Goodness are Eternal?* or else *Secondly, If the World could not be from Eternity, yet notwithstanding Why was it not sooner, but so lately made?* In both which *Queries* the *Atomick Atheists* take it for granted, that the System of the World was not from Eternity, but had a beginning. Now we say, That the Reason why the world was not Made from Eternity, was not from any Defect of Goodness in the Divine Will, but because there is an *Absolute Impossibility* in the thing it self; or because the *Necessity* and *Incapacity* of such an *Imperfect Being* hindered. For we must confess, that for our parts, we are prone to believe, That could the world have been from Eternity, it should certainly have been so. And just thus does *Philoponus*, in his *Confutation of Proclus* his Arguments for the World's Eternity, declare himself, and no otherwise. *Καὶ ἡμῶς ἀρεγ. μὴ ἔσται ἢ κτίσις αἰδίων ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν. ἔτι τὸ ἔσται ἢ εἶναι αἰ ἀρχῆς ἀφαιρέμασθα, ἔτι ἀσθενῶν τὸ δημιουργοῦν αὐτῷ κατὰρξαμένον διδύμους. ἀλλὰ μὴ δύνασθαι αἰ εἶναι ἢ κτίσις ἢ αὐτῶν τῶ τῷ γνωστῶ φῶν ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν.* *P. 4.* Our selves also supposing, the world not to have been Eternal, do neither ascribe this to any Defect either of Goodness, or of Power in the Deity, but only to the Impossibility of the Thing it self. Where in the following words, he gives a Two fold Account of this Impossibility, of the worlds Eternity, *ἔτι τὸ τὸ ἀπὸ τοῦ κατ' ἐνέργειαν ὑπάρχειν, ἢ διὰ τὸν ὅτι εἶναι, ἀδύνατον ἦν. ἔτι συνάδον εἶναι τῷ πατρὶ τὸ γινώμενον φῶν ἐκ ἑαυτοῦ.* First because, There can be nothing *Actually Infinite*, and yet *Run through*, as all the *Past Duration* of the World hath been; and *Secondly*, because that which is Made or brought into Being by another, as a distinct thing from it, cannot be Co-Eternal with its Maker. Where it is probable, that *Philoponus* being a Christian; designed not to oppose the *Eternal Generation* of the Son of God, but only to assert, that Nothing which was properly Made or Created by God, and nothing which was not it self God, could be from Eternity, or without Beginning. And now we see, How those *Atheistical Exceptions* against the *Novity* of the *Divine Creation*, as if God must therefore either have *Slept from Eternity*, or else have at length contracted a *Satiety* of his former *Solitude*, and the like; do of themselves quite vanish into Nothing. But then as to the *Second Sense* of the *Question*, *Why the World, though it could not possibly be from Eternity, yet was no sooner, but so lately made?* we say, that this is an *Absurd Question*; both because *Time* was made together with the *World*, and there was no *Sooner* or *Later*, before *Time*; and also because, Whatsoever had a beginning, must of necessity be once but a *Day Old*. Wherefore the World could not possibly have been so Made by God in time; as not to be once, but *Five* or *Six Thousand* years old, and no more; as now it is.

And as for the Third and Last *Query*; *How God could move and command the Matter of the whole World? especially If Incorporeal?* We Reply; First, That all other things being derived from God as their only Fountain and Original, and Essentially depending on him, who by his *Absolute Power* alio, could Annihilate whatsoever he Created;

ted; he must needs have a *Despotick Power* over all; and every thing whatsoever be *Naturally Subject* and *Obedient* to him. And since no *Body* can possibly *Move it self*, that which first moved *Matter*, must of necessity be *Incorporeal*; nor could it move it by *Local Motion*, as one *Body* moves another, or as *Engines* and *Machines* move, by *Truction* or *Pulsion*, they being before moved, but must do it by another kind of *Action*, such as is not *Local Motion*, nor *Heterocinesis*, but *Autocinesis*; that is, by *Cogitation*. Wherefore that Conceit of the *Atheists*, that an *Incorporeal Deity* could not possibly move the *Matter* of the *World*, because it would run through it, and could not fasten or lay hold thereupon; is *Aburd*, because this moves *Matter* not *Mechanically*, but *Vitally*, and by *Cogitation* only. And that a *Cogitative Being* as such, hath a *Natural Imperium* over *Matter* and *Power* of *Moving* it, without any *Engines* or *Machines*, is unquestionably certain, even from our own *Souls*; which move our *Bodies* and *Command* them every way, meerly by *Will* and *Thought*. And a *Perfect Mind*, presiding over the *Matter* of the whole world, could much more irresistibly, and with *Ininitely* more ease, move the whole *Corporeal Universe*, meerly by *Will* and *Cogitation*; then we can our *Bodies*.

The Last Head of *Atheistical Argumentation*, is from *Interest*. And First, the *Atheists* would persuade, that it is the *Interest* of mankind in *General*, and of every particular person, that there should be no *God*, that is, no *Being* *Ininitely Powerful*, that hath no *Law*, but its own *Will*; and therefore may punish whom he pleases *Eternally* after *Death*.

To which our First Reply is; That if there be a *God*, and *Souls* be *Immortal*, then is it not any man's *Thinking* otherwise, that will alter the *Case*, nor afford the *Atheists* any *Relief* against those two *Imagined Evils* of theirs. For *Things* are *Sullen*, and will be as they are, what ever we *Think* them, or *Wish* them to be; and men will at last discover their *Errour*, when perhaps it may be too late. *Wishing* is no *Proving*; and therefore this *Atheistical Argument*, from *Interest*, is no *Argument* at all against the *Existence* of a *God*, it being nothing but the ignorant wish, and vain desire of *Befotted Atheists*.

In the next place this *Wish* of *Atheists*, is altogether founded, upon a *Mistaken Notion* of *God Almighty*; That he is nothing but *Arbitrary Will Omnipotent*; which indeed is not the most *Desirable* thing. But as it hath been often declared, the *Will* of *God* is the *Will* of *Goodness*, *Justice*, and *Wisdom* it self *Omnipotent*. His *Will* is not meer *Will*, such as hath no other *Reason* besides it self; but it is *Law*, *Equity* and *Chancery*; it is the *Will*, or *Ought it self*, *Decreeing*, *Willing*, and *Acting*. Neither does *God* Punish any, out of a delight in *Punishment*, or in the *Evil* and *Suffering* of the *Persons* Punished; but to those who are not *virtuous*, altogether *Incurable*, *sinners*, his *Punishment* is *Physick*, in order to their recovery and amendment; so that the *Source* and *Fountain* thereof is *Goodness* to the

the *Persons* themselves Punished. But to such as are *Incurable*, the Punishment inflicted on them, is Intended for the *Good of the Whole*. So that this *Attribute of Justice* in God, doth not at all Clash, with the *Attribute of Goodness*, it being but a *Branch* thereof or particular *Modification* of the same. *Goodness* and *Justice* in God, are always *Complicated* together; neither his *Goodness* being *Fondness*, nor his *Justice* *Cruelty*; but he being both *Good* in *Punishing*, and *Just* in *Rewarding* and *Dispensing Benefits*. Wherefore, it can be the *Interest* of none, that there should be no God nor *Immortality*; unless perhaps of such *Desperately* and *Incurably Wicked* persons, who abandoning their true *Interest* of being *Good*, have thereupon no other *Interest* now left them, than *Not to be*, or become *Nothing*.

To be without a *God*, is to be without *Hope* in the World, for *Atheists* can have neither *Faith* nor *Hope*, in *Senseless Matter*, and the *Fortuitous Motions* thereof. And though an understanding Being, have never so much *Enjoyment* of it self for the present, yet could it not possibly be *Happy*, without *Immortality*, and *Security* of the *Future Continuance* thereof. But the *Atheists* conclude, that there is *Nothing Immortal*, and that all *Life Perishes* and *Vanishes* into *Nothing*; and consequently also, that ευδαιμονία αὐτομάτως, *Happiness* is a thing, that hath no *Existence* in *Nature*; a meet *Figment* and *Chimæra*, or *Idle Wish* and vain *Dream* of *Mortals*. Wherefore it cannot be the *Interest* of *Mankind*, that this *Hypothesis* should be *True*, which thus plainly cuts off all *Hope* from men; and leaves them in an utter *Impossibility* of being ever *Happy*.

God is such a *Being*, as if he could be supposed not to be, there is nothing which any who are not desperately engaged in *Wickedness*, nor not *Atheists* themselves, could possibly more *Wish* for, or *Desire*. To *Believe a God*, is to *Believe* the *Existence* of all *Possible Good* and *Perfection* in the *Universe*; It is to *Believe*, That *things are as they should be*, and That the *World* is so well *Framed* and *Governed*, as that the *Whole System* thereof, could not *Possibly* have been *Better*. For *Peccability*, arises from the *Necessity* of *Imperfect Freewilled Beings*, left to themselves, and therefore could not by *Omnipotence* it self have been excluded; and though *Sin Actual* might perhaps have been kept out by *Force* and *Violence*; yet all things *Computed*, it was doubtless most for the *Good* of the *Whole*, that it should not be thus *Forcibly Hindered*. There is *Nothing*, which cannot be *Hoped* for, by a *Good man*, from the *Deity*; Whatsoever *Happiness his Being is Capable of*; and *such things as Eye hath not seen, nor Ear heard, nor can now enter into the Heart of man to Conceive*. *Infinite Hopes* lie before us, from the *Existence* of a *Being Infinitely Good* and *Powerful*, and our *Own Souls Immortality*; and nothing can *Hinder* or *Obstruct* these *Hopes*, but our own *Wickedness* of *Life*. To *Believe a God*, and *Do well*, are *Two*, the most *Hopeful*, *Cheerful*, and *Comfortable* things, that possibly can be. And to this purpose is that of *Linus*,

ΕΛΠΕΘΕΙ

Ἐλεγετο γὰρ πάντ', ἐπεὶ ἡ ἐξ' ἑδῆν Ἀελλῶν
 ῥάδια πάντα οἶον τελέεσθαι, καὶ αἰνῆναι ἑδῆν.

Wherefore as for *Democritus* and *Epicurus*, whose *Encomiums* the Atheists here so loudly sing forth; we say, That however they have made so great a noise in the World, and have been so much cried up of late, yet were they really no better, than a Couple of *Insatiated Sophists*, or *Witty Fools*; and *Debauchers of Mankind*.

And now come we to the Last *Atheistical Argumentation*; wherein they endeavour to recommend their Doctrine to *Civil Sovereigns*; and to persuade them, that *Theism* or *Religion*, is absolutely Inconsistent with their *Interest*: Their Reasons for which are these *Three* following. First, Because the *Civil Sovereign Reigns* only in *Fear*, and therefore if there be any *Power* and *Fear*, greater than the *Power* and *Fear* of the *Leviathan*, *Civil Authority* can signify little. Secondly, Because *Sovereignty*, is in its own nature absolutely *Indivisible*, and must be either *Infinite*, or *None* at all: so that *Divine Laws* (*Natural* and *Revealed*) *Superiour* to it, circumscribing it, would consequently *Destroy* it. Wherefore *Religion* and *Theism*, must of necessity be *Displaced*, and *Removed* out of the way, to make room for the *Leviathan*, to *Roll* and *Tumble* in. Thirdly and Lastly, *Private Judgment* of *Good* and *Evil*, *Just* and *Unjust*, is also *Contradictory* to the very Being of a *Body Politick*; which is *One Artificial Man*, made up of many *Natural men* *United* under *One Head*; having one *Common Reason*, *Judgment* and *Will*, ruling over the whole. But *Conscience*, which *Religion* introduceth, is *Private Judgment* of *Good* and *Evil*, *Just* and *Unjust*, and therefore altogether Inconsistent with true *Politicks*; that can admit of no *Private Consciences*, but only *One Publick Conscience* of the *Law*.

In way of *Answer* to the First of which, we must here briefly *Unravel* the *Atheistical Ethics* and *Politicks*. The Foundation whereof is first laid, in the *Villanizing* of *Humane Nature*; as that which has not so much as any the least *Seeds*, either of *Politicalness*, or *Ethicalness* at all in it; nothing of *Equity* and *Philanthropy*; (there being no other *Charity* or *Benevolence* any where according to them, save what resulteth from *Fear*, *Imbecillity*, and *Indigency*) nothing of *Publick* and *Common Concern*, but all *Private* and *Selfish*. *Appetite*, and *Utility*, or the *Desires* of *Sensual Pleasure*, and *Honour*, *Dominion*, and *Precellency* before others, being the only *Measures* of *Good* in *Nature*. So that there can be nothing *Naturally Just* or *Unjust*, nothing in it self *Sinful* or *Unlawful*, but every man by *Nature* hath *Jus ad omnia*, a *Right* to *Every thing*, whatsoever his *Appetite* inclineth him unto, or himself judgeth *Profitable*; even to other mens *Bodies* and *Lives*. *Si occidere Cupis, Jus habes*; If thou *Desirest* to *Kill*, thou hast then *Naturally*, a *Right* thereunto; that is, a *Liberty* to *Kill* without any *Sin* or *Injustice*. For *Jus* and *Lex*, or *Justitia*, *Right* and *Law* or *Justice* in the Language of these *Atheistical Politicians*, are directly contrary to one another; their *Right* being a

Bellarmine

Belluine Liberty, not *Made*, or *Left* by *Justice*, but such as is Founded in a Supposition, of its *Absolute Non-Existence*, Should therefore a Son not only murder his own Parents, who had tenderly brought him up, but also Exquisitely torture them, taking pleasure in beholding their ruful Looks, and hearing their lamentable Shreiks and Outcries; there would be Nothing of *Sin* or *Injustice* at all in this, nor in any thing else; because *Justice* is no *Nature*, but a meer *Faſticious* and *Artificial thing*, *Made* only by *Men* and *Civil Laws*. And according to these mens Apprehensions, Nature has been very kind and indulgent to mankind herein, that it hath thus brought us into the World, without any *Fetters* or *Shackles* upon us, Free from all *Duty* and *Obligation*, *Justice* and *Morality*, these being to them nothing but *Restraints* and *Hinderances* of *True Liberty*. From all which it follows, that Nature absolutely *Diffociates* and *Segregates* men from one another, by reason of the *Inconsistency* of those *Appetites* of theirs, that are all Carried out only to *Private Good*, and Consequently that every man is by Nature, in a *State of War and Hostility*, against every man.

In the next place therefore, these *Atheistlick Politicians* further add; that though this their State of Nature which is a *Liberty* from all *Justice* and *Obligation*, and a *Lawless*, *Loose*, or *Belluine Right* to every thing, be in it self *Absolutely the Best*, yet nevertheless by reason of mens *Imbecillity*, and the *Equality* of their *Strengths*, and *Inconsistency* of their *Appetites*, it proves by *Accident* the *Worst*: this *War* with every one, making mens *Right* or *Liberty* to every thing, indeed a *Right* or *Liberty* to *Nothing*: they having no security of these *Lives*, much less of the *Comfortable enjoyment* of them. For as it is not possible, that all men should have *Dominion* (which were indeed the most desirable thing according to these Principles) so the *Generality* must needs be sensible of more *Evil* in such a *State of Liberty* with an *Universal War* against all, than of *Good*. Wherefore when men had been a good while *Hewing*, and *Slashing*, and *Justling* against one another, they became at length all weary hereof, and conceived it necessary by *Art* to help the *Defect* of their own *Power* here, and to choose a *Lesser Evil*, for the avoiding of a *Greater*, that is, to make a *Voluntary Abatement*, of this their *Infinite Right*, and to Submit to *Terms of Equality* with one another, in order to a *Sociable* and *Peaceable Cohabitation*: and not only So, but also for the *Security* of all, that others should observe such *Rules* as well as themselves, to put their *Necks* under the *Yoke* of a *Common Coercive Power*, whose *Will* being the *Will* of them all, should be the very *Rule*, and *Law*, and *Measure* of *Justice* to them.

Here therefore these *Atheistlick Politicians*, as they first of all *Slander Humane Nature*, and make a *Villain* of it; so do they in the next place, reproach *Justice* and *Civil Sovereignty* also, making it to be nothing but an *Ignoble* and *Basestly* *Brat* of *Fear*; or else a *Lesser Evil*, submitted to, merely out of *Necessity*; for the avoiding of a *Greater Evil*, that of *War* with every one, by reason of mens *Natural Imbecillity*. So that according to this *Hypothesis*, *Justice* and *Civil*

Government are plainly things not Good in themselves, nor Desirable, (they being a Hindrance of Liberty, and Nothing but Shackles and Fetters,) but by Accident only, as Necessary Evils: And thus do these Politicians themselves sometimes distinguish betwixt Good and Just, that *Bonum Amatur Per Se, Justum Per Accidens*; Good is that which is Loved for it self, but Just by Accident. From whence it follows unavoidably, that all men mult of necessity be ἀνεπὶς δίκαιοι, Unwillingly Just, or not with a full and perfect, but *Atixt Will* only: Just being a thing that is not Sincerely Good, but such as hath a great Dose or Dose of Evil blended with it. And this was the Old Atheistical Generation of Justice, and of a Body Politick, Civil Society, and Sovereignty. For though a Modern Writer affirm this Hypothesis (which he looks upon as the only true scheme of Politicks) to be a New Invention, as the Circulation of the Blood, and no older than the Book *De Civē*, yet is it Certain, that it was the commonly received Doctrine of the Atheistical Politicians and Philosophers before Plato's time; who represents their Sense concerning the Original of Justice, and Civil Society in this manner, ὁ πρῶτον ἴστω ὡς εἰ τὴν ἀρετὴν, ἢ τὴν ἐν τοῖς ἀνθρώποις καὶ τοῖς ζώοις δικαιοσύνην πεφυκεῖν, ἢ δὴ φασὶ τὴν μὲν ἀδικεῖν ἀγαθόν, τὴν δὲ ἀδικεῖσθαι κακόν· πλείον ἢ κακὸν ὑπερβαίνειν τὸ ἀδικεῖσθαι, ἢ ἀγαθὸν τὸ ἀδικεῖν· ὥστε ἐκ τούτων ἀλλήλους ἀδικῶν τι καὶ ἀδικῶνται, καὶ ἀμφοτέρω γινώσκουσι, τοῖς μὴ δυναμένοις τὸ μὲν ἐκφύγειν τὴν αἰτίαν, δευτέρῃ λυσιστλήν ἐκπύουσι ἀλλήλους, μετ' ἀδικῶν, μετ' ἀδικεῖσθαι καὶ ἐν τούτοις ἄρεσσαι νόμους τίθειν, καὶ ὁμοιοῦσαι τὸ ὑπὸ τῶ νόμου ἐπιτάγματα νόμοις τι καὶ δίκαιοι. I am to declare first what Justice is, according to the sense of these Philosophers, and from whence it was Generated. They say therefore, that by Nature, Lawless Liberty, and to do that which is now called Injustice, and Injury, to other men is Good; but to Suffer it from others is Evil. But of the two, there is more of Evil in suffering it, than of Good in doing it: Whereupon when men had Clashed a good while, Doing and Suffering Injury, the Greater part, who by reason of their Imbecillity were not able to take the Former without the Latter, at length Compounded the business amongst themselves, and agreed together, by Pacts and Covenants neither to Do nor Suffer Injury, but to Submit to Rules of Equality and make Laws by Compact, in order to their Peaceable Cohabitation, they calling that which was required in those Laws by the Name of Just. And then is it added; καὶ εἶναι ταῦτα γινώσκοντες καὶ ἔχον δικαιοσύνην, μεταφύγεσθαι τὸ μὴ ἀρετῶς εἶναι, ἐὰν ἀδικῶν μὴ διδόν δίκην, τὸ δὲ κακὸν, ἐὰν ἀδικεῖσθαι πιαρῶνται ἀδύνατον· ἢ τὴν δίκην ἐν μέσσοις ἐν τούτοις ἀμφοτέρω, ἀγαπῶσαι ὥστε ἀγαθόν, ἀλλ' ὥστε ἀρετῶς τὸ ἀδικῶν πιαρῶνται. And this is according to these Philosophers, the Generation and Essence of Justice, as a certain Middle thing betwixt the Best and the Worst. The Best, to exercise a Lawless Liberty of doing whatsoever one please to other men without Suffering any inconvenience from it; And the Worst to Suffer Evil from others without being able to revenge it. Justice therefore, being a Middle thing betwixt both these, is Loved, not as that which is Good in it self, but only by reason of mens Imbecillity, and their Inability to do Injustice. For as much as he that had sufficient Power would never enter into such Compacts and Submit to Equality, and Subjection. As for Example, if a man had Gyges his Magical Ring, that he could do whatsoever he listed, and not be seen or taken Notice

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De Rep. L. 2.
P. 351, 352.

of by any, such a one would certainly never Enter into Covenants, nor Submit to Laws of Equality and Subjection. Agreeably whereunto, it hath been concluded also by some of these Old Atheistick Philosophers, that Justice was ἀνταρξον ἀγαθόν, Not properly and directly, ones own Good, the Good of him that is Just, but another mans Good, partly of the Fellow Citizens, but chiefly of the Ruler, whose Vassal he is. And it is well Known, that after Platos Time, this Hypothesis concerning Justice, that it was a meer Fictitious thing, and sprung only from mens Fear and Imbecillity, as a Lesser Evil, was much insisted on by Epicurus also.

But let us in the next place see, how our Modern Atheistick Philosophers and Politicians, will mannage and carry on this hypothesis, fo as to Constitute men by Art, into a Body Politick, that are Naturally Dissociated from one another, as also Atake Justice, and Obligation Artificial, when there is none in Nature. First of all therefore, these Artificial Justice Makers, City Makers, and Authority Makers, tell us, that though men have an Infinite Right by Nature, yet may they Alienate this Right or part thereof, from themselves, and either Simply Renounce it, or Transfer the same upon some other Person; by means whereof it will become Unlawful for themselves, afterwards, to make use thereof. Thus a late Writer, Men may by Signs Declare, Velle se non Licitum sibi amplius fore, certum aliquid facere quod Jure antea fecisse poterant. That it is their Will, it shall no longer be Lawful for them, to do something which before they had a Right to do; and this is called by him, a Simple Renunciation of Right; and further saith he, they may declare again, Velle se non Licitum sibi amplius fore alicui Resistere, &c. That it is their Will, it shall be no longer Lawful for them, to Resist this or that particular Person, whom before they might Lawfully have resisted; and this is called a Translation of Rights. But if there be Nothing in its own Nature Unlawful, then cannot this be Unlawful for a man afterwards, to make use of such Liberty as he had before in Words Renounced or Abandoned. Nor can any man by his meer Will, make any thing Unlawful to him, which was not so in it self; but only Suspend the Exercise of so much of his Liberty, as he thought good. But however, could a man by his Will, Oblige himself, or make any thing Unlawful to him, there would be Nothing got by this, because then might he by his Will, Disoblige himself again, and make the same Lawful as before. For what is Made meerly by Will, may be Destroyed by Will. Wherefore these Politicians will yet urge the business further, and tell us, That no man can be Obligated but by his own Act, and that the Essence of Injustice, is Nothing else, but Dati Repetitio, The taking away of that, which one had before given. To which we again Reply, that were a man Naturally Unobliged to any thing, then could he no way be Obligated, to stand to his own Act, so that it should be Really Unjust and Unlawful for him, at any time upon Second thoughts, Voluntarily to undo, what he had before voluntarily done. But the Atheists here plainly Render Injustice, a meer Ludicrous thing; when they tell us, that it is Nothing but such an Absurdity in Life, as it is in Disputation, when a man Denies a Proposition that he had before Granted. Which is no Real Evil

in him as a *Man*, but only a thing Called an *Aburdity*, as a *Disputant*. That is, *Injustice* is no *Absolute Evil* of the *Man*; but only a *Relative Incongruity* in him, as a *Citizen*. As when a man speaking *Latine* observes not the *Laws* of *Grammar*, this is a kind of *Injustice* in him, as a *Latinist* or *Grammarians*; so when one who lives in *Civil Society*, observes not the *Laws* and *Conditions* thereof, this is, as it were, The *False Latine* of a *Citizen*, and nothing else. According to which *Notion* of *Injustice*, there is no such *Real Evil* or *Hurt* in it, as can any way withstand, the *Force* of *Appetite* and *Private Utility*, and *Oblige* men to *Civil Obedience*, when it is *Contrary* to the same. But these *Political Juglers* and *Enchanters*, will here cast yet a further *Mist* before mens *Eyes* with their *Pacts* and *Covenants*. For men by their *Covenants*, say they may *Unquestionably Oblige* themselves, and make things *Unjust* and *Unlawful* to them, that were not so before. Wherefore *Injustice* is again *Defined* by them, and that with more *Speciousness*, to be the *Breach* of *Covenants*. But though it be true, that if there be *Natural Justice*; *Covenants* will *Oblige*; yet upon the *Contrary Supposition*, that there is *Nothing Naturally Unjust*; this cannot be *Unjust*, neither to *Break Covenants*. *Covenants* without *Natural Justice*, are nothing but meer *Words* and *Breath*; (as indeed these *Atheistick Politicians* themselves, agreeably to their own *Hypothesis*, call them) and therefore can they have no *Force* to *Oblige*. Wherefore these *Justice-Makers*, are themselves at last necessitated, to fly to *Laws* of *Nature*, and to *Pretend*, this to be a *Law* of *Nature*. That men should *Stand to their Pacts* and *Covenants*. Which is plainly to *Contradict* their main *Fundamental Principle*, that by *Nature* nothing is *Unjust* or *Unlawful*; for if it be so, then can there be no *Laws* of *Nature*; and if there be *Laws* of *Nature*, then must there be something *Naturally Unjust* and *Unlawful*. So that this is not to *Make Justice*, but clearly to *Unmake* their own *Hypothesis*, and to suppose *Justice* to have been already *Made* by *Nature*. or to be in *Nature*; which is a *Gross Aburdity* in *Disputation*; to *Affirm* what one had before *Denied*. But these their *Laws* of *Nature* are indeed nothing but *Jugling Equivocation*, and a meer *Mockery*; themselves again acknowledging them to be no *Laws*, because *Law* is nothing but the *Word* of him, who hath *Command* over others; but only *Conclusions* or *Theorems* concerning what conduces to the *Conservation* and *Defence* of themselves; upon the *Principle* of *Fear*; that is, indeed the *Laws* of their own *Timorons*, and *Cowardly Complexions*; for they who have *Courage* and *Generosity* in them, according to this *Hypothesis*, would never *Submit* to such *sneaking Terms* of *Equality*, and *Subjection*, but venture for *Dominion*; and resolve either to *Win the Saddle*. or *Loose the Horse*. Here therefore do our *Atheistick Politicians* plainly daunce round in a *Circle*; they first deriving the *Obligation* of *Civil Laws*, from that of *Covenants*, and then that of *Covenants* from the *Laws* of *Nature*; and Lastly, the *Obligation* both of these *Laws* of *Nature*, and of *Covenants* themselves, again, from the *Law*, *Command*, and *Sanction* of the *Civil Sovereign*; without which neither of them would at all *Oblige*. And thus is it manifest, how vain the *Attempts* of these *Politicians* are, to *Make Justice Artificially*. when there is no such thing *Naturally*; (which is indeed no less than, to make *Something* out of *Nothing*) and
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by *Art* to *Confociate* into *Bodies Politick*, those whom *Nature* had *Disfociated* from one another : a thing as impossible as to *Ty Knots* in the *Wind* or *Water*; or to build up a *Stately Palace* or *Castle* out of *Sand*. Indeed the *Ligaments*, by which these *Politicians* would tie the *Members* of their huge *Leviathan*, or *Artificial Man* together, are not so good as *Cobwebs*; they being really nothing, but meer *Will* and *Words*. For if *Authority* and *Sovereignty* be made only by *Will* and *Words*, then is it plain, that by *Will* and *Words*, they may be *Unmade* again at pleasure.

Neither indeed are these *Attheistick Politicians* themselves, altogether unaware hereof, that this their *Artificial Justice* and *Obligation*, can be no firm *Vinculum* of a *Body Politick*, to *Confociate* those together, and *Unite* them into *One*, who are *Naturally Disfociated* and *Divided* from one another; they acknowledging, that *Covenants without the Sword*, being but *Words* and *Breath*, are of no strength, to hold the *Members* of their *Leviathan*, or *Body Politick* together. Wherefore they plainly betake themselves at length, from *Art* to *Force* and *Power*, and make their *Civil Sovereign*, really to *Reign only in Fear*. And this must needs be their meaning, when they so constantly declare, *All Obligation, Just and Unjust*, to be derived only from *Law*; they by *Law* there understanding, a *Command directed*, to such as by reason of their *Imbecillity* are not able to *Resist*: so that the *Will* and *Command* of the more *Powerful*, *Obliges* by the *Fear of Punishment Threatned*. Now if the only *Real Obligation* to obey *Civil Laws*, be from the *Fear of Punishment*, then could no man be *Obliged* to hazard his *Life* for the *Safety* of his *Prince* and *Country*, and they, who could reasonably promise themselves *Impunity*, would be altogether *Disobliged*, and consequently, might *Justly* break any *Laws*, for their *Own Advantage*. An Assertion so extravagant, that these *Confounded Politicians* themselves, are ashamed plainly to own it, and therefore *Disguise* it, what they can by *Equivocation*; themselves sometimes also confessing, so much of *Truth*, that *Pœna non Obligat, sed Obligatum tenet*, *Punishment does not Oblige, but only hold those to their Duty, who were before Obliged*. Furthermore, what is *Made by Power* and *Force* only, may be *Unmade* by *Power* and *Force* again. If *Civil Sovereigns* *Reign* only in the *Fear* of their own *Sword*, then is that *Right* of theirs so much talked of, indeed nothing else but *Alight*, and their *Authority, Force*; and consequently *Successful* and *Prosperous Rebellion*, and whatsoever can be done by *Power*, will be *ipso facto* thereby *Justified*. Lastly, were *Civil Sovereigns* and *Bodies Politick*, meer *Violent* and *Contra-Natural* things, then would they all quickly *Vanish* into nothing, because *Nature* will prevail against *Force* and *Violence*: Whereas men constantly every where fall into *Political Order*, and the *Corruption* of one *Form of Government*, is but the *Generation* of another.

Wherefore since it is plain, that *Sovereignty* and *Bodies Politick* can neither be meerly *Artificial*, nor yet *Violent* things, there must of necessity be some *Natural Bond* or *Vinculum* to hold them together, such as may both really *Oblige Subjects* to *Obey* the *Lawful Commands* of *Sovereigns*, and *Sovereigns* in *Commanding*, to seek the *Good* and

Welfare of their Subjects; whom these *Atheistick Politicians*, (by their *Infinite and Belline Right*) quite discharge from any such thing. Which Bond or *Vinculum* can be no other, than *Natural Justice*; and something of a *Common and Publick*, of a *Cementing and Conglutinating Nature*, in all Rational Beings; the Original of both which, is from the Deity. The *Right and Authority* of God himself is Founded in *Justice*; and of this is the *Civil Sovereignty* also a certain *Participation*. It is not the meer *Creature* of the People, and of mens *Wills*, and therefore *Annihilable* again by their *Wills* at pleasure; but hath a *Stamp of Divinity* upon it, as may partly appear from hence, because that *Jus Vitæ & Necis*, that *Power of Life and Death*, which *Civil Sovereigns* have, was never lodged in *Singulars*, before *Civil Society*; and therefore could not be Conferred by them. Had not God and Nature made a *City*; were there not a *Natural Conciliation* of all Rational Creatures, and *Subjection* of them to the Deity, as their Head (which is *Cicero's*, *Una Civitas Deorum atque Hominum*, *One City of Gods and Men*) had not God made ἀρχὴ καὶ ἀρχεῖν, *Ruling and being Ruled*, *Superiority and Subjection*, with their respective *Duty and Obligation*, men could neither by *Art*, or *Political Enchantment*, nor yet by *Force*, have made any firm *Cities or Polities*. The *Civil Sovereign* is no *Leviathan*, no *Beast*, but a *God* (*I have said ye are Gods*;) he reigns not in meer *Brutish Force and Fear*, but in *Natural Justice and Conscience*, and in the *Right and Authority* of God himself. Nevertheless we deny not, but that there is need of *Force and Fear* too, to Constrain those to Obedience, to whom the *Conscience of Duty* proveth ineffectual. Nor is the *Fear* of the *Civil Sovereigns* own *Sword*, alone sufficient for this neither, Unassisted by *Religion*, and the *Fear of an Invisible Being Omnipotent*, who seeth all things, and can Punish Secret, as well as Open Transgressors, both in this Life, and after Death. Which is a thing so confessedly true, that *Atheists* have therefore Pretended, *Religion* to have been at first a meer *Political Figment*. We conclude therefore, that the *Civil Sovereign* reigneth not, meerly in the *Fear* of his own *Power and Swords*, but first in the *Justice, and Authority*, and then in the *Power and Fear* also, of God Almighty. And thus much for the *First Atheistick Presence*, from the Interest of *Civil Sovereigns*.

To their *Second*, that *Sovereignty is Essentially Infinite*, and therefore altogether *Inconsistent*, with *Religion*, that would Limit and Confine it, We Reply; That the *Right and Authority* of *Civil Sovereigns*, is not as these our *Atheistick Politicians* ignorantly suppose, a meer *Belline Liberty*, but it is a *Right essentially Founded* in the Being of *Natural Justice*, as hath been declared. For *Authority of Commanding* is such a *Right* as supposes *Obligation* in others to Obey, without which it could be nothing but meer *Will and Force*. But none can be *Obliged in Duty to Obey*, but by *Natural Justice*; *Commands* as such, not *Creating Obligation*, but *Presupposing* it. For if Persons were not before *Obliged to Obey*, no *Commands* would signify any thing to them. Wherefore the *First Original Obligation* is not from *Will* but *Nature*. Did *Obligation* to the things of *Natural Justice*, as many suppose, arise from the *Will and Positive Command* of God,

only

only by reason of Punishments Threatned, and Rewards Promised; the Consequence of this would be, that no man was Good and Just, but only *By Accident*, and for the *Sake of Something else*; Whereas the Goodness of Justice or Righteousness is *Intrinsic* to the thing it self, and this is that which *Obligeth*, (and not any thing *Forreign* to it) it being a different *Species of Good* from that of *Appetite* and *Private Utility*, which every man may Dispense withal. Now there can be no more *Infinite Justice*, than there can be an *Infinite Rule*, or an *Infinite Measure*. Justice is Essentially a *Determinate* thing; and therefore can there not be any *Infinite Jus*, *Right* or *Authority*. If there be any thing in its own Nature *Just*, and *Obliging*, or such as *Ought to be done*; then must there of necessity be something *Unjust* or *Unlawful*, which therefore cannot be *Obligingly Commanded* by any *Authority* whatsoever. Neither ought this to be thought any *Impairment* of Civil Authority, it extending Universally to all, even to that of the Deity it self. The *Right* and *Authority* of God himself, who is the *Supreme Sovereign* of the *Universe*, is also in like manner *Bounded* and *Circumscribed* by Justice. God's *Will* is *Ruled* by his *Justice*, and not his *Justice* *Ruled* by his *Will*; and therefore God himself cannot *Command*, what is in its own nature *Unjust*. And thus have we made it Evident, that *Infinite Right* and *Authority*, of Doing and Commanding any thing without Exception, so that the *Arbitrary will* of the Commander, should be the very *Rule of Justice* it self to others, and consequently might *Oblige* to any thing, is an *Absolute Contradiction*, and a *Non Entity*; it supposing nothing to be in its own Nature, *Just* or *Unjust*, which if there were not, there could be no *Obligation* nor *Authority* at all. Wherefore the *Atheists* who would flatter *Civil Sovereigns*, with this *Infinite Right*, as if their *Will* ought to be the very *Rule of Justice* and *Conscience*, and upon that Pretence Prejudice them against *Religion*, do as ill deserve of them as of *Religion* hereby, they indeed Absolutely Devesting them of all *Right* and *Authority*, and leaving them nothing but meer *Brutish Force*, and *Beastly Liberty*. And could *Civil Sovereigns* utterly Demolish and Destroy, *Conscience* and *Religion* in the Minds of Men, (which yet is an *Absolute Impossibility*) they thinking thereby to make *Elbow-room* for themselves, they would certainly *Bury* themselves also, in the *Ruins* of them. Nevertheless thus much is true; That they in whom the *Sovereign Legislative Power* of every *Polity* is lodged, (whether *Single Persons* or *Assemblies*) they who Make *Civil Laws* and can Reverse them at pleasure, though they may Unquestionably *Sin* against God, in making *Unjust Laws*, yet can they not *Sin Politically* or *Civily*, as *Violators* or *Transgressors* of those Laws Cancelled and Reversed by them, they being Superiour to them. Nor is this all, But these *Sovereign Legislative Powers*, may be said to be *Absolute* also, in another Sense, as being *Unjudicable*, or *Un-censurable* by any *Humane Court*, because if they were so obnoxious, then would that *Court* or *Power* which had a *Right* to Judge and Censure them, be Superiour to them; which is contrary to the *Hypothesis*. And then if this *Power* were again *Judicable* by some other, there must either be, an *Infinite Progress* or *Endless Circulation* (a thing not only *Abjurd*, but also

also utterly Inconsistent with *Government* and *Property*, because there being no *Ultimate Judgment* Unappealable from, there could never be any *Final Determination* of Controversies; or else at last, all must be devolved, to the *Multitude of Singulars*, which would be a *Dissolution* of the *Body Politick*, and a *State of Anarchy*. And thus have we Fully Confuted, the Second *Atheistick Pretence* also, for the *Inconsistency of Religion with Civil Sovereignty*.

Their *Third* and *Last* follows, That *Private Judgment of Good and Evil, is Contradictory to Civil Sovereignty*, and a *Body Politick*, this being One *Artificial Man*, that must be all Governed, by One *Reason* and *Will*. But *Conscience* is *Private Judgment of Good and Evil, Lawful and Unlawful, &c.* To which we Reply, That it is not *Religion*, but on the contrary, the Principles of these *Atheistick Politicians*, that Unavoidably introduce *Private Judgment of Good and Evil*, such as is Absolutely inconsistent with *Civil Sovereignty*; there being according to them, nothing in *Nature*, of a *Publick* or *Common Good*, Nothing of *Duty* or *Obligation*, but all *Private Appetite*, and *Utility*, of which also every man is *Judge* for himself. For if this were so, then when ever any man *Judged* it most for his *Private Utility*, to *Disobey Laws*, *Rebel* against *Sovereigns*, *pay* to *Poyson* or *Strab* them, he would be Unquestionably bound by *Nature*, and the *Reason* of his own *Good*, as the *Highest Law*, to do the same. Neither can these *Atheistick Politicians*, be ever able to bring men out of this *State of Private Good, Judgment, and Will*, which is *Natural* to them, by any *Artificial Tricks* and *Devices*, or meer *Enchantments of Words*, as *Artificial Justice*, and an *Artificial Man*, and a *Common Person* and *Will*, and a *Publick Conscience*, and the like. Nay it is observable, that themselves are necessitated by the Tenour of these their Principles, *Casually* to allow such *Private Judgment and Will*, as is altogether inconsistent with *Civil Sovereignty*; as, That any man may *Lawfully Resist* in *Defence* of his own *Life*, and That they who have once *Rebelled*, may afterwards *Justly defend* themselves by *Force*. Nor indeed can this *Private Judgment* of men, according to their *Appetite* and *Utility*, be possibly otherwise taken away, then by *Natural Justice*, which is a thing not of a *Private*, but of a *Publick* and *Common Nature*; And by *Conscience*, that Obligeth to Obey all the *Lawful Commands* of *Civil Sovereigns*, though contrary to mens *Appetites*, and *Private Interest*. Wherefore *Conscience* also, is in it self not of a *Private* and *Partial*, but of a *Publick* and *Common Nature*; it respecting *Divine Laws*, *Impartial Justice*, and *Equity*, and the *Good of the Whole*, when clashing with our own *Selfish Good*; and *Private Utility*. This is the only thing, that can *Naturally Conspire* Mankind together, lay a *Foundation* for *Bodies Politick*, and take away that *Private Will* and *Judgment* according to mens *Appetite* and *Utility*, which is Inconsistent with the same: agreeably to that of *Plato's*, τὸ κοινὸν συνδέει, τὸ ἰδιὸν διαζυγίζει, That which is of a *Common* and *Publick Nature* Unites, but that which is of a *Private* Segregates and *Dissociates*. It is true indeed, that particular Persons must make a *Judgment* in *Conscience* for themselves (a *Publick Conscience*, being *Nonsense* and *Ridiculous*) and that they may also *Err* therein; yet is not the *Rule* neither, by which

which *Conscience* Judgeth, *Private*; nor it self *Unaccountable*, unless in such mistaken *Fanaticks*, as professedly follow *Private Impulses*; but either the *Natural* and *Eternal Laws* of *God*, or else his revealed *Will*, things more *Publick*, than the *Civil Laws* of any *Country*, and of which others also may Judge. Nevertheless we deny not, but that *Evil Persons* may and do sometimes make a *Pretence* of *Conscience* and *Religion* in Order to *Sedition* and *Rebellion*; as the *Best* things may be *Abused*; but this is not the *Fault* of *Religion*, but only of the *Man*: *Conscience* *Obliging*, though *Fust* to obey *God*, yet in *Subordination* to him, the *Laws* of *Civil Sovereigns* also. To conclude, *Conscience* and *Religion*, Oblige Subjects *Actively* to Obey all the *Lawful Commands* of *Civil Sovereigns* or *Legislative Powers*, though contrary to their own *Private Appetite*, *Interest*, and *Utility*; but when these same *Sovereign Legislative Powers*, Command *Unlawful things*, *Conscience* though it here Obliges to Obey *God* rather than *Man*, yet does it *Notwithstanding* Ollige, *Not to Resist*. *Rom. 13. Who so ever Resisteth the Power, Resisteth the Ordinance of God, and they that Resist shall Receive to themselves Damnation. And Matthew the 26. All they that take the Sword, shall perish with the Sword. Here is the Patience and the Faith of the Saints.* And thus does *Religion*, give unto *Cæsar* the things that are *Cæsars*, as well as unto *God*, the things that are *Gods*.

And now having fully *Confuted*, all the *Atbeistick Grounds*, we confidently Conclude, That the *First Original* of all things, was neither *Stupid* and *Senseless Matter* Fortuitously moved, Nor a *Blind* and *Nescient*, but *Orderly* and *Methodical Plastic Nature*; Nor a *Living Matter* having *Perception* or *Understanding* *Natural*, without *Animal Sense* or *Consciousness*; Nor yet did every thing Exist of it self *Necessarily* from *Eternity*, without a *Cause*. But there is *One* only *Necessary Exsistent*, the *Cause* of all other things; and this an *Absolutely Perfect Being* *Infinitely Good*, *Wise*, and *Powerful*; Who hath made all that was *Fit* to be made, and according to the *Best Wisdom*, and exerciseth an exact *Providence* over all. Whose Name ought to be *Hallowed* and *Separated* from all other things. *To whom be all Honour, and Glory, and Worship, for ever and ever. Amen.*

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ibid.

2. *That if no Plastick Artificial Nature be admitted, then one of these two things must be concluded; That either all things come to pass by Fortuitous Mechanism or Material Necessity (the Motion of Matter Unguided) or else that God doth Αὐταρχῶς ἀνάρκτως do all things Himself Immediately and Miraculously; framing the Body of every Gnat and Fly, as it were, with his own hands: forasmuch as Divine Laws and Commands cannot execute themselves, nor be alone the proper Efficient Causes of things in Nature.*

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20. Notwithstanding which, forasmuch as the Plastick Nature is a Life, it must needs be Incorporeal. One and the self something, having in it an entire Model and Platform of the Whole, and acting upon several Distant parts of Matter, cannot be a Body. And though Aristotle himself do no where declare this Nature to be either Corporeal or Incorporeal, (which he neither clearly doth concerning the Rational Soul,) and his Followers commonly take it to be Corporeal, yet, according to the Genuine Principles of that Philosophy, must it needs be otherwise. 165

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therefore Consciously Intellectual. *The Asserters of this Latter opinion, Theists, in a Strict and Proper Sense; of the Former, Atheists. So that the Idea of God in General is A Perfect Consciously Understanding Being, (or Mind,) Self-Existent from Eternity, and the Cause of all other things.* Page 194, 195.

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XVI. *That this was no Refinement or Interpolation of Paganism, made after Christianity (as might be suspected) but that the Doctrine of the most Ancient Pagan Theologers, and greatest Promoters of Polytheism, was consonant herunto: which will be proved from unsusppected Writings.* Page 281

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God's being All; made a Foundation of Pagan Polytheism and Idolatry. 308

XVIII. *That the Egyptians themselves, the most Polytheistical of all Nations, had an Acknowledgment amongst them of One Supreme Deity. The Egyptians the First Polytheists. That the Greeks and Europeans derived their Gods from them, and as Herodotus affirmeth, their very Names too. A Conjecture that Ἀἰὼν of the Greeks was Νῆϊς or Νῆϊς, the Tutelar God of the City Sais; a Colony whereof the Athenians are said to have been. And that Neptune the Roman Sea-god, was derived from the Egyptian Nephthus, signifying the Maritime parts. Of the Egyptians worshipping Brute Animals.* 309, 310

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Though this word Hammon were probably at first the same with Ham or Cham the Son of Noah, yet will not this hinder, but that it might be used afterwards by the Egyptians for the Supreme God. 338

The Egyptian God Hammon, neither confined by them to the Sun, nor to the Corporeal World, but according to the Notation of the word in the Egyptian Language, a Hidden and Invisible Deity. This farther confirmed from the Testimony of Iamblichus. 339

This Egyptian Hammon more than once taken notice of in Scripture. 339, 340

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How that passage of Hecataeus in Plutarch is to be Understood, That the Egyptians supposed the First God, and the Universe; to be the same, viz. Because the Supreme Deity diffuseth it self thorough all things. Τὸ πᾶν a Name of God also amongst the Greek Philosophers. 343

That Pan to the Arcadians and other Vulgar Greeks, was not the Corporeal World, as Senseless and Inanimate, but as proceeding from an Intellectual Principle diffusing it self through all; from Macrobius and Phornutus. Socrates his Prayer to Pan, as the Supreme God, in Plato's Phaedrus. Page 343, 344

Our Saviour Christ called the Great Pan by Demous. 345

How the old Egyptian Theology, That God is All things, is every where insisted upon in the Trismegistick Writings. 346, 347

That the Supreme God was sometimes worshipped by the Egyptians under other Proper Personal names, as Isis, Osiris, and Serapis, &c. 349, &c.

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The Doctrine of, God's being All, made by the Egyptians a Foundation of Polytheism and Idolatry, they being led hereby to Personate and Deify the several Parts of the World, and Things of Nature; (which in the Language of the Asclepian Dialogue, is, To call God by the name of every thing, or every thing by the name of God,) the wise amongst them nevertheless understanding, that all

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was but one Simple Deity, worshipped by Piece-Meale. This Allegorically signified by Osiris his being dismembred and cut in pieces by Typhon, and then made up One again by Isis. Page 354, 355

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Notwithstanding which, they did not really assert Many Self-Existent and Independent Gods, but One onely Unmade; and all the rest Generated or Created. Homer's Gods not all External and Unmade, but Generated out of the Ocean; that is, a Watry Chaos. Homer's Theogonia, as well as Hesiod's, the Cosmogonia; and his Generation of Gods, the same thing with the Production or Creation of the World. 357, 358

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Pindar likewise, a Divine Theogonist, an Asserter of One Unmade Deity (and no more) the Cause of all things; yet nevertheless of Many Generated Gods besides His One God to be worshipped far above all the other Gods. 361, 362

The Suspicion which Aristotle sometime had of Hesiod, and Plato of Homer, seems to have proceeded from their not Understanding that Mosâick Cabbala, followed by them both, of the World's being Made out of a Watery Chaos. 362

That famous Passage of Sophocles, concerning One God the Maker of Heaven, Earth, and Seas, (cited by so many Ancient Fathers) defended as genuine. 363

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The Consent of Latine Poets also, in the Monarchy of the whole. Page 365

XX. After the Poets of the Pagans, their Philosophers considered. That Epicurus was the onely reputed Philosopher, who pretending to acknowledge Gods, yet professedly opposed Monarchy, and verbally asserted a Multitude of Eternal Unmade Deities, but such as had Nothing to do, either with the Making or Governing of the World. He therefore clearly to be reckoned amongst the Atheists. All the Pagan Philosophers who were Theists, (a few Dithcists excepted) Universally asserted a Mundane Monarchy. 369, 370

Pythagoras, a Polytheist as much as the other Pagans, nevertheless a plain Acknowledger of one One Supreme God, the Maker of the Universe. 371

Pythagoras his Dyad, no Evil God or Demon Self-existent, as Plutarch supposed. 372

But this Dyad of his, whether Matter or no, derived from a Monad, One Simple Unity, the Cause of all things. 372, 373

That Pythagoras, acknowledging a Trinity of Divine Hypostases, did therefore sometimes describe God as a Monad, sometimes as a Mind, and sometimes as the Soul of the World. 373

The Pythagorick Monad and First God, the same with the Orphick Love, Seniour to Japhet and Saturn; and the Oldest of all the Gods, a Substantial thing. But that Love which Plato would have to be the Youngest of the Gods, (the Daughter of Penia, or Indigency, and a Parturient thing,) Nothing but a Creaturely affection in Souls, Personated and Deified. Parmenides his Love, the First Created God, or Lower Soul of the World; before whose Production, Necessity is said to have reigned; that is, the Necessity of Material Motions undirected for Ends, and Good. 374, 375

That Pythagoras called the Supreme Deity, not onely a Monad, but a Tetrad, or Tetractys also. The Reasons for this given, from the Mysteries in the Number Four,

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Xenophanes a plain Asserter both of Many Gods, and of One God, called by him, One and All. Simplicius his clear Testimony for this Theology of Xenophanes, out of Theophrastus. Xenophanes misrepresented by Aristotle, as an Asserter of a Spherical Corporeal God. 377, 378

Heraclitus, though a Cloudy and Confounded Philosopher, and one who could not conceive of any thing Incorporeal, yet both a hearty Moralist, and a zealous Asserter of One Supreme Deity. 378, 379

The Ionick Philosophers before Anaxagoras, being all of them Corporealists, and some of them Atheists; that Anaxagoras was the First who asserted an Incorporeal Mind to be a Principle, and though not the Cause of Matter, yet of Motion, and of the Regularity of things. The World, according to him, not Eternal, but Made, and out of Pre-Existent Similar Atoms, and that not by Chance, but by Mind or God. This Mind of his, purely Incorporeal, as appeareth from his own words, cited by Simplicius. 380

Probable, that Anaxagoras admitted none of the Inferiour Pagan Gods. He Condemned by the Vulgar for an Atheist, because he Ungodded the Stars, denying their Animation, and affirming the Sun to be but a Mass of Fire, and the Moon an Earth. This disliked also by Plato, as that which in those times would dispose men to Atheism. 381

Anaxagoras further Censured, both by Plato and Aristotle, because though asserting Mind to be a Principle, he made much more use of Material than of Mental and Final Causes; which was looked upon by them as an Atheistick Tang in him. Nevertheless Anaxagoras a better Theist than those Christian Philosophers of later times, who quite banish all Mental Causality from the World. 382, 383

XXI. Parmenides his acknowledgment of One God the Cause of Gods. Which

Supreme Deity, by Parmenides styled, One-All-Immovable. That this is not to be taken Physically, but Metaphysically and Theologically; Proved at large. The First Principle of all, to these Ancients, One, a Simple Unity or Monad. This said to be All, because virtually Containing All, and Distributed into All; or because All things are distinctly displayed from it. Lastly, the same said to be Immovable, and Indivisible, and without Magnitude, to distinguish it from the Corporeal Universe. Page 383, &c.

"Εν τῷ πᾶσι, One All, taken in different Senses; by Parmenides and Xenophanes, &c. Divinely, for the Supreme Deity, (One most Simple Being the Original of all things;) but by others in Aristotle, Atheistically, as if all things were but One and the same Matter diversly Modified. But the One-All of these Latter, not Immoveable, but Moveable; it being nothing else but Body; whereas the One-All-Immoveable, is an Incorporeal Deity. This does Aristotle, in his Metaphysics, close with, as good Divinity, That there is one Incorporeal Immoveable Principle of all things. Simplicius his Observation, That though divers Philosophers maintained a Plurality or Infinity of Moveable Principles, yet none ever asserted more than One Immoveable. 385, 386

Parmenides in Plato distinguishes three Divine Hypostases, The First whereof called by him, "Εν τῷ πᾶσι, One-All; the Second, "Εν πᾶσι, One All things; and the Third, "Εν καὶ πᾶσι, One and All things. 386, &c.

But that Parmenides by his One-All-Immoveable really understood the Supreme Deity, yet further unquestionably evident from the Verses cited out of him by Simplicius; Wherein there is also attributed thereunto a Standing Eternity, or Duration, different from that of Time. 388

The only Difference betwixt Parmenides and Melissus, that the Former called his, One-All-Immoveable, Finite; the Latter, Infinite; this in Words rather than Reality: The Disagreeing A-

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agreement of these two Philosophers fully declared by Simplicius. Melissus his Language more agreeable with our present Theology. Though Anaximander's Infinite were nothing but Senseless Matter, yet Melissus his Infinite was the True Deity. Page 389

That Zeno Eleates, by his One-All-Immoveable, meant not the Corporeal World neither, no more than Melissus, Parmenides, and Xenophanes; but the Deity; evident from Aristotle. Zeno's Demonstration of One God, from the Idea of a most Powerfull and Perfect Being, in the same Aristotle. 390

Empedocles his First Principle of All things, Τὸ Ἐν, or a Unity likewise, besides which he supposed Contention and Friendship to be the Principles of all Created Beings; not only Plants, Brutes, and Men, but Gods also. 391, &c.

Empedocles his Original of all the Evil both of Humane Soul and Demons, from this Νεῖκος, Discord and Contention, together with the Ill use of their Liberty. 393

XXII. The Doctrine of divers other Pythagoreans also the same; as Philolaus, Archytas, Ocellus, Aristæus, &c. Timæus Locrus his God the Creatour of Gods. Onatus his Many Gods, and his One God, the Coryphaeus of the Gods. Euclides Megarensis his One the Very Good. Antisthenes his Many Popular Gods, but One Natural God. Diogenes Sinopensis his God that Filleth all things. 393, &c.

XXIII. That Socrates asserted One Supreme God undenyable from Xenophon. 398, 399

But that he disclaimed all the other Inferiour Gods of the Pagans, and died, as a Martyr, for One onely God, in this Sense, a Vulgar Error. 400

What the Impiety imputed to him by his Adversaries, appeareth from Plato's Euthyphro, viz. That he freely and openly Condemned those Fables of the Gods wherein Wicked and Unjust Actions were imputed to them. 401

That Plato really asserted One onely God and no more, a Vulgar Error like-

wise; and that Thirteenth Epistle to Dionysius, wherein he declared himself, to be Serious onely when he began his Epistles with God, and not with Gods, (though extant in Eusebius his time,) Spurious and Supposititious. He worshipping the Sun and other Stars also (supposed to be animated) as Inferiour Gods. Page 402

Nevertheless, Undeniably evident, that Plato was no Polyarchist, but a Monarchist, no Asserter of Many Independent Gods, or Principles, but of One Original of all things; One First God, One Greatest God, One Maker of the World and of the Gods. 403, 404

In what Sense the Supreme God, to Plato, the Cause and Producer of Himself; (out of Plotinus) and this notion not onely entertained by Seneca and Plotinus, but also by Lactantius, That Plato really asserted a Trinity of Universal Divine Hypostases, that have the Nature of Principles. The First Hypostasis in Plato's Trinity properly Αὐτόθεν, The Original Deity, the Cause and King of all things; which also said by him to be Ἐκείνου ὁ ὢν, or Ὑπερῆς, Above Essence. 407

Xenophon, though with other Pagans, he acknowledged a Plurality of Gods, yet a plain Asserter also of One Supreme and Universal Numen. 408

XXIV. Aristotle a frequent Acknowledger of Many Gods. And whether he believed any Demons or no, which he sometimes mentions (though sparingly) and insinuates them to be a kind of Aerial Animals, more Immortal than Men; yet did he unquestionably look upon the Stars, or their Intelligences, as Gods. 408, &c.

Notwithstanding which, Aristotle doth not onely often speak of God Singularly, and of the Divinity Emphatically, but also professedly opposes that Imaginary Opinion of Many Independent Principles, or Unmade Deities. He confuting the same from the Phenomena or the Compages of the World, which is not inconsistent, but all Uniform, and agreeably Conspiring into one Harmony. 410, 411

Aristotle's Supreme Deity, the First Immo-

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Immoveable Mover. *The difference here betwixt Plato, and Aristotle; Plato's Original of Motion, a Self-moving Soul, Aristotle's an Immoveable Mind. But this Difference not so great as at first sight it seems; because Aristotle's Immoveable Mind, doth not Move the Heavens Efficiently, but only Finally, or As being Loved. Besides which, he must needs suppose, another immediate Mover, which could be nothing, but a Soul of them.* Page 412

Aristotle's Immoveable Mind, not only the Cause of Motion, but also of Well and Fit; all the Order, Pulchritude and Harmony, that is in the world Called therefore by Aristotle, the Separate Good thereof. This together with Nature, (its Subordinate Instrument) the Efficient Cause of the whole Mundane System: which however Co-eternal with it, yet is, in Order of Nature, Junior to it. 413, 414

Aristotle and other Ancients, when they affirm Mind to have been the Cause of all things, Understood it thus, That all things were made by an Absolute Wisdom, and after the Best Manner. The Divine Will according to them, not a meer Arbitrary, Humoursome, and Fortuitous thing, but Decency and Fitness in itself. 415

From this passage of Aristotle's, That the Divinity is either God, or the Work of God; Evident, that he supposed All the Gods, to have been derived from One, and therefore his Intelligences of the Sphæars. 415

That according to Aristotle, this Speculation of the Deity, constitutes a Particular Science by it self, distinct from Physiology and Geometry: the Former whereof (Physiology) is Conversant about what was Inseparable and Moveable, the Second (Geometry) about things Immoveable, but not Really Separable, but the Third and Last (which is Theology) about that which is both Immoveable and Separable, an Incorporeal Deity. 416

Four Chief Points of Aristotle's Theology or Metaphysics, concerning God;

First, that though all things are not Eternal and Unmade, yet something must needs be such, as likewise Incorruptible, or otherwise all might come to Nothing. Secondly, that God is an Incorporeal Substance, separate from Sensibles, Indivisible and devoid of Parts and Magnitude. Thirdly, that the Divine Intellect, is the same with its Intelligibles, or containeth them all within it self; because the Divine Mind, being Senior to all things, and Architectonical of the World, could not then look abroad for its Objects without it self. The contrary to which supposed by Atheists. Lastly, that God being an Immoveable Substance; his Act and Energy is his Essence; from whence Aristotle would infer the Eternity of the World. Page 416, 417

Aristotle's Creed and Religion contained in these Two Articles, first That there is a Divinity which comprehends the whole Nature, or Universe. And Secondly, that besides this, There are other Particular Inferiour Gods; But that all other things, in the Religion of the Pagans, were Fabulously superadded hereunto for Political Ends. 417

Speusippus, Xenocrates and Theophrastus, Monarchists. 418

XXV. The Stoicks no better Metaphysicians than Heraclitus, in whose footsteps they trode, admitting of no Incorporeal Substance. The Qualities of the Mind also, to these Stoicks, Bodies. 419, 420

But the Stoicks, not therefore Atheists; they supposing an Eternal Unmade Mind, (though lodged in Matter) the Maker of the whole Mundane System. 420

The Stoical Argumentations for a God not Inconsiderable, and what they were. 421, 422

The Stoical God, not a meer Plastick and Methodical, but an Intellectual Fire. The World according to them, not a Plant, but Animal; and Jupiter the Soul thereof. From the supposed Oneliness of which Jupiter, they would sometimes inferre, the Singularity of the World: (Plutarch on the Contrary affirming, that though there were Fifty, or

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an Hundred Worlds, yet would there be for all that, but one Zeus or Jupiter.) 423

Nevertheless the Stoicks as Polytheistical as any Sect. But so, as that they supposed all their Gods save One, to be not Only Native, but also Mortal; made out of that One, and resolved into that One again: these Gods, being all Melted into Jupiter, in the Conflagration. 424, 425

Wherefore during the Intervals of Successive Worlds, the Stoicks acknowledged but one Solitary Deity, and no more; Jupiter being then left all alone, and the other Gods Swallowed up into him. Who therefore not only, the Creatour of all the other Gods, but also the Decreatour of them. 425, 426

The Stoicks notwithstanding this, Religious Worshippers of their Many Gods; and thereby sometime derogated from the Honour of the Supreme, by sharing his Sovereignty amongst them. 426, 427

Nevertheless, the Supreme God, praised and extolled by them far above all the other Gods; and acknowledged to be the Sole Maker of the World. 427, &c.

Their Professing Subjection to his Laws as their greatest Liberty. 430

And to submit their Wills to his Will in every thing, so as to know no other Will, but the Will of Jupiter. *ibid.*

Their Pretending to Look to God, and to do nothing without a Reference to him; as also to Trust in him and Rely upon him. 431

Their Praising him as the Authour of all Good. *ibid.*

Their Addressing their Devotions to him Alone, without the conjunction of any other God; and particularly imploring his Assistance against Temptations. 432

Cleanthes his Excellent and Devout Hymn, to the Supreme God. 433

XXVI. Cicero, though affecting to write in the way of the New Academy, yet no Sceptick as to Theism. Nor was he an Asserter of Many Independent Deities. Cicero's Gods (the Makers of the World) the same with Plato's Eternal Gods, or Trinity of Divine Hypostases

Subordinate. This Language, the Pagans in S. Cyrill, would Justifie, from that of the Scripture, Let us make Man. Page 434, 435, &c.

Varro's Threefold Theology, The Fabulous, the Natural, and the Civil or Popular; agreeably to Scævola the Pontifex, his Three Sorts of Gods, Poetical, Philosophical, and Political. The Former condemned by him as False, the Second, though True, said to be above the Capacity of the Vulgar: and therefore a Necessity, of a Third or Middle betwixt both; Because many things True in Religion, not fit for the Vulgar to know. Varro's Supreme Numen, the great Soul or Mind of the whole World: his Inferiour Gods, Parts of the World Animated. Image-Worship Condemned by him, as disagreeable to the Natural Theology. 438, 439

Seneca a Pagan Polytheist, but plain Asserter of One Supreme Numen, excellently described by him. That in his Book of Superstition (now lost) he did as freely Censure the Civil Theology of the Romans, as Varro had done the Fabulous or Theatrical. 440

Quintilian, Pliny, Apuleius, their clear acknowledgments of One Sovereign Universal Deity. Symmachus, (a great stickler for Paganism) his Assertion, That it was One and the Same thing, which was Worshipped in all Religions, though in different ways. 440, 441

The Writer De Mundo, though not Aristotle, yet a Pagan. His Cause that containeth All things, and God from whom all things are. Which Passage being left out in Apuleius his Latin Version, gives occasion of suspicion, that he was infected with Plutarch's Ditheism, or at least held Matter to be Unmade. 442

Plutarch a Priest of Apollo, however unluckily engaged in those Two False Opinions, of an Evil Principle, and Matter Unmade, yet a Maintainer of One Sole Principle of all Good. 443

Dio Chrysostomus a Sophist, his clear Testimony, βασιλεύειν τὸ θεόν, That the whole World was under a Kingly Government or Monarchy. *ibid.*

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Galen's *True Hymn to the praise of him that made us*, in his Book *De usu Partium*. Page 444

Maximus Tyrius his *short Account of his own Religion*; One Supreme God, the Monarch of the whole World, and Three Subordinate Ranks of Inferiour Gods, the Sons and Friends of God, and his Ministers in the Government of the World. Page 444, 445

A *most full and Excellent Description of the Supreme God in Aristides his First Oration or Hymn to Jupiter*, wherein he affirmeth, all the several kinds of Gods, to be but a *Defluxion and Derivation* from Jupiter. 445, 446

All the *Latter Philosophers* after Christianity, (though maintainers of the Worlds Eternity, yet) agreed in One Supreme Deity, the Cause of this World, and of the other Gods. *Excellent Speculations in them concerning the Deity, especially Plotinus*; who though deriving Matter and all from One Divine Principle, yet was a Contender for Many Gods; he supposing, the Grandeur and Majesty of the Supreme God, to be declared by the Multitude of Gods under him. Themistius; That the Same Supreme God, was worshipped by Pagans, Christians, and all Nations, though in different Forms; and that God was delighted with this Variety of Religions. 446, 447

The full Testimony of S. Cyril, That the Greek Philosophers universally acknowledged One God, the Maker of the Universe, from whom were produced into Being, certain other Gods, both Intelligible and Sensible. *ibid.*

XXVII. This not only the Opinion of Philosophers and Learned men, but also the General Belief of the Vulgar amongst the Pagans. A Judgment of the Vulgar and Generality, to be made from the Poets. Dio Chrysost. his Affirmation, That all the Poets acknowledged One First and Greatest God the Father of all the Rational Kind, and the King thereof. 447

The Testimony of Aristotle, That all men acknowledged Kingship or Monar-

chy amongst the Gods: of Maximus Tyrius, That notwithstanding so great a Discrepancy of Opinion in other things, yet throughout all the Gentile World, as well the Unlearned as Learned did universally agree in this, That there was One God the King and Father of all, and Many Gods the Sons of that One God: Of Dio Chrysostomus also to the same purpose; he intimating likewise that of the two, the acknowledgment of the One Supreme God, was more General than that of the Many Inferiour Gods. 448; Page 449

That the sense of the Vulgar Pagans herein is further evident from hence, because all Nations had their several Proper Names for the One Supreme God; as the Romans Jupiter, the Greeks Zeus, the Africans and Arabians Hammon, the Scythians Pappæus, the Babylonians Bel, &c. 449

True, that Origen, though allowing Christians to use the Appellative Names for God in the Language of the several Nations, yet accounted it unlawfull for them to call him by those Proper Names; because not only given to Idols, but also contaminated with wicked Rites and Fables: according to which, they should be judged rather the Names of a Dæmon than of a God. Notwithstanding which, he does not deny, those Pagans ever to have meant the Supreme God by them; but often acknowledge the same. But Lactantius indeed denies the Capitoline Jupiter to be the Supreme God, and that for two Reasons. First, because he was not worshipped without the Partnership of Minerva and Juno, his Daughter and Wife. Granted here, that there was a Mixture of the Fabulous or Poetical Theology with the Natural to make up the Civil. But that Wise men understood these to be but Three several Names or Notions of One Supreme God. This confirmed from Macrobius. Page 450

Vossius his Conjecture, that in this Capitoline Trinity there was a further Mystery aimed at, of Three Divine Hypostases. This Roman Trinity derived from the Samothracian Cabiri. Which word

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word being Hebraical, gives Cause to suspect this Tradition of a Trinity amongst the Pagans, to have sprung from the Hebrews. Page 451

Lactantius his Second Reason, Because Jupiter being Juvans Pater, was a name below the Dignity of the Supreme God. The Answer, that the true Etymon thereof was Jovis Pater, the Hebrew Tetragrammaton. ibid.

That the Capitoline Jupiter was the Supreme God, evident from those Titles of Optimus, Maximus; and of Omnipotens by the Pontifices in their Publick Sacrifices. Seneca's Testimony that the ancient Hetrurians, by Jupiter meant the Mind and Spirit, Maker and Governour of the whole World. The Roman Souldiers Acclamation in Marcus Aurelius his German Expedition, (To Jove the God of Gods, who alone is Powerfull) according to Tertullian, a Testimony to the Christians God. 452, 453

That as the Learned Pagans in their Writings, so likewise the Vulgar in their common Speech, when most serious, often used the word God, Singularly and Emphatically, for the Supreme, proved from Tertullian, Minutius Felix, and Lactantius: together with the Testimony of Proclus, that the One Supreme God, was more universally believed throughout the World than the Many Gods. 453, 454

That Kyrie Eleeson, was anciently a Pagan Litany to the Supreme God, proved from Arianus. The Supreme God often called by the Pagans also Κύριος, or the Lord. 454, 455

That even the most sottishly Superstitious, Idolatrous, and Polytheistical amongst the Pagans, did notwithstanding generally acknowledge One Supreme Deity; fully attested and elegantly declared by Aurelius Prudentius in his Apotheosis. Page 455

However some of the Ancient Pagans were said to have acknowledged none but Visible and-Corporal Gods, yet as they conceived these to be endued with Life and Understanding, so did they suppose One Supreme amongst them, as either the whole Heaven or Æther Animated,

or the subtle Fiery Substance that pervaseth all things, the God of the Heraclitics and Stoicks; or the Sun the Cleanthzan God. Page 455, 456

Though Macrobius refer so many of the Pagan Gods to the Sun, and doubtless himself lookt upon it as a Great God, yet does he deny it to be Omnipotentissimum Deum, the Most Omnipotent God of all; he asserting a Trinity of Divine Hypostases Superior to it, the Platonick way. 456, 457

That the Persians the selves, the most Notorious Sun-worshippers, did notwithstanding acknowledge a Deity Superior to it, and the Maker thereof; proved from Eubulus. As also that the Persians Country-Jupiter, was not the Sun, confirmed from Herodotus, Xenophon, Plutarch, and Curtius. Cyrus his Lord God of Heaven, who commanded him to build him a house at Jerusalem; the same with the God of the Jews. 458

That as (besides the Scythians) the Ethiopians; Strabo, and other Barbarian Nations, anciently acknowledged One Sovereign Deity; so is this the Belief of the generality of the Pagan World to this very day. 458, 459

XXVIII. Besides Theristius and Symmachus, asserting One and the same Thing to be worshipped in all Religions, though after different ways, and that God Almighty was not displeased with this Variety of his Worship; Plutarch's Memorable Testimony, That as the same Sun, Moon, and Stars, are common to all, so were the same Gods. And that not only the Egyptians, but also all other Pagan Nations worshipped One Reason and Providence ordering all: together with its Inferiour Subservient Powers and Ministers, though with different Rites and Symbols. 459, 460

Titus Livius also of the same Persuasion, That the Same Immortal Gods were Worshipped every where (namely One Supreme, and his Inferiour Ministers) however the Diversity of Rites, made them seem Different. 460

Two Egyptian Philosophers, Heraclius and Asclepiades, professedly insisting upon the same thing, not only as to the Egyptians

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gyptians, but also the other Pagan Nations: the Latter of them, (Asclepiades) having written a Book Entitled, The Symphony or Harmony of all Theologies or Religions, To wit, in these Two Fundamentals, That there is One Supreme God, and besides him, Other Inferiour Gods, his Subservient Ministers to be worshipped. From whence Symmachus, and other Pagans concluded, That the Differences of Religion were not to be scrupulously stood upon, but every man ought to worship God according to the Law and Religion of his own Country. The Pagans Sense thus declared by Stobæus, That the Multitude of Gods, is the work of the Demiurgus, made by Him together with the World. Page 461

XXIX. That the Pagan Theists, must needs acknowledge One Supreme Deity, further Evident from hence; Because they generally believed the whole World to be One Animal, Actuated and Governed by One Soul. To deny the Worlds Animation; and to be an Atheist; all one, in the sense of the Ancient Pagans. Against Gassendus, that Epicurus denied the Worlds Animation, upon no other account, but onely because he denied a Providential Deity. This whole Animated World, or the Soul thereof, to the Stoicks, and others, The Πᾶντος Θεός, The First and Highest God. 462

Other Pagan Theologers, who though asserting likewise, the Worlds Animation, and a Mundane Soul, yet would not allow this to be the Supreme Deity, they conceiving the First and Highest God, to be no Soul, but an Abstract and Immoveable Mind Superiour to it. And to these, the Animated World and Mundane Soul, but Δευτερος Θεός, A Second God. 463

But the Generality of those who went Higher than the Soul of the World, acknowledged also a Principle Superior to Mind or Intellect, called, Τὸ Ἐν and Ἦ Ἀγαθόν, The One, and The Good: and so asserted, a Trinity of Divine Hypostases Subordinate, Monad, Mind, and Soul. So that the Animated World or

Soul thereof, was to some of these, but Τρίτος Θεός, The Third God. ibid.

The Pagans, whether holding Soul, or Mind, or Monad, to be the Highest, acknowledged onely One in each of those severall Kinds, as the Head of all; and so always reduced the Multiplicity of things to a Unity, or under a Monarchy. 464

Observed, That to the Pagan Theologers Universally, the World was no Dead Thing, or meer Machin and Automaton, but had Life or Soul diffused thorough it all: Those being taxed by Aristotle as Atheists, who made the world to consist of nothing, but Monads or Atoms, Dead and Inanimate. Nor was it quite Cut off from the Supreme Deity, how much forever Elevated above the same: the Forementioned Trinity, of Monad, Mind, and Soul, being supposed to be most intimately united together, and indeed all but One Entire Divinity; Displayed in the World, and Supporting the same. 464, 465

XXX. The Sense of the Hebrews in this Controversy. That according to Philo, the Pagan Polytheism consisted not in worshipping Many Independent Gods, and Partial Creators of the World, but besides the One Supreme, other Created Beings Superior to men. 465, 466

That the same also, was the Sense of Flavius Josephus, according to whom, This the Doctrine of Abraham; That the Supreme God was alone to be Religiously Worshipped, and no Created thing with him. Aristæus his Assertion in Josephus, That the Jews and Greeks worshipped one and the same Supreme God, called by the Greeks Zene, as giving Life to all. 466, 467

The Latter Rabbinical Writers, generally of this Persuasion, That the Pagans acknowledging One Supreme and Universal Numen, worshipped all their Other Gods, as his Ministers, or as Mediators and Intercessors betwixt him and them. And this Condemned by them for עבודה זרה Strange Worship or Idolatry. The first Commandment, thus interpreted, by Maimonides, and Baal Ikkarim; Thou shalt not set up besides me, any Inferiour Gods as

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Mediators, nor Religiously Worship my Ministers or Attendants. *The Mismatching of Solomon and other Kings of Israel and Judah, This, That believing the Existence of the One Supreme God, they thought it was for his Honour that his Ministers also should be worshipped. A-bravanel his Ten Species of Idolatry, all of them but so Many several Modes of Creature-Worship; and no mention amongst them made, of many Independent Gods.* Page 467, &c.

Certain Places of Scripture also, Interpreted by Rabbinical Writers to this purpose; That the Pagan Nations generally acknowledged, One Sovereign Numen.

469, 470

The Jews, though agreeing with the Greeks, and other Pagans in this, That the Stars were all Animated, nevertheless denied them any Religious Worship.

470, 471

XXXI. *This same thing, plainly confirmed, from the New Testament; That the Gentiles or Pagans, however Polytheists and Idolaters, were not Unacquainted with the True God. First from the Epistle to the Romans, where that which is Knowable of God, is said to have been manifest amongst the Pagans; and they to have Known God, though they did not Glorify him as God, but hold the Truth in Unrighteousness; by reason of their Polytheism and Idolatry (or Image Worship) The Latter of which, accounted by the Jews the greatest Enormity of the Pagans, as is proved from Philo: and this the Reason, why their Polytheism, called also Idolatry. Plainly declared by S. Paul, that the Pagan Superstition consisted not in worshipping Many Independent Gods and Creators, but in joyning Creature-worship some way or other, with the worship of the Creator. Πᾶσι τοῖς Κτίσταις How to be Understood; and in what Sense, the Pagans, though acknowledging the Creator, might be said to have Worshipped the Creature, beyond him.*

471, 472

Again, from S. Pauls Oration to the Athenians, where their Unknown God, is said to be that same God, whom

S. Paul Preached, Who made the World and all things in it. And these Athenian Pagans are affirmed ὁ θεός, Religiously and Devoutly to Worship this True God. Page 473, 474

Lastly, that Aratus his Zeus was the True God, whose Offspring our Souls are; Proved not only from the Context of that Poet himself, undeniably, and from the Scholiast upon him, but also from S. Pauls Positive Affirmation. Nor was Aratus Singular in this; That Ancient Prayer of the Athenians, Commended by M. Antoninus for its Simplicity, (Τὸν ὕπνῳ ἡ εἰλε Ζεῦ, Rain Rain, O Gracious Jupiter &c.) no otherwise to be understood. And how that other Passage of S. Paul, That in the Wisdom of God, the World by Wisdom knew not God, does not at all Clash herewith. 475, 476

XXXII. *In order to a Fuller Explication of the Pagan Theology, and making it the better appear, that the Polytheism thereof, was not Contradictory to the acknowledgment of One Supreme Omnipotent Numen; Three Things to be Considered. First, That much of their Polytheism was but Seeming and Phantastical only, and really nothing but the Polyonymy of One God. Secondly, That their Recall and Natural Polytheism, consisted only in Religiously Worshipping, besides this One Supreme Universall Numen, Many other Particular and Inferiour Created Beings; as Animated Stars, Demons, and Hero's. Thirdly, That they Worshipping both the Supreme and Inferiour Gods, in Statues, Images, and Symbols; these were also sometimes Abusively called Gods. To one or other of which Three Heads, all the Pagan Polytheism, Referrable.* 477

For the better perswading, That much of the Pagan Polytheism, was Really nothing, but the Polyonymy of One Supreme God, or the Worshipping him under severall Personall Names; to be Remembered again, what was before Suggested; That the Pagan Nations Generally, besides their Vulgar, had another more Arcane Theology, which was the Theology of Wise men and of Truth. That

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is; besides both their Fabulous and Poetical, their Politicall and Civil Theology, they had another Natural and Philosophick one. This Distinction of the Vulgar and Civil Theology, from the Natural and Reall, owned by the Greeks Generally, and amongst the Latins, by Scævola the Pontifex, Varro, Cicero, Seneca, and others. ibid.

That the Civil Theology of the Pagans, differed from the Natural and Reall, by a certain Mixture of Fabulosity in it. Of the Romans suffering the Statue of Jupiters Nurse, to be kept in the very Capitol, as a Religious Monument. Jupiters Nativity, or his having a Father and a Mother, Atheistically Fabulous; Poets themselves acknowledging so much of the Natural and True Teology, That Jupiter being the Father of Gods and Men, the Maker of the whole World, was himself Eternall and Unmade. 478

That the Civil as well as Poetical Theology, had some appearance of Many Independent Deities also; they making severall Supreme, in their severall Territories and Functions; One Chief for one thing, and another for another. But according to the Naturall and Philosophick Theology, the Theology of Wise men and of Truth, all these but Poetical, Commentitious, Fictitious, and Phantastick Gods; such as had no distinct Substantiall Essences of their own; and therefore Really to be accounted nothing else, but severall Names or Notions of One Supreme God. 478, 479

Certain, that the Egyptians had severall Proper and Personal Names, for that One Supreme Universal Numen, that Comprehends the whole World, according to several Notions of it or its several Powers: as Ammon, Phtha, Osiris, Neith, Cneph; to which may be added, Serapis and Isis too. Besides Iamblichus, Damascius his Testimony also to this purpose; concerning the Egyptian Theology. This the Pattern of the other, especially European Theologies, the Greek and Roman. 479, 480

That the Greeks and Romans also, often Made More Gods of One, or af-

fected a Polyonymy of the Same Gods; Evident from those many Proper and Personal Names bestowed, First upon the Sun, (of which Macrobius) who therefore had this Epithet of πολυωνυμος given to him; and then upon the Moon, Styled also Polyonymous, as well as her Brother the Sun; and Lastly upon the Earth, famous likewise, for her Many Names; as Vesta, Cybele, Ceres, Proserpina, Ops, &c. Wherefore not at all to be Doubted, but that the Supreme God, or Sovereign Numen of the whole World, was much more Polyonymous. This Title given to him also, as well as to Apollo in Hesychius. He thus Invoked by Cleanthes. Zeno, the Writer De Mundo, Seneca, Macrobius, clearly confirm the same. Maximus Madaurenfis in S. Austin, his full acknowledgement thereof. Page 480, 481

The First Instances of the Polyonymy of the Supreme God, amongst the Pagans, in such Names as these; Βερεταιος, Τίτιος, Παυλιος, Μεσσηριος, Φιδιος, Ελνιος, Σετιος, &c. And amongst the Latins, Victor, Invictus, Opatulus, Stator, Tigillus, Centupeda, Almus, Ruminus, &c. Again, Ἀνάγκη, Εἰμαρμένη, Περαιμένη, Μοῖρα, Ἀδελφεία, all several Names of the One Supreme God, as likewise were Clotho, Lachesis, and Atropos, in the Writer De Mundo. And amongst the Latins, not only Fate, but also Nature, and Fortune too, as Cicero and Seneca affirm. 482

But besides these, there were other Proper Names of the Supreme God, which had a greater shew and appearance of so many Several Gods, they having their Peculiar Temples, and several Appropriated Rites of Worship. And First, such as signifie the Deity, according to its more Universal Nature. As for example, Pan; which not the Corporeal World Inanimate or endued with a Senseless Nature onely, but a Rational or Intellectual Principle displaying it self in Matter, framing the World Harmoniously, and being in a manner All things. This also the Universal Pastor and Shepherd; of all Mankind. 483

Again Janus; First Invoked by the
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Romans in their Sacrifices, and never omitted. The most Ancient God, and First Beginning of all things. Described by Ovid, Martial, and others, as a Universal Numen. Concluded by S. Austin, to be the Same with Jupiter, the Soul or Mind of the whole World. The word Janus probably derived from *Zav's*, the *Ætolian Jupiter*. Page 483, 484

Genius also, one of the Twenty Select Roman Gods, according to Festus, a Universal Numen: that God who is the Begetter of All things. And according to Varro in S. Augustine, the same with Jupiter. 484, 485

That Chronos or Saturn, no particular Deity; but a Universal Numen also, which Comprehends the whole nature of the World, affirmed by Dionysius Halicarnass. The word Saturn *Hetrurian* (and Originally from the Hebrew *סטר*) signifies Hidden; called by the Latins *Deus Latius*, the Hidden God; whence Italy *Latium*, and the Italians *Latins*; as Worshipers of this Hidden God, or the Occult Principle of all things. This according to Varro, He that Produceth out of himself, the Hidden Seeds and Forms of all things, and Swalloweth them up into himself again; which, the Devouring of his Male Children. This *Sinus quidam Naturæ*, &c. a Certain Inward and deep Recess of Nature, containing all things within it self; as God was sometimes Defined by the Pagans. This to S. Austin, the same with Jupiter; as likewise was *Cœlus* or *Uranus*, in the old Inscription, and therefore another Name of God too. The Poetick Theology, of Jupiters being the Son of Saturn, and Saturn the Son of *Cœlus*; an Intimation (according to Plato) of a Trinity of Divine Hypostases Universal. 485, 486

Though *Minerva* or *Athena*, were sometimes confined to a narrower Sense, yet was it often taken, for a Name of God also, according to his Universal Notion; it being to *Athenagoras* the Divine Wisdom, displaying it self through all things. This excellently described by *Aristides*, as the First Begotten Off-spring of the Original Deity, or the Second Divine Hy-

postasis, by which all things were made; agreeably with the Christian Theology. Page 486, 487

Aphrodite Urania, or the Heavenly *Venus*; another name of God also according to his Universal Notion; it being the same with that Love which *Orpheus*, and other Philosophers in *Aristotle*, made the First Original of all things. Plato's Distinction of an Elder, and a Younger *Venus*: The Former, the Daughter of *Uranus*, without a Mother, or the Heavenly *Venus*; said to be Senior to *Japhet* and *Saturn*. The Latter, afterwards begotten from *Jupiter* and the Nymph *Dione*, the Vulgar *Venus*. *Urania*, or the Heavenly *Venus*, called by the Oriental Nations, *Myllitta*; that is, the Mother of all things. Temples in *Pausanias* Dedicated to this Heavenly *Venus*. This described by *Æschylus*, *Euripides*, and *Ovid*, as the Supreme Deity, and the Creator of all the Gods. God Almighty also, thus described, as a Heavenly *Venus* or Love, by *Sev. Boetius*. To this *Urania* or Heavenly *Venus*, another *Venus* in *Pausanias* near a *kin*; called *Ανορεξία* or *Verticordia*; As Converse of mens Minds upwards, from Unchast Love, or Unclean Lust. 488, 489

Though *Vulcan*, according to the Common Notion of him, a Special God, yet had he sometimes a more Universal Consideration. *Zeno* in *Laertius*, that the Supreme God is called *Vulcan* as Acting in the Artificial Fire of Nature. Thus the Soul of the World, styled by the Egyptians *Phtha*; which as *Iamblichus* tells us, was the same with the Greeks *Hephæstus*, or *Vulcan*. 489, 490

Besides all which Names of the Supreme God, *Seneca* informs us, that he was sometimes called also, *Liber Pater*, because the Parent of all things; sometimes *Hercules*, because his Force is Unconquerable; and sometimes *Mercury*, as being Reason, Number, Order and Knowledge. 490

But besides this Polyonymy of God, according to his Universal Notion; there were other *Dii Speciales*, or Speciall Gods also, amongst the Pagans; which likewise

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were really but Several Names of One and the same Supreme Deity, variè utentis sua Potestate, (as Seneca Writeth) diversly using his Power, in Particular Cases, and in the several Parts of the World. Thus Jupiter, Neptune, and Pluto, (mistaken by some Christians, for a Trinity of Independent Gods) though Three Civil Gods, yet were they Really, but One and the Same Natural and Philosophick God; as Acting in those Three Parts of the World; the Heaven, the Sea, the Earth and Hell. Pluto in Plato's Cratylus a Name for That Part of Divine Providence, which is exercised in the Government of Separate Souls after Death. This Styled by Virgil, the Stygian Jupiter. But to others, Pluto together with Ceres, the Manifestation of the Deity, in this whole Terrestrial Globe. The Celestial and Terrestrial Jupiter, but One God. Zeus and Hades one and the same to Orpheus. Euripides doubtful, whether God should be Invoked, by the Name of Zeus or Hades. Hermefianax the Colophonian Poet, makes Pluto the First of those Many Names of God, Synonymous with Zeus. Page 490, 491

Neptune also, another Special God, a name of the Supreme Deity, as Acting in the Seas onely. This affirmed by Xenocrates in Stobæus, Zeno in Laertius, Balbus and Cotta in Cicero, and also by Maximus Tyrius. 492

The Statue of Jupiter with Three Eyes, in Paulanias; signifying that according to the Natural Theology, it was One and the Same God, Ruling in those Three Several Parts of the World, the Heaven, the Sea, and the Earth; that was called by Three Names, Jupiter, Neptune, and Pluto. Wherefore since Proserpina and Ceres are the same with Pluto; and Salacia with Neptune; Concluded, that all these, though Several Poetical and Political Gods; yet were but One and the Same Natural and Philosophick God. 492, 493

Juno also, another Special God, a name of the Supreme Deity as Acting in the Aire. Thus Xenocrates and Zeno. The Pagans in S. Austin; that God in

the Æther is called Jupiter, in the Aire Juno. So Minerva likewise, when taken for a Special God, a name of the Supreme God, according to that Particular Consideration of him, as Acting in the Higher Æther. From whence, S. Austin disputeth against the Pagans. Maximus Tyrius, of those and many other Gods of the Pagans; that they were but *Θεία ὀνόματα*, Divine Names. Page 493, 494

Yet Many other Special Gods, amongst the Pagans, which also were really nothing but Divine Names; or Names of God as variously exercising his Power, or bestowing Several Gifts; as in Corn and Fruit, Ceres, in Wine Bacchus, in Medicine Æsculapius, in Traffick Mercury, in War Mars, in Governing the Winds Æolus, &c. 494

That not onely Philosophers, did thus interpret, the Many Poetical and Political Gods, into One and the Same Natural God; but the Poets themselves also, sometimes openly broached this more Arcane Free and True Theology; as Hermefianax amongst the Greeks, and Valerius Soranus amongst the Latins. 494, 499

That S. Austin making a large Enumeration of the other Special Gods, amongst the Pagans, affirmeth of them Universally, That according to the Sense of the Pagan Doctors, they were but one Natural God, and all Really the same with Jupiter. 495, 496

Apuleius in his Book De Deo Socratis, either not rightly understood by that Learned and Industrious Philologer, G. I. Vossius, or else not sufficiently attended to. His design there, plainly to reduce the Pagans Civil Theology, into a Conformity with the Natural and Philosophick; which he doth as a Platonist, by making the *Dii Consentes* of the Romans, and their other Invisible Gods, to be all of them, Nothing, but the Divine Ideas; and so the Off-spring of one Highest God. An occasion for this Phancy, given by Plato, where he calls his Ideas Animals. Nor was Apuleius Singular herein; Julian in his Book against the Christians, going the very same way; and no otherwise understood

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derstood by S. Cyril, than as to make the Invisible Gods, worshipped by the Pagans, to be the Divine Ideas. A Phancy of the same Julian, who opposed the Incarnation of the Eternal Word, that Æsculapius was first of all the Idea of the Medicinal Art, Generated by the Supreme God, in the Intelligible World; which afterwards, by the Vivisick Influence of the Sun, was Incarnated, and appeared in Humane Form about Epidaurus. And that this Pagan Doctrine, Older than Christianity; proved out of Philo; writing of a Sun, and Moon, Intelligible; as well as Sensible, Religiously worshipped by the Pagans: That is, the Ideas of the Archetypal World. And thus were these Ideas of the Divine Intellect, νοεῖν θεῶν, Intelligible Gods, so Plotinus also.

Page 496, &c. 501

Wherefore Julian, Apuleius, and those others, who thus made all the Pagan Invisible Gods, to be nothing else but the Divine Ideas, the Patterns of Things in the Archetypal World; supposed them not to be so many Independent Deities, nor Really Distinct Substances, Separate from one another, but onely so many Partiall Considerations of One God. Julian before affirming them, ἐξ αὐτοῦ γενόμενοι θεοί, συνπαρέχον τε καὶ συνπαρέχον αὐτῷ. As to have been Generated out of him; so also to Coexist with him, and Inexist in him.

501, 502

That the Pagans appointed some Particular God or Goddess by Name, to preside over Every thing; (there Being μὲν οὐδὲν Nothing at all without a God to them) appeareth from that Catalogue, of their Ignoble or Petty Gods, Collected by S. Austine out of Varro. Now it is Incredible; that they should think all these to be so many Single Substantiall Spirits, of each Sex, Really Existing apart in the World; they must therefore needs take them, to be so many Partiall Considerations of the Deity, either in the way of the more High-flown Platonists, as his Ideas Exemplarily and Vertually containing all things; or else in that more Common and easy way of the Generality; as so many Several Denominations of him, according to the Several Manifestations of his Pow-

er and Providence; or as the Pagans in Eusebius declare themselves, those Several Vertues and Powers, of the Supreme God, themselves Personated and Deified. Which yet because, they were not executed, without the Subservient Ministry of Created Spirits, Angels or Demons, appointed to preside over such things; therefore might these also Collectively taken, be included under them. Page 502, 503

But for the fuller clearing of this Point; that the Pagan Polytheism, was in great part Nothing but the Polyonymy of one God; Two Things here to be taken notice of. First that the Pagan Theology. Universally, Supposed God to be Diffused thorough all, to Permeate and Pervade all, and Intimately to Act all. Thus Horus Apollo of the Egyptians. Thus among the Greeks, Diogenes the Cynick, Aristotle, the Italick, and Stoicall Philosophers. Thus the Indian Brachmans before Strabo. Thus also the Latin Poets; and Seneca, Quintilian, Apuleius, and Servius, besides others. 503, 504

That Anaxagoras and Plato also, though neither of them Confounded God with the World, but affirmed him to be Unmingled with any thing; yet Concluded him in like manner, to Permeate and Pervade all things. Plato's Etymology of θεῶν, as taken for a Name of God, to this purpose in his Cratylus. Where a Fragment of Heraclitus, and his Description of God agreeably hereunto; a most Subtle and Swift Substance, that Permeates and Passes through every thing, by which all things are made. But Plato disclaiming this Corporeity of the Deity, will neither have it Fire nor Heat; but a Perfect Mind that Passes through all things Unmixedly. 505

Wherefore no wonder, if the Pagans supposing God to be Diffused thorough all things, called him in the Several Parts of the World, and Things of Nature, by several Names, as in the Earth Ceres, in the Sea Neptune, &c. This account of the Pagan Polytheism given by Paulus Orosius, That whilst they believed, God to be in Many things, they indifferently made Many Gods of him.

505, 506

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Further to be observed, That many of the Pagan Theologers; seemed to go yet a Strain higher, they supposing God not only to Pervade all things, but also to Be himself all things. That the Ancient Egyptian Theology ran so high, Evident from the Saitick Inscription. A strong Tang hereof in Æschylus; as also in Lucan. Neither was this proper to those, who held God to be the Soul of the World, but the Language also of those other more Refined Philosophers, Xenophanes, Parmenides, &c. they affirming God, to be One and All. With which agreeth, the Author of the Asclepian Dialogue, that God is, *Unus omnia*, One all things; and that before things were made, he did then *apostew* Hide them, or Occultly contain them all, within himself. In like manner Orphicus. Page 506, 507

This not only a further Ground of the Polyonymy of One God, according to the Various Manifestations of himself in the World, but also of another Strange Phenomenon in the Pagan Theology, their Personating the Inanimate Parts of the World, and Natures of things, and bestowing the Names of Gods and Goddesses upon them. Thus Moschopolus before cited, and Arnobius. This Plutarch thinks to have been done at first, Metonymically only, the Effects of the Gods, being called Gods; as the Books of Plato, Plato. And thus far not disliked by him. But himself complaineth, that afterwards, it was carried on further by Superstitious Religionists, and not without great Impiety. Nevertheless that Inanimate Substances and the Natures of things, were formerly Deified, by the Ancient Pagans, otherwise than Metonymically, proved from Cicero, Philo and Plato. For they supposing God, to Pervade all things, and to be All things, did therefore look upon every thing as Sacred or Divine; and Theologize the Parts of the World and Natures of Things; Titularly making them, Gods and Goddesses. But especially such things, as wherein Humane Utility was most concerned; and which had most of Wonder in them. 507, 510

This properly, the Physiological The-

ology of the Pagans, their Personating and Deifying the Natures of things, and Inanimate Substances. That the Ancient Poetick Fables of the Gods were many of them in their first and true meaning, thus Physiologically Allegorical, and not meer Herology, affirmed against Eusebius. Zeno, Cleanthes and Chrysippus, Famous for thus Allegorizing the Fables of the Gods. Chrysippus his Allegorizing an Obscene Picture of Jupiter and Juno in Samos. Plato though no Friend to these Poetick Fables, yet confesses some of them to have contained Allegories in them: the same doth also Dionysius Halicarnassius: and Cicero likewise, who affirmeth, this Personating and Deifying the Natures of things, to have filled the World with Superstition. Page 510, 512

Against Eusebius again, That the whole Theology of the Pagans, consisted not in thus Deifying the Natures of things, and Inanimate Bodies; because he that acknowledgeth no Animant God, acknowledges no God at all, but is a downright Atheist. 512

Neither ought this Physiological Theology of the Pagans, that consisted in Personating and Deifying the Natures of things and Inanimate Bodies, to be Condemned, with that Natural and Philosophical Theology of Varro, Scævola and others, which admitted of no other, but Animant Gods, and such as Really Existed in Nature: for which Cause it was called Natural, in opposition to the Fictitious and Phantastick, Poetick Gods. 512

S. Austin's just Censure and Condemnation of the Pagans, for their thus Theologizing of Physiology, or Fictitiously Personating and Deifying the Natures of things. 512, 513

But though the Pagans did thus verbally Personate and Deify the things of Nature, yet did not the Intelligent amongst them, therefore account these Truc and Proper Gods. Cotta in Cicero, Though we call Corn Ceres, and Wine Bacchus, yet was there never any one so mad, as to take that for a God, which himself feeds upon and devours. The Pagans really accounted

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counted that onely for a God, by the Invoking whereof, they might expect benefit to themselves; and therefore Nothing Inanimate. This proved from Plato, Aristotle, Lucretius, Cicero, and Plutarch. Wherefore these Natures of things Deified, but Fictitious and Phantastick Gods. Nor can any other sense be made of them than this, that they were really but so many several Names of one Supreme God, as severally manifested in his works: according to that Egyptian Theology, That God may be called by the Name of every thing, or every thing by the Name of God. With which agreeth Seneca, That there may be as many Names of God, as there are Gifts and Effects of his: and the Writer De Mundo, That God may be Denominated from every Nature, he being the Cause of all things.

Page 513, 515

Wherefore these Deified Natures of things, were not directly worshipped by the Intelligent Pagans, but onely Relatively to the Supreme God, or in way of Complication with him onely: and so not so much Themselves, as God worshipped in them. The Pagans Pretence, that they did not look upon the world with such Eyes as Oxen and Horses do, but with Religious Eyes, so as to see God in every thing. They therefore worshipped the Invisible Deity, in the Visible manifestations of himself; God and the World together. This sometimes called Pan and Jupiter. Thus was the whole World said to be the Greatest God, and the Circle of the Heavens worshipped by the Persians; not as Inanimate Matter, but as the Visible manifestation of the Deity, displayed from it, and pervaded by it. When the Roman Sea-Captains Sacrificed to the Wave, their worship intended to that God, who stilleth the Waves, and Quieteth the Billows.

515, 516

These Pagans also apprehended a Necessity of permitting men to worship the Invisible God in his Visible Works. This account given by them in Eusebius. Plato himself approved of worshipping the Invisible God in the Sun, Moon, and

Stars, as his Visible Images. And though Maximus Tyrius would have men endeavour, to rise above the Starry Heavens, and all Visible things, yet doer be allow the weaker, to worship God in his Progeny. And Socrates persuades Euthydemus to be contented herewith. Besides which, some Pagans worshipping the Elements, directed their Intention to the Spirits of those Elements, as Julian in Ammianus (these being supposed also to be Animated) or else to those Demons, whom they conceived to inhabit them, or preside over them.

Page 516, 518

XXXIII. Further to be observed, That amongst those Natures of things, some were merely Accidental, as Hope, Love, Desire, Memory, Truth, Virtue, Piety, Faith, Justice, Concord, Clemency, Victory, Echo, Night. According to which, the vulgar Athenians supposed S. Paul to have Deified Anastasis, or made a God of the Resurrection, as well as a God of Jesus. Vices also sometimes thus Deified by them, as Contumely, and Impudence, (to whom were Temples dedicated at Athens) though to the end that these things might be Deprecated. These Accidents sometimes Deified under Counterfeit Proper Names, as Pleasure under the name of Voluptas, and Lubentina Venus; Time under the name of Chronos or Saturn; Prudence or Wisdom, under the names of Athena or Minerva: against which Origen in his answer to Celsus. Cicero himself allowed of Dedicating Temples to Mind, Vertue, Piety, Faith, &c.

518, 520

But such Accidents and Affections of Things Deified, could not possibly be Accounted True and Proper Gods, they having not *ὑπόστασις καὶ οὐσία*, any Real Subistence, or Substantiall Essence of their own. And thus does Origen again dispute against Minerva's Godship, as Tropologized into Prudence. As he doth also elsewhere, upon the same Ground, against that of Memory the Mother of the Muses, and that of the Graces: he concluding, these and such like therefore, to be nothing but Figures of the Greeks, they being Things Personated, and Feigned with Humane

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Humane Members. *That the Pagans condemned by Prudentius also, for Feigning Things Incorporeal, with Counterfeit Members. These Gods plainly Exploded by Cotta, or Cicero in disguise; as having onely Vim Rerum, but not Deorum, the Force of Things, but not of Gods in them; or being but Naturæ Rerum, and not Figuræ Deorum.*

Page 520, 521

Wherefore the True meaning of these Deified Natures of Things could be no other then this, that God was to be acknowledged and worshipped in All things; or, as the Pagans themselves declare it, that the Force of every thing was, both governed by God, and it self Divine. Pliny of this Breaking and Crumbling of the Deity into Parts, Every one Worshipping that in God, and for a God, which himself most stood in need of. This dividing of the Simple Deity, and Worshipping it Brokenly by parcels and piecemeal, as manifested in all the Several Things of Nature, and Parts of the world, Justly Censured, and Elegantly Perstringed, by Prudentius against Symmachus. Where Prudentius grants, that Symmachus, who declared, that it was One thing which all worshipped; when he sacrificed to Victory, did sacrifice to God Almighty, under that Partiall Notion, as the Giver of Victory. This in the Egyptian Allegory, Osiris Mangled, and Cut in pieces by Typhon. Victory and Vertue, as well as Neptune, Mars, and Bellona, but several names or Notions of Jupiter, in the Prologue of Plautus his Amphitryo.

521, 522

Vossius his opinion, that these Deified Accidents, and Natures of Things, as well as the other Pagan Invisible Gods, were commonly lookt upon by the Vulgar, as so many Single Substantiall Minds, or Spirits Created by the Supreme God, and appointed to preside over those several things respectively. Where it is acknowledged: that neither the Political, nor the Poetical Gods of the Pagans, were taken so much as by the Vulgar, for so many Independent Deities.

523, 524

Probably, that by these Gods, the Wi-

ser Pagans sometimes understood, Demons in General, or Collectively; that is, whosoever they were that were appointed to preside over those several Things, or dispense them. As Æolus in Arrianus, seems to be taken for the Demons appointed by God Almighty to preside over the Winds.

Page 524, 525

Lactantius his Reason, why the Conferences and Select Gods, vulgarly worshipped by the Romans, could not be Single Demons or Angels.

525

And from Aristotle's Observation, against Zeno, That according to Law or Civil Theology, One God was chief for one thing, and another for another; Concluded, that these Political Gods were not properly the Subservient Ministers of the Supreme; and therefore could be nothing, but several Names and Notions of One Natural God, according to his Various Powers and Effects.

525, 526

And thus does Vossius himself afterwards confess, That, according to the Natural Theology, all the Pagan Gods were but Several Denominations of one God. Where notwithstanding this Learned and Industrious Philologer, seems to take the Natural and Philosophick Theology, for the Physiologick, he making the God thereof, the Nature of things. Whereas the Natural Theology, was the True and Real, and Philosophical, opposed both to the Fictions of the Poets, and the Institutes of Law-makers and Politicians. As Varro affirmeth, that in Cities those things were Worshipped and believed, according to False Opinions, which had no Nature, nor Real Subsistence, neither in the World, nor without it. The God of the Pagans not the Nature of things, which could be the Numen of none but of Atheists; but an Understanding Being, the Great Mind, or Soul of the whole World, pervading all things. Thus unquestionably true, that the Many Poetical and Political Gods, were but several Names or Notions, of One Natural, Real, and True God. Besides which, there were other Inferiour Ministers of this Supreme God, acknowledged to be the Instruments

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of his Providence, and Religiously worshipped also. A brief, but full account, of the Pagans Natural Theology, set down by Prudentius. Page 526, 527

And when the more high-flown Pagans referred these Poetical and Political Gods to the Divine Ideas, or Patterns of things in the Archetypal World; which besides the Platonists, the Egyptians in Celsus are said to have done, making the Brute Animals worshipped by them, but Symbols of the Eternal Ideas; They hereby made these Gods to be but so many Partiall Considerations of One God neither, as being All things, or Containing in himself the Causes of all things; as Julian himself declareth in his Sixth Oration. 527, 528

An Anacephalaosis, That much of the Pagan Polytheism, was but the Polyonymy of One God; he being worshipped under several Names. First, according to several General Notions of him; as of Janus, Genius, Saturn, Minerva, Urania, or the Heavenly Venus, or Love, and others before declared. So also of Summanus, according to S. Austin, and Themis, afterwards to be mentioned. 528, 529

And Secondly, according to other more Particular Notions of him, (in their Special Gods) as Acting in some Parts of the world onely, or exercising some Particular Powers. 529, 530

And Lastly, as Pervading All things, and Being All things, or the Cause of All things, he was thereupon called by the Name of Every thing, or Every thing by his Name. The Pagans in S. Austin; That their Ancestors were not so sottish, as not to understand, that those Things of Nature were but Divine Gifts, and not Themselves Gods. And the Pagans in Eusebius; That the Invisible God, the Cause of All things, ought to be worshipped in his Visible Effects, wherein he hath displayed himself. 530

Though the Two former Kinds of these Gods onely, called by Athanasius Poetical and Fictitious, be opposing them to those of the Third sort, that were Natural and Real things; yet may these also be well cal-

led Poetical, Fictitious, and Phantastical Gods too; because though themselves were Real things, Existing in Nature, yet was their Personation, and Deification, meer Fiction, Fancy and Poetry. And accordingly, were they before called by Origen *ἑλλήνων ἀναπλάσματα*, meer Figments of the Greeks. Page 530, 531

XXXIV. Of those Pagans who supposed the Supreme God to be the Whole Animated World. Hitherto shewed, that even the most Refined of the Pagans agreed in these Two things. First, in Breaking and Crumbling the One Simple Deity, and multiplying it into Many Gods; or Parcelling it out into several Particular Notions, according to its several Powers and Virtues. (*Πολυθεῖαν* being, to these Pagans, the same thing with *Πολυδύναμον*.) And then, in Theologizing the whole World, Personating and Deifying the Natures of Things, Accidents, and Inanimate Bodies. They supposing God to Pervade all things, and Himself to be in a manner All things; Therefore every thing to the Religious, Sacred and Divine; and God to be Worshipped in All. 531, 532

We shall now add, that both those fore-mentioned Principles, of God's Pervading all things, and his Being all things, were carried on farther, by those Pagan Theologers, who had no higher Notion of the Supreme Deity than as the Soul of the World. For First, Whereas the more Refined Pagans supposed God to Pervade all things Unmixedly; These Mingled and Confounded him with the whole World. Some of them supposing him also to be a Subtile Body. 532, 533

Again, Whereas the other more Sublimated Pagans affirmed God so to be All, as nevertheless to be something also Above all; These concluded him, to be nothing Higher than the Animated World. 533

And though they supposed, that as well in this Mundane Animal, as in other Animals, there was something Principal and Hegemonical, (whether the Sun, or Æther, or Fire,) which therefore was Emphatically called God; yet did they conceive the whole Matter thereof to be Animated, and

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and so to be All God. Not barely as Matter, but by reason of the Soul thereof.

Page 534, 535

Now if the Whole World Animated be the Supreme God, then must all the Parts and Members of the World be the Parts and Members of One God; but not themselves therefore properly so Many Gods. This affirmed by Origen, as the True Sense of these Pagans, against that unwary Assertion of Celsus, That If the Whole were God, then must the several Parts thereof needs be Gods.

535

Wherefore though these Pagans Deified the Parts of the World and Natures of Things, as well as the Powers of the Mundane Soul; yet did not the Intelligent amongst them Worship them severally, as so many True and Proper Gods, but only as the Parts and Members of one Great Animal or God; or rather Worship the great Mundane Soul (the Life of the whole World) in them all. This proved from S. Austin.

536, 537

The same plainly declared also by the Pagans in Athanasius, That not the Divided Parts of the World were by them accounted so many several Gods, but the Whole, made up of them All, One God; which yet might be worshipped in its several Parts.

537

The Pagans being thus divided, as to their Opinions, concerning the Natural and True Theology; some of them worshipped the World as the Body of God, but others only as his Image or Temple. Thus Plutarch, though disliking the Deifying of Inanimate Things, did notwithstanding approve of Worshipping God in the Whole World, as his most Sacred Temple. And the Persian Magi, allowing of no Artificiall Temples, made with mens hands, worshipped God sub Dio, and upon the Tops of Mountains, as conceiving the Whole World to be his Natural Temple. For the same Reason did they condemn also Artificiall Statues and Images, concluding Fire, Earth, and Water, and the like Parts of the World, to be the Natural Images of the Deity. Thus Dino in Clemens Alexandrinus. This Difference amongst the Pagan Theologers

noted by Macrobius. Thus were all the Pagans World-Worshippers, in different Senses: but not as a Dead and Inanimate Thing, but either as the Body of God, or else as his Temple or Image.

537, 539

Furthermore, the Pagans Universally acknowledging the World to be an Animal, those of them who supposed it not to be the First and Highest God, conceived it to be either a Second, or else a Third God; and so worshipped it, not only as a Temple or Image, but also as the Son of the First God. Celsus pretended the Christians to have called their Jesus, the Son of God, in Imitation of these Pagans, who styled the World so.

539, 540

Thus have we made it fully to appear, That, according to the Saying of Ansthenes, the Many Popular Gods of the Pagans were but One and the Same Natural God; or, according to that of Euclides, their Many Gods were but Many Names. So that neither their Poetical, nor yet their Political Theology, was looked upon by them as True and Natural.

540

Nevertheless, the Wiser Pagans generally concluded, that there ought to be another Theology, besides the Natural, fitly Calculated for the Vulgar, and having a Mixture of Falschood and Falschosity in it. Varro and Scævola agreed, that the Vulgar being Uncapable of the True and Natural Theology, it was expedient for them to be Deceived in their Religion. Strabo also, that the Vulgar cannot by Philosophick Reason, and Truth, be carried on to Piety; but this must be done by Superstition, and by the help of Fables, and Prodigious Relations. The same partly acknowledged by Synesius for true. Plato also; That it is Hard to find out God, but Impossible to declare him to the Vulgar; and therefore a necessity of a Civil Theology, distinct from the Natural and Philosophical.

540, 542

XXXV. We come now to the next thing Proposed, That, besides this Seeming and Phantastick Polytheism of the Pagans, which was nothing but the Polyonymy of One God, they had another Reall Polytheism, even in their Natural and Philo-

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sophick Theology is self. But this not of Self-existent Gods, but Generated or Created ones onely. Thus, according to Plutarch, One Highest Unmade God, is the Maker and Father of all the other Gods, Generated or Derived from him. And Proclus concludes, All the Gods to derive their Godship from the First God; who therefore is the Fountain of the God-head. Page 542, 543

These Inferiour Pagan Gods, styled by Ammianus Marcellinus, Substantiall Powers, in way of opposition to those other Poetical and Political Gods, that were not Substantiall or Reall, but onely several Names or Notions of One Supreme God. Those Substantiall Powers (as Divination and Prophecy was by them imparted to men) said to be all Subject to that One Sovereign Deity, called Themis, placed by Pagan Theologers in the Throne of Jupiter. This Themis also another Name or Notion of the Supreme God, besides those before mentioned. Poetry and Phantastrie intermingled by the Pagans with their Natural or Philosophick Theology. 543, 544

Thus the Pagans held both One God, and Many Gods, in different Senses. Onatus and Plotinus, That the Majesty of the Supreme God consisteth, in having Multitudes of Gods Dependent on him, and Ruled by him; and that the Honour done to them, redounds to him. The Gods of the Oriental Pagans, not meer Dead Statues and Images, but Living Understanding Beings, Represented by them. That Christians asserted no Solitary Deity, as Pagans pretended, but agreed with this of Seneca, That God hath Generated, or Created, innumerable Understanding Beings Superiour to Men, Ministers of his Kingdom; The onely difference being this, that they gave them no Religious Worship: Out of Lactantius. 544, 546

XXXVI. *That besides the Inferiour Gods, generally received by all the Pagans; (namely, Animated Stars, Demons, and Heroes) the more refined of them, who accounted not the Animated World the Supreme Deity, acknowledge-*

ed a Trinity of Divine Hypostases, Superiour to them all. Which Doctrine affirmed by Plotinus to have been very Ancient, and no Invention of Plato's.

Page 546

Parmenides an Asserter of a Trinity, long before Plato. This imputed to the Pythagoreans, by Moderatus in Simplicius, and Iamblichus in Proclus. Before Pythagoras, Orpheus had his Trinity, Phanes, Uranus, and Chronus; the same with Plato's Three Kings or Principles. Probable, that Pythagoras and Orpheus derived the same from the Theology of the Egyptian Hermes. Some Footsteps of such a Trinity, in the Mithraick Mysteries, amongst the Persians, and the Zoroastrian Cabala. The same expressly declared in the Magick or Chaldaick Oracles. A Trinity of Gods worshipped Anciently by the Samothracians, and called by an Hebrew name Cabiri, the Mighty Gods. From thence the Roman Capitoline Trinity derived; The Second whereof, Minerva, or the Divine Wisdom. The Ternary, a Number used by the Pagans, in their Religious Rites, as Mysterious. 546, 547

*It being no way Probable, that such a Trinity of Divine Hypostases should have sprung from Humane Wit, we may reasonably assent to what Proclus affirmeth, that it was at first *ὑποταγιδότος* *ὑποταγής*, a Theology of Divine Tradition or Revelation: As having been first imparted to the Hebrews, and from them communicated to other Nations. Nevertheless, as this Divine Cabbala was but little understood by these Pagans; so was it by many of them Depraved and Adulterated.*

547, 548

This called Universally by them, a Trinity of Gods; or a First, Second, and Third God: by some a Trinity of Causes, and of Principles, and of Officers. The Tradition of the Three Gods, in Proclus, Ancient and Famous. Numenius his Three Gods, called by him, the Father, the Son, and the Nephew, (or Grandson.) Nous or Intellect, to Plotinus, a Second God: as also the World an Image of all the Three Gods. Plotinus

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tinus and Porphyrius, their supposed Ec-
statick Union with the First of these
Three Gods. Page 548, 549

That Philo, a Religious Jew, and Zea-
lous Opposer of the Pagan Polytheism,
called, notwithstanding, the Divine Word
also, a Second God. This not agreeable
to the Principles of Christianity. Ne-
vertheless S. Austin partly excuses this
Language in the Pagans. 549, 550

And They perhaps the more excusable,
because they sometimes called also those
Three Hypostases, taken all together, the
First God. 551

Nor was this Trinity of Divine Hypo-
stases Ill-Languaged only by the Pa-
gans, but also the Cabbala thereof much
Depraved and Adulterated, by some
Platonists and Pythagoreans. As First,
such as made the World to be the
Third God. Such a Trinity, a Con-
founding of God and Creature together.
551, 552

And that this an Adulterated Notion
of the Trinity, evident from hence; be-
cause no Reason why these Philosophers
should stop here, since the Sun, Moon and
Stars, and their other Generated Gods,
differ not in Kind, but only in Degree,
from the World. 552

Neither will this excuse them, that they
understood this chiefly of the Soul of the
World; Since if there were such a Mun-
dane Soul, as together with the World
made up One Animal, this it self must
needs be a Creature also. ibid.

This probably the Reason, why Philo,
though acknowledging the Divine Word,
as a Second God, and Second Cause,
yet no-where speaketh of a Third God;
lest he should thereby seem to Deify the
whole Created World. Though he call
God also, in some Sense, the Soul of the
World too, (whether meaning thereby his
First, or his Second God.) So that Philo
seems to have acknowledged only a Dua-
lity, and not a Trinity, of Divine Hypo-
stases. 552, 553

Another Depravation of this *Συνω-
δοτος Θεολογία*, Theology of Divine Tra-
dition, or Cabbala of the Trinity, That
some of these Platonists and Pythagore-

ans, concluding all those several Idea's of
the Divine Intellect, or Archetypall
World, to be so many distinct Substances,
Animals, and Gods; have thereby made
their Second Hypostasis, not One, but a
Heap of Innumerable Gods and Hyposta-
ses; and consequently destroyed their
Trinity. Page 553

Though Philo again here Platonized so
far, as to suppose an Incorporeal Heaven
and Earth, and an Intelligible Sun,
Moon, and Stars, to have been made be-
fore the Corporeal and Sensible; yet does
he no-where declare them to be so many
distinct Substances and Animals; much
less Gods; but on the contrary censures
that for Pagan Idolatry. This Pretence
of worshipping the Divine Idea's, in all
Sensible things, that which gave San-
guary and Protection to the Foullest and
Sottishest of all the Pagan Idolatries; The
Egyptians worshipping Brute Animals thus,
and the Greeks, the Parts of the World
Inanimate, and Natures of Things.

554
A Third Depravation or Adulteration
of the Divine Cabbala of the Trinity, by
Proclus and other latter Platonists, af-
fecting an innumerable Company of Henades,
Particular Unities, Superiour to the
First Nous, or Intellect, their Second Hy-
postasis; as also innumerable Noes, Sub-
stantiall Minds or Intellects, Superiour to
the First Psyche, their Third Hypostasis.

555
These Noes seem to be asserted by
Plotinus also; as likewise the Henades
and Agathotetes were by Simplicius.

555, 556
A Swarm of Innumerable Pagan Gods
from hence; besides their Intelligible
Gods, or Idea's, Particular Henades and
Noes, Unities and Intellects. ibid.

Now since these Particular Henades
and Noes of theirs must needs be Crea-
tures; the Trinity of Proclus and such
others, nothing but a Scale or Ladder of
Nature, wherein God and the Creature
are Confounded together; the Juncture or
Commixture betwixt them being no-where
discernible; as if they differ'd only in
Degrees: A gross Mistake and Adultera-
(c 3) ration

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ration of the Ancient Cabbala of the Trinity. Page 556, 557

This that Platonick, or rather Pseudo-Platonick Trinity, by us opposed to the Christian; viz. such a Trinity, as confounds the Differences betwixt God and the Creature; bringing the Deity, by degrees, down lower and lower, and at length scattering it into all the Animated Parts of the World; A Foundation for Infinite Polytheism, Cosmolatry or World-Idolatry, and Creature-Worship. Hence the Platonists and Pythagoreans, the Fittest men to be Champions for Paganism against Christianity. 557, 558

Concerning the Christian Trinity, Three things to be Observed. First, that it is not a Trinity of meer Names and Words, nor Logickall Notions, or Inadequate Conceptions of God; this Doctrine having been condemned by the Christian Church, in Sabellius and others; but a Trinity of Hypostases, Subsistences, or Persons. 558, 559

The Second thing Observable in the Christian Trinity, That though the Second Hypostasis thereof were Begotten from the First, and the Third Proceedeth both from the First and Second; yet neither of them Creatures. First, because not made ἐκ ὕλης, or from an Antecedent Non-existence brought forth into Being, but both of them Coeternall with the Father. Secondly, because all Necessarily existent, and Un-Annihilable. Thirdly, because all of them Universall, or Infinite, and Creatours of all other Particular Beings. 559

*The Third Observable as to the Christian Trinity, That the Three Hypostases thereof are all Truly and Really One God; not only by Reason of Agreement of Will, but also of a Mutuall *μεταξύνης* and *ἀνσπάρξης*, Permeation of each other, and Inexistence. Though no Instance of the like Unity to be found elsewhere in Nature; yet since two distinct Substances, Corporeal, and Incorporeal, make one Man and Person in our Selves; much more may Three Divine Hypostases be One God. *ibid.**

Though much of Mystery in the Chri-

stian Trinity, yet nothing of plain Contradiction to Reason therein; that is, no Nonsense, and Impossibility. The ill Design of those, who represent the Christian Trinity as absolutely Contradictory to Reason, that they may thereby debauch mens Understandings, and make them swallow down other things which unquestionably are such. Page 560

*The Christian Trinity much more agreeable to Reason, then the Pseudo-Platonick, in the Three Particulars before mentioned. First, its making their Third Hypostasis the Animated World, or Mundane Soul. Which, not only too great a Leap betwixt the Second and Third, but also a gross Debasement of the Deity, and Confounding it with the Creature; a Foundation for World-Idolatry, and worshipping Inanimate Things, as Parts and Members of God. *ibid.**

God to Origen, but Quasi Anima Mundi, As it were the Soul of the World, and not Truly and Properly such. All the Perfection of this Notion to be attributed to God, but not the Imperfection thereof. 560, 561

*Certain, that according to the more refined Platonists, their Third Divine Hypostasis, not a Mundane, but Supra-mundane Soul, and the *δευτερος* or Opificer of the whole World. So to Amelius, Porphyrius, and Plotinus. A Double Soul of the World to Plato likewise. The Third Hypostasis, to these, no Creature, but a Creatour. 562*

*So in their Second Particular, (whereby the forementioned Pseudo-Platonick Trinity, no Trinity) its making all the Idea's and Archetypal Paradigms of things, so many Hypostases, Animals, and Gods. This a Monstrous Extravagancy. Not to be doubted, but that Plato well understood these Idea's to be Nothing but Noemata, or Conceptions of the Divine Mind, existing no-where apart by themselves; however called *νόαι*, Effences or Substances, because not such Accidental and Evaniid things as our Humane Thoughts are, they being the Standing and Eternall Objects of all Science; As also ζῷα, or Animals; to signify that they*

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they were not meer Dead Forms, as Pictures upon Paper, or Carved Statues. And thus did not onely Amelius understand S. John, concerning the Logos, Whatsoever was made was Life in him, but also drivers of the Ancient Fathers, Greek and Latin. This Deifying of Ideas's, but a Piece of Pagan Poetry.

Page 562, 563

Lastly, whereas Proclus and others intermingle many Particular Gods, with those Three Universal Hypostases, as Henades and Agathotetes, Unities and Goodnesses, Substantiall above the First Intellect; and Noes, Particular Minds or Intellects, above the First Soul; This Hypothesis of theirs, altogether Irrational and Absurd; there being Nothing Essentially Goodness, Wisdom, and Sanctity, but the Three Divine Hypostases, all other Beings having onely a Participation thereof. Thus Origen expressly; who therefore acknowledgeth no higher Rank of Created Beings, then such as the Platonists call Souls, that are Self-moveable, Vitally Unitable to Bodies, and Peccable. With whom agreeth S. Jerome, and others of the Fathers, That God is the onely Impeccable Being; but all Understanding Creatures, Free-willed, and Lapfable.

564, 565

An Opinion of Simplicius, that even in that Rank of Beings called Souls (though not Essentially Immutable, but Self-moveable) some are of so high a Pitch, as that they can never Degenerate, nor Sink or Fall into Vicious Habits. Inso-much that he makes a Question whether Progresses belong to them or no.

565, 566

But whatever is to be thought of this, Origen too far in the other Extream, in denying any other Ranks of Souls above Humane; and supposing all the Difference, that is now betwixt the highest Angels, and Men, to have proceeded only from their Merits, and different uses of their Free Will; his Reason being this, because God would be otherwise a Protopoietes or Acceptor of Persons. This also Extended by him to the Soul of our Saviour Christ; as not Partially chosen to that Dignity, but for its Faithfull ad-

herence to the Divine Word in a Pre-existent State; which he would prove from Scripture. But if a Rank of Souls below Humane, and Specifically differing from them, as Origen himself confesses those of Brutes to be; no reason why there might not also be other Ranks or Species Superiour to them.

Page 566, 567

But least of all can we assent to Origen, when from this Principle, That all Souls are Essentially endued with Free Will, and therefore in their Nature Peccable, he infers those Endless Circuits of Souls, Upwards and Downwards, and consequently denies them any Fixed State of Holiness and Happiness by Divine Grace: an Assertion contrary to the Tenour and Promises of the Gospell. Thus perhaps that to be understood, That Christ brought Life and Immortality to Light thorough the Gospell: not as if he were the First who taught the Soul's Immortality, a thing believed before by the Pharisaeick Jews, and Generality of Pagans; but because these held their Endless Transmigrations and Circuits, therefore was he the first who brought everlasting Life and Happiness to Light.

567, 568

That Origen, a man well skilled in the Platonick Learning, and so much addicted to the Dogmata thereof, would never have gone so far into that other Extreme had there been any Solidity of Reason, for either those Henades, or Noes, of the Latter Platonists. This Opinion all one, as if a Christian should suppose, besides the First Person, or Father, a Multitude of Particular Paternities, Superiour to the Second Person; and also besides the One Son, or Word, a Multitude of Particular Sons or Words, Superiour to the Third, the Holy Ghost. This plainly to make a Breach upon the Deity, and to introduce a company of such Creaturely Gods, as imply a Contradiction in their very Notion.

568

Lastly, this not the Catholick Doctrine of the Platonick School neither, but a Private Opinion onely of some late Doctors. No Footsteps of those Henades and Agathotetes to be found any-where in Plato; nor yet in Plotinus. This Lan-

guage

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guage little Older then Proclus. Nor does Plato speak of any Abstract or Separate Mind, save only One: His Second things about the Second, being Idea's; as his Thirds about the Third Created Beings. Plotinus also doubtfull and staggering about these Noes, he seeming sometimes to make them but the Heads or Summities of Souls. Wherefore this Pseudo-Platonick Trinity to be Exploded, as Confounding the Differences betwixt God and the Creature. Wherein the Christian Trinity Homogeneall, all Deity or Creatour; all other things being supposed to be the Creatures of those Three Hypostases, and produced by their Joynt-Concurrence and Influence; they being all Really but One God. Page 568, 570

Nevertheless, these forementioned Depravations and Adulterations of that Divine Cabbala of the Trinity, not to be charged upon Plato himself, nor all the other Ancient Platonists and Pythagoreans; some of which approached so near to the Christian Trinity, as to make their Three Hypostases all truly Divine, and Creatours, other things being the Creatures of them. *ibid.*

First therefore, Plato himself, in his Timæus, carefully distinguisheth betwixt God and the Creature, and determineth the bounds of each, after this manner. That the First, is that which Always Is, and was never Made; the Second, that which is Made and had a Beginning, but truly Is not. His meaning here perverted by Junior Platonists, whom Boetius also followed. Where Plato takes it for granted, That whatsoever hath a Temporary and Successive Duration, had a Beginning; and whatsoever had no Beginning, hath no Successive, but Permanent Duration; and so concludes, That whatsoever is Eternall, is God; but whatsoever exists in Time, and hath a Beginning, Creature. 570, 572

Now to Plato, more Eternall Gods then One. Which not Idea's or Noemata, but true Substantiall Things; his First, Second, and Third, in his Epistle to Dionysius, or Trinity of Divine Hypostases, the Markers or Creatours of the whole World.

Cicero's Gods, by whose Providence the World and all its Parts were framed.

Page 572, 573

The Second Hypostasis in Plato's Trinity, to wit, Mind or Intellect, unquestionably Eternal, and without Beginning. The same affirmed by Plotinus also, of the Third Hypostasis, or Psyche, called the Word of the Second, as the Second, the Word of the First. Porphyrius his Testimony to this purpose in S. Cyril; where also Mind, or the Second Divine Hypostasis, (though said to have been Begotten from the First, yet) called *αὐτογενής*, and *αὐτοῦ γένος*, Its Own-Parent, and its Own-Offspring, and said to have sprung out *αὐτοῦ γένος*, Self-begottenly. Page 573, 574.

This Mysterious Riddle expounded out of Plotinus. The plain meaning thereof no more then this, That though this Second Hypostasis proceeded from the First, yet was it not produced by it after a Creaturely manner, nor Arbitrarily by Will and Choice, but in way of Natural and Necessary Emanation. Thus have some Christians ventured to call the Logos, *αὐτογενής*, and *Ex seipso Deum*, God from himself. 574, 575

Dionysius Petavius, having declared the Doctrine of Arius, that the Father was the only Eternal God, and the Son, or Word, a Creature, made in Time, and out of Nothing; Concludes it undeniably manifest from hence, that Arius was a German, True, and Genuine Platonist. Whereas it is most certain from hence, that Arius was no Platonist at all; and that Petavius himself did not well understand the Platonick Doctrine. Had Plato denied the Eternity of his Second Hypostasis, called Nous, he must have denied the Eternity of Wisdom and Understanding it self; this being to him that Wisdom by which God himself is Wise, and whereby he made the World. With which agreeth also Athanasius; Our Lord is Wisdom, and not Second to any other Wisdom: and, The Father of the Word is not himself Word: and, That was not Word and Wisdom, which produced Word and Wisdom. This in opposition to Arius,

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Arius, who maintained Another Word and Wisdom, Senior to that Word and Wisdom in Christ. These Platonists, so far from denying the Eternity of the Word, that they rather attributed too much to it, in making it Self-begotten. Wherefore Plato, asserting the Eternity of his Second Hypostasis, Nous or Logos, and not of the World, did thereby, according to Athanasius his own Doctrine, make it to be no Creature. Page 575

Nor is there any force at all in that Testimony of Macrobius, cited by Petavius, to the contrary, wherein the First Hypostasis is said to have Created Mind from it self, and the Second to have Created Soul; because these Ancient Pagans did not confine the word Create, to such a narrow sense as Christians commonly do; but used it generally for all manner of Production. Petavius his mistake, chiefly from that Spurious Trinity of the latter Platonists, whose Third God is by themselves called *minua*, a Creature. But this not the Doctrine of the Ancients. 576

Nevertheless, some more Reason to doubt, whether Plato's Third Hypostasis were Eternal, because in his Timæus, he Generates the Mundane Soul. This Controversy decided, by supposing a Double Psyche, *ψυχαι*, and *ψυχαι*, a Mundane, and Supra-Mundane Soul; the first of these called by Plotinus, a Heavenly Venus, and a Separate Soul. Wherefore though the Lower Venus, or Mundane Soul, according to Plato, made in Time together with the World; yet the Higher Divine Soul, or Heavenly Venus, the Son of Chronus without a Mother, his Third Hypostasis, Eternal, and without Beginning. 576, 577

This further Evident from hence, Because Plato in his Epistle to Dionysius, affirmeth as well of the Second, and Third, as of the First, that in all these things that are Cognate to our Humane Soul, (or Creaturally) there is *οὐκ ἔστιν*, Nothing like therunto. 577

Secondly, The Three Hypostases of Plato's Trinity, not only all Eternall, but also Necessarily Existent, and Absolutely Unannihilable. Nor could the First any more Exist without the Second and Third, then the Sun without its Primary Light, and Secondary Splendor. These according to Plotinus, the Three Principles of the Universe; so that there could be neither More, nor Fewer. They also who called the Second, Autopator, signified thereby, the Necessity of its Existence. 577, 578

Thirdly, These Three Platonick Hypostases, as Eternall, and Necessary, so likewise Universal, or Comprehensive of the Whole World, that is, Infinite and Omnipotent. Therefore called Principles, and Causes, and

Opificers. Though Nous or Mind vulgarly look upon as the Highest Principle of all things, yet Plato set before it, One Most Simple Good. When Nous said by Plato, to be *πρῶτον*, of the Same Kind, with the First Cause of all things; this all one as if he had affirmed it to be *ἀσώματος*, Co-Essential or Consubstantial with it. Pag. 578,

Plato's Third Hypostasis, Psyche, or the Superiour Mundane Soul, called by him Zeus, from *ζῆς*, as also the Cause and Fountain of Life, and the Prince and King of all things. And when said to be *ἐκ γένεσος*, the Offspring of the Highest Mind, thereby made Consubstantial with it also. So that Plato's whole Trinity Homocousian. 579

Though by the Demiurgus or Opificer, Plato commonly meant the Second Hypostasis, Mind or Intellect; yet Atticus, Amelius, Plotinus and others, called the Third or the Higher Psyche also, by that Name. Wherefore according to the Genuine Platonick, and Parmenidian Trinity, all the Three Hypostases Joynt-Creatours of the whole World. Thus Ficinus often, and Proclus. Porphyrius his Affirmation, that the Deity according to Plato, Extends to Three Hypostases. Ibid.

Certain therefore, that Arius did not Platonize, but rather Athanasius and the Nicene Fathers; who notwithstanding made not Plato, but the Scriptures, their Foundation. The Genuine Trinity of Plato and Parmenides, a Middle betwixt that of Sabellius, and that of Arius; it being neither a Trinity of Words and Names, as the Former; nor an Heterocousious Trinity, a Confused Jumble of God and Creature together; but Homocousious and Homogeneous: all Eternall, Necessarily Existent, Infinite or Omnipotent, and Creatour. 579, 580

But that it may yet more fully appear, how far the most refined Platonick and Parmenidian Trinity, does either Agree or Disagree, with the Scripture and Christian Doctrine, Two things further to be Observed concerning it. First, that the Platonists Universally asserted an Essential Dependence of their Second and Third Hypostases upon the First, as also a Gradual Subordination in them. Thus Plotinus; Chronos, or the Second Hypostasis, is in a Middle State betwixt his Father who is Greater, and his Son who is Inferiour. And that in this Eternal Generation or Emanation, no Progress Upward, but all Downward, and a Gradual Descent. 580, 581

More of the Dependence and Gradual Subordination of the Second and Third Hypostases of the Platonick Trinity, to the First. Each following Hypostasis called *ἑξ ἑσῶς*, and *ἑξ ἑσῶς*, (f) and

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and *αἰὼς*, and *αἰδωλόν*, and *κρίμα* of that before it. Philo's *Offensive Expression*, That the Logos, or Word, is the Shadow of God. This Gradation commonly Illustrated by the *ἑκατάβητος* or *αὐτοφάνεια*, the Effulgency or Out-shining Splendor of the Sun. Page 581, 582

The same further manifested, from the several Distinctive Characters, given to each Hypothesis, in the True Platonick or Parmenidian Trinity. The First, *ἡ ἀρχὴ νοῦς*, One before all things; The Second, *ἡ ψυχή*, One All things, as to their Distinct Idea's; The Third, *ἡ σὰν νοῦς*, One Really producing All things. The First, Unity and Goodness Essential; the Second, Understanding and Wisdom; the Third, Self-Active Love and Power. The First or Father *ἀνάρχων*, Above Action; The Second or Son the Demiurgus, The Maker or contriving Architect of the World, but an Immovable Nature; The Third a Movable Deity; and the Immediate Governour of the whole World. Amelius his Distinction of them into *ἡ νοῦς*, *ἡ ψυχή*, *ἡ σὰν νοῦς*. 582, 583

The greatest Difficulty in the distinctive Characters of these Three Platonick Hypotheses; That Understanding, Reason, and Wisdom, should be made Peculiar to the Second, as if the First were therefore devoid of Mind, Reason and Wisdom. This an Arcanum of the Platonick and Pythagorick Theology: That whereas Anaxagoras, Aristotle, and the Vulgar, make Mind and Understanding, the Olden of all things, and the Highest Principle in the Universe; this supposes Mind, Knowledge, and Wisdom, to be, not the First, but Second. Partly because there is Multiplicity in Knowledge, but there must be Unity before Multiplicity. And partly because there must be *Νοῦς* before *Νεῖς*, An Object or Intelligible before Intellect. As also, because Intellection, or Knowledge, is not the Highest Good, or Happiness, and therefore to be some Substantial thing, in order of Nature Superiour to Mind. Hence concluded, that the Supreme Deity is Better then Logos, Reason, Word, or Intellect. That not Logos, from whence Logos is derived. Thus Philo; The God before Reason or Word, better then all the Rational Nature. But this Difficulty common to Platonism, with Christianity; which likewise makes Word or Reason and Wisdom, not the First, but Second Hypothesis. Thus does Athanasius deny that there is any Word, Reason, or Wisdom, before the Son of God. What then? Is the First Hypothesis therefore *ἄν*, and *ἐν*, Devoid of Reason and Mind? Plotinus his Attempts to answer this; That the First hath *αὐτὸς αἰὼς*, A Simple Light, different from that Multifarious Light of Knowledge. Again, That the First

is *Νοῦς αὐτὸς*, Intelligence it self, and therefore Superiour to Intellect, or that which hath Intellection. (For *ἡ νῆς ἡ νοῦς*, Intelligence it self doth not Understand.) Besides which, another Attempt also to salve this Difficulty. Page 583, 586

The Ground of this Platonick Dependence and Subordination in the Divine Hypotheses, Because there is but One Fountain of the Godhead; so that the Second must needs differ from the First, as the *ἀνέκασμα* from the *αἰὼς*, The Splendor from the Sun. 586, 587

Though the Second Hypothesis said to have been Begotten, from the First; yet this not to be taken for such a Generation, as that of Men, where Three Men, (Father, Son, and Grandson) all Adult, have no Essential Dependence upon one another, nor Gradual Subordination. This but an Imperfect Generation. 587

Furthermore, the Platonists would recommend this their Gradation in the Deity, or Subordination of Hypotheses, from hence, Because by this means, not so great a Leap or Jump in the Creation, as otherwise there must be; nor the Whole Deity screwed up to such a Disproportionate Height, as would render it Un capable of having any Intercourse with the Lower World. Were the whole Deity, either One Simple Monade, or else an Immovable Mind, it could have no such Liberty of Will as is commonly attributed to it, nor be Affectible with any thing here below; nor indeed any fitter Object for mens Devotion, then an Adamantine Rock. Whereas all the Phenomena of the Deity salvable by this Platonick Gradation. 587, 588

As also according to this Hypothesis, some reasonable satisfaction to be given, why just so many Divine Hypotheses, and neither Fewer, nor More. 588

The Second thing to be Observed, concerning the Genuine Platonick, or Parmenidian Trinity; That though the Hypotheses thereof be called Three Natures, and Three Principles, and Three Opificers, and Three Gods; yet they all Really make up but One Divinity. For the World, being Created by all Three, and yet having but One Creation, they must needs be all One Creatour. Porphyrius in S. Cyril explicitly, That, according to Plato, the Essence of the Deity extendeth to Three Hypotheses. 588, 589

Platonists further adde, That were it not for this Essential Dependence, and Subordination, the Three Divine Hypotheses must needs be Three Co-ordinate Gods; and no more One God, then Three Men are One Man, or Three Suns One Sun. Whereas the Sun, its Splendor, and Derivative Light, may all well be accounted One and the same Thing. 589, 590

These Platonists therefore suppose, so close a Union,

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Union, and so near a Conjunction, betwixt their Three Hypostases; as no where else to be found in Nature. Plotinus, That there is Nothing between them, and That they are Only Not the very same. They acknowledge also, their Perichoresis or Mutuall Inexistence. The Three Hypostases One Divinity to the Platonists, in the same manner, as the Centre, Radius Distance Immoveable, and Movable Circumference of a Sphere, all One Sphere. The First Infinite Goodness, the Second Infinite Wisdom, the Third Infinite Active Love, and Power Substantiall. Page 590, 591

From this full Account of the True and Genuine Platonick Trinity, its both Agreement and Disagreement with the Christian, Plainly appeareth. First, its Agreement in the Three Fundamental things before mentioned, and consequently its Discrepance from Arianism. 591, 592

Secondly, its Disagreement notwithstanding, from the Now-received Doctrine, in that it supposes the Three Hypostases not to have One and the same Singular Essence, nor yet an Absolute Co-Equality, but a Gradual Subordination, and Essentiall Dependence. Upon which account, said by some, to Symbolize with Arianism, however different from it in the Main Point. 592

Besides which, the best of the Platonists, sometimes Guilty of Extravagant Expressions, Plotinus his disciple Arius writes, That our Humane Soul is of the same Species with the Mundane Soul, or Third Hypostasis; That being but the Elder Sister. Which indeed is to make it Co-Essentiall or Consubstantiall with us Men, as S. Austine understood it. This a Foundation for Creature Worship or Idolatry. Why the Arians by Constantine called Porphyrianists, But this Doctrine, as Repugnant to Plato, so elsewhere Contradicted by Plotinus himself. 593, 594

That notwithstanding, a Platonick Christian would Apologize for Plato and the Genuine Pythagoreans, after this manner. First, That having no Scriptures, Councils, nor Creeds, to direct them in the Darknes of this Mystery, and to guide their Language, they the more excusable, if not always Uniform, and sometimes Extravagant. More to be wondered at, that they should approach so near the Christian Truth. 594, 595

And for their Gradual Subordination of Hypostases, and Dependence of the Second and Third upon the First; That these Platonists therein the more excusable, because the Majority of Christian Doctors, for the first Three Centuries, seem to have asserted the same. 595, 596

The Platonick Christians further Apologize;

That the Platonists Intention in Subordinating their Three Hypostases, only to exclude a Plurality of Co-ordinate Independent Gods. That none of Plato's Three Hypostases, Creatures, but that the Essence of the Godhead belongeth to them All; they being all Eternal, Necessarily Existent, Infinite, or Omnipotent, and Creators. Therefore in the sense of the Nicene Council, Consubstantiall and Co-equal. The Essence of the Godhead, wherein all the Three Hypostases agree, as well to the Fathers, as Platonists, General and Universal. Page 596, 597

Besides which, the Genuine Platonists would acknowledge also, all their Three Hypostases to be Homoeousian, Co-essentiall or Consubstantiall, yet in a further Sense, as making up One Entire Divinity: As the Root, Stock and Branches, Co-essentiall to a Vine. The Trinity not so Undivided, or if Three were not Three in it. The Inequality and Subordination in the Platonick Trinity, within the Deity it self only, and in the Relation of the Hypostases to one another; they being ad extra all One and the same God, Joyously Concurring in the same Actions, and in that respect, devoid of Inequality. 597, 598

Furthermore, the Platonick Christian would urge, That according to the Principles of Christianity it self, there must needs be some Dependence and Subordination in these Hypostases, in their Relation to one another; a Priority and Posteriority of Order and Dignity: That which is Originally of it self, having some kind of Priority and Superiority, over that which is really Derived from it. The Second and Third Hypostases, not so Omnipotent as the First, because not able to Beget or Produce that. Hence the First styled by Macrobius, the Most Omnipotent of all. Scudry passages in Scripture, favouring the Hypothesis, as also Orthodox Fathers. Athanasius his Resemblances to the Original Light and the Secondary Splendor; to the Fountain and the Stream, the Root and the Branch, the Water and the Vapour. The Equality asserted by the Orthodox, in way of opposition to the Arian Inequality, of God and Creature; That they Equally God, or Uncreated. Notwithstanding which, some Inequality amongst them allowed by Petavius and others, as This God, and This Person. 599, 600

However, no necessity of any more Inequality and Subordination in the Platonick, then in the Christian Trinity; they being but Infinite Goodness, and Infinite Wisdom, and Infinite Active Love, and Power Substantiall. Another Hypothesis of some Platonists, hinted by S. Austine out of Porphyry, which makes the Third Hypostasis a Myddle betwixt the First

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and Second; and implies, not so much a Graduation, as a Circulation in the Trinity. Page 600, 601

*As for the Platonists supposing their Three Hypostases (though One Entire Divinity) to have their Distinct Singular Essences, without which they conceive they could be nothing but Three Names; the Platonick Christian would make this Apology; That the Orthodox Fathers themselves were generally of this persuasion, That the Essence of the Godhead wherein all the Three Persons agree, not One Singular, but only One Common or Universal Essence. Their Distinction to this purpose, betwixt *ousia* and *hypostasis*; that the former was Common or General, the latter Singular or Individual. Theodorici, Basil, and many others. Petavius his acknowledgement, that the Greeks Universally agreed herein.* 601, 602

The Opinion of Gregory Nyssen, Cyril, Damascen, and others, That the Persons of the Trinity no otherwise One, than as Three Individuals under the same Species, or as Three Men agree in the same common Humanity. These the Chief Asserters of an Absolute, Independent, and Un-subordinate Co-equality. This the only fault that S. Cyril finds in the Platonists, that they did not assert such a Consubstantiality. Wherein this Trinity, Trithemism: the Three Persons thereof being no more One God, than Three Men are One Man. However this certain, that these Fathers did not suppose, the Three Hypostases of the Trinity to have all the same Singular Essence. Another Extrem, that sprung up afterwards in the room of the former Trithemism, and owned by no other Authority, than of a Lateran Council. 603, 604

And that this Sameness of Singular Essence was not asserted by the Nicene Fathers, and first Opposers of Arius; First, clearly acknowledged by Petavius. 604, 605

But this further Evident from hence; Because the same Orthodox Fathers, who opposed Arianism, did also condemn Sabellianism; which asserted, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to be but One Hypostasis, that is, to have but One and the same Singular Essence; and consequently acknowledged no other Trinity than of Names or Words. 605

*It appeareth also from hence, Because the Word Homousios had never any other Sense, then to signify the Agreement of things Numerically differing, in some Common and General Nature or Essence. S. Basil, That the same thing is not Homousios. Co-essential, or Consubstantial with itself; but always One thing with another. To witness the same with *ομοιουσι* in Plotinus. So also in Athanasius, he affirming the Branches to be Homousios and Congene-*

*rous with the Root. Besides which, *ὁμοῦς*, *ὁμοῦς*, and *ὁμοῦς*, used by Athanasius, and others, as Synonymous with *ὁμοῦς*. None of which words signify an Identity of Singular Essence, but General or Universal only. The Council of Chalcedon, That our Saviour Christ as to his Humanity, was Homousios or Consubstantial with us Men. Thus does Athanasius deny, the Son or Word, as such, to be Homousios or Consubstantial with Creature; as also he affirmeth men to be Consubstantial with one another, every Son Consubstantial and Co-essential with his Father.* Page 605, 606

*Moreover the Sense of the Nicene Fathers, in their Consubstantiality, may more fully appear from the Doctrine of Arius opposed by them; which made the Son a Creature, and therefore (as Athanasius writeth) *γεννητός* or *κτιστός*, of a different Essence or Substance from the Father. Proved clearly from Athanasius, that by the Consubstantiality of the Word, was meant no more then its being not a Creature, or Uncreated.* 606, 608

Further Proof, out of Athanasius, that by Consubstantiality, is not meant a Sameness of Singular, but only of General Essence. As also out of S. Austine. 608, 611

*Lastly, That the Homousios Fathers did not assert against Arius, a Sameness of Singular Essence, evident from their Disclaiming those two other words, *Ταυτῆος* and *Μονῆος*, (as having a Sabellian Sense in them,) the former by Epiphanius, the latter by Athanasius. So that they who asserted the Son to be Homousios, Consubstantial with the Father, denied him to be Monousios or Tautousios, that is, to have the same Singular Essence.* 612, 613

From all these Considerations, concluded by the Platonick Christian, That as the Genuine Trinity of Plato agreed with that of the Orthodox Christians, in being not Heterousios, but Homousios, Co-essential or Consubstantial; not made up of God and Creature, but all Homogeneous of Uncreated, or Creatour: so did the Trinity of the First Orthodox Anti-Arians herein agree with the Platonick Trinity; that it was not Monousios, or Tautousios, One and the same Singular Essence, under Three Names or Notions only; but really Three Hypostases or Persons. 613

Nevertheless, here remaineth a Question to be Answered; Whether Athanasius, the Nicene Fathers, and all the First Anti-Arians did therefore assert the same thing with Greg. Nyssen, Cyril, and others, That the Three Persons in the Trinity, were but Three Co-ordinate Individuals, under the same Species, having only a Specifick Unity or Identity; (besides Consent of Will) or that they all agree in the Uncre.

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Uncreated Nature only. *This Grofsly asserted in the Dialogues of the Trinity, Vulgarly Imputed to Athanasius; and to that purpose also, That Three Men are not Three Men, but only then, when they Dissent from one another in Will and Opinion. But these Dialogues Pseudepigraphous. Nevertheless to be Granted, that Athanasius himself, in that Book of the Common Essence of the Persons, seems to lay something too much Stress upon this Common Nature, Essence, or Substance, of the Three Persons, as to the making of them all but One God. However, it is certain he does not there rely upon that alone; and elsewhere acknowledgeth it to be insufficient. The true Reason, why Athanasius laid so great a Stress upon the Homouousiotes, not because this alone would make them One God, but because they could not possibly be One God without it. For if the Father be Uncreated, and the Son a Creature, then can they not but be One God. Several Passages of Athanasius Cited to this purpose. Those Expressions in him of One Godhead, and the Sameness of the Godhead, and One Essence or Substance in the Trinity, not so to be understood, as if the Three Persons were but several Names, Notions, or Modes of One Thing.* Page 612, 616

Wherefore though Athanasius lay his Foundation in this viz. One, Common Specifick Unity of the Persons, (which is their Consubstantiality,) in order to their being One Gods; yet does he superadde other Considerations also thereunto. At first of all this, That they are not Three Principles, but only One; the Essence of the Father being the Root and Fountain of the Son and Spirit; and the Three Hypostases, gathered together under One Head. Where Athanasius implies, That were they perfectly Co-ordinate and Independent, they would not be One, but Three Gods. 616

*In the next place, he further addeth, That these Three Hypostases are not Three Separated Disjoined Things, but Indivisibly United; as the Splendor is Indivisible from the Sun, and Wisdom from him that is Wise. That neither of these Persons could be without the other; nor anything come between them: they so immediately Conjoynd together, as that there is a kind of *connexio* or Continuity betwixt them.* 616, 617

*Thirdly, Athanasius goes yet higher, affirming these Three Hypostases, not only to be Indivisibly Conjoynd, but also to have a Mutual Inexistence in each other. This afterwards called an *Emperichoresis*. That of our Saviour, I am in the Father, and the Father in me, therefore Quarrell'd as by the Arians, because they conceived of Things Incorporeal, after a Corporeal manner. That the Godhead of the Son, is the Godhead of the Father; and the Fa-*

ther exercises a Providence over all, in the Son. Page 617, 619

*Lastly, Athanasius also in Sundry Places, supposes the Three Divine Hypostases to make up one Entire Divinity; as the Fountain and the Stream make up one entire River; the Root, Stock, and Branches, one entire Tree. Accordingly the word Homouousios used by Athanasius, in a further Sense, not only to signify things Agreeing in one Common and General Essence, but also such as Essentially Concur to the making up of One Entire thing. That the Three Hypostases do Outwardly, or Ad extra, produce all, *ut visiva*, One and the self-same Action; the Father, By the Word, In the Holy Spirit, doing all things. That all this Decline of Athanasius would have been readily assented to by Plato and his Genuine Followers. The Platonick Christian therefore Concludeth, That there is no such Real Difference, betwixt the Genuine Platonick Trinity, and that of the First Orthodox Anti-Arian Fathers, as some conceive. From which notwithstanding that Tri-theistick Trinity, of S. Greg. Nyssen, Cyril, and others, of Three Co-ordinate Individuals under the same Species, (as Three Men) seems to have been a Deviation.* 619, 620

Hitherto the Platonick Christians Apology, for the Genuine Platonick Trinity; or Endeavour to reconcile it with the Doctrine of the Ancient Church: Where nothing is asserted by ourselves, but all Submitted to the Judgment of the Learned in these Matters. And whatsoever in Plato's Trinity shall be found Discrepant from the sense of the very Orthodox Anti-Arian Fathers, utterly disclaimed by us. Athanasius a great Instrument of Divine Providence, for preserving the Christian Church from Lapsing into a kind of Paganick and Idolatrous Christianity. ibid.

The Reason of this Apology, for the Genuine Platonick Trinity; because it is against the Interest of Christianity, that this should be made more Discrepant from the Christian, then indeed it is. Moreover certain, that this Genuine Platonick Trinity was Anti-Arian; or rather the Arian, Anti-Platonick. Wherefore Socrates wondered, that Georgius and Timotheus Presbyters, should adhere to the Arian Faction; when out of them was accounted much a Platonist, the other an Origenist. 620, 621

Furthermore, Platonick Pagans after Christianity, highly approved of the Beginning of S. John's Gospel, concerning the Logos, as exactly agreeing with their Platonick Doctrine. Thus Amelius in Eusebius, and others. A Platonist in S. Augustine, That it deserved to be writ in Golden Letters, and set up in some Eminent places, in every Christian Church. But thus

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which is most of all Considerable, to justify the Apology, The generality of Christian Fathers, before and after the Nicene Council, look'd upon this Platonick Trinity, if not as really the Same thing with the Christian, yet as approaching so near therunto, that it differed chiefly in Circumstances, or Manner of Expression. Thus Justin Martyr, Clemens Alexandrinus, Origen, S. Cyprian, or the Author of the Book De Spiritu Sancto, Eusebius Cæsariensis; and, which is most of all to the purpose, Athanasius himself, by giving a Signal Testimony thereunto. To which may be added, S. Augustine, and Theodoret. S. Cyril, though blaming the Platonick Subordination, (Himself supposing the Trinity to be Three Co-ordinate Individuals, under the same Specifick Nature of the Godhead) yet acknowledges that Plato was not altogether ignorant of the Truth, &c. But that Plato's Subordination, of his Second Hypostasis to the First, was not (as the Arian) of a Creature to the Creatour; already made unquestionably Evident. Page 621, 625

Wherefore a Wonderful Providence of Almighty God here to be taken notice of, That the Doctrine, of a Trinity of Divine Hypostases, should be entertained in the Pagan World before Christianity, as it were to prepare a way for the Reception of it amongst the Learned, Which the Junior Platonists were so sensible of, that besides their other Adulterations of the Platonick Trinity before mentioned, (for the Countenancing of their Polytheism and Idolatry) they at length Innovated and Altered the whole Cabala; now no longer acknowledging a Trinity, but at least a Quaternity of Divine Hypostases, namely, before and besides the Trinity, another Hypostasis superiour therunto, and standing alone by itself. This first started by Iamblichus, carried on by Proclus, taken notice of by S. Cyril: besides which, Proclus also added other Phantastick Trinities of his own. 625, 627

Another Advantage of this Platonick Trinity, extending to the present time; perhaps not Unintended also by Divine Providence, to abate the Confidence of those Conceited Wits, who so boldly decry the Trinity for Non-sense, Absolute Contradiction to Reason, and Impossibility; when they first find, that the Best and Freest Wits amongst the Pagans, though having no Scripture-Revelation to impose upon them, were yet fond of this Hypothesis. 627

And now it sufficiently appears, That the Ancient Platonists and Pythagoreans, were not to be taxed for Polytheists and Idolaters, in giving Religious Worship to their Three Divine Hypostases. One grand Design of Christianity, to free the World from Idolatry and

Creature-Worship: And this the reason, why the Ancient Fathers so zealously opposed Arianism, because it thwarted that Design, in Paganizing and Idolatrizing that, which was intended for the Unpaganizing of the World. One Remarkable Passage of Athanasius to this purpose.

Page 627, 629

Where First Observable, That Athanasius expressly affirmeth the Pagans to have Worshipped onely One Uncreated, and Many Created Gods. Thus Greg. Naz. That there was but One Divinity amongst the Pagans also. And Irenæus, That they attributed the fifth place of the Deity to One Supreme God, the Maker of the Universe. And Secondly, That to Athanasius, and all those other Fathers, who charged the Arians with Idolatry, this was supposed not to consist in Worshipping many Independent, and Self-Existent Gods, but in giving Religious Worship to creatures: As the Arians gave a Religious Worship to the Son or Word, supposed by themselves to be but a Creature. 629, 630

But if Arians guilty of Polytheism or Idolatry, for bestowing Religious Worship upon the Son, or Word, as a Creature. (though the Chief of Creatures, and that by which all others were Made) much more they guilty hereof who Religiously worshipped other Inferiour Beings, Athanasius; That no Creature the Object of Religious Worship, and That the Orthodox worshipped the Divinity, in the Humanity of our Saviour Christ. Nestorius branded with the name of a Man-worshipper. Some suppose That necessary to Idolatry, which is Impossible; to Worship more than One, as Omnipotent, or with Mental Latria. 630, 632

And now have we sufficiently Answered the Objection against the Naturality of the Idea of God, as including Onelincts in it; from the Pagan Polytheism. What further here intended concerning the same, (as a Foundation for our Defence of Christianity) deferred, to make room for a Confutation of all the Atheistick Arguments.

CHAP. V.

A Particular Confutation of all the Atheistick Grounds.

THE First Atheistick Argument; That there is no Idea of God. That in Answer to this, The Idea of God hath been already declared: viz. A Perfect Understanding Being, Unmade, or Self-Existent from Eternity, and the Cause of all other Things. In which, Nothing Unconceivable, nor Contradictious. That these Confounded Atheists themselves, who deny that

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that there is any Idea of God at all, must notwithstanding of necessity suppose the contrary; because otherwise, denying his Existence, they should deny the Existence of Nothing. And that they agree also with Theists in the same Idea. The one denying the Existence of that, which the other asserts. That an Understanding Nature is the Original of all things. This Idea of God, as containing Onelines and Singularity in it, not only largely Defended and made good against that Objection from the Pagan Polytheism; but also Proved, that the Generality of Mankind have a Natural Prolepsis or Anticipation in their Minds, concerning the Real and Actual Existence of such a Being. Atheists but Monsters, and Anomalies of mankind. This a sufficient Confutation of the First Atheistick Argument. Page 633, 634

Nevertheless, That Atheists may not Pretend, any of their Strength to be concealed; all their Particular Exceptions against the Idea of God here Declared, being Five. Their First Exception, That we can have no Idea nor Thought of any thing not Subject to Sense; much less any Evidence of the Existence thereof. The Answer. First, That whereas the Atheists suppose Sense to be the Only Knowledge, or at least Original Knowledge; Sense as such is not Knowledge, or Understanding; because if it were, then every one that sees Light and Colours, or feels Heat and Cold, would understand Light and Colours, Heat and Cold. Plainly proved also, from that Atomick Philosophy, (which the Epicuran Atheists so much pretend to,) That there is a Higher Faculty of the Soul, which Judges of Sense, detests the Phantasmory thereof, resolves Sensible Things into Intelligible Principles, &c. No Passion able to make a Judgement, either of it self, or of other things. The Confounded Democritus himself, sometimes acknowledged Sense to be but Seeming and Phantasm, and not to reach to the Absolute Truth and Reality of Things. He therefore Exploded Qualities out of the Rank of Entities, because Unintelligible; concluding them to be but our Own Phantasms. Undenially Evident, that we have Ideas, Notions, and Thoughts, of many things that never were in Sense, and whereof we have no Genuine Phantasms. Atheists attend not to their own Cogitations. That Opinion, That there is Nothing in the Understanding which was not before in Sense, False and Atheistick. Men having a Notion of a Perfect Understanding Being, the Cause of all things, as the Object of their Devotion; the Atheists notwithstanding, would here Persuade them that they have none, and that the thing is a Non-Entity, merely because they have no Sensible Idea, or Phantasm thereof. And so may

they as well prove, not only Reason and Understanding, Appetite and Volition, to be Non-Entities; but also Phancy and Sense it self; neither of these falling under Sense, but only the Objects of them. Were God indeed Corporeal, as some mistaken Theists suppose, yet his Essence chiefly consisting in Mind and Understanding, this of him could not possibly be subject to Sense. But that there is also Substance Incorporeal, which therefore in its own Nature is Insensible, and that the Deity is such, will be elsewhere Demonstrated. Page 634, 637

Though the Evidence of Singular Bodies Existing, depend upon the Information of Sense; yet the Certainty of this very Evidence, not from Sense alone, but a Complication of Reason and Understanding with it. Sense Phantastickal, not reaching to the Absolute Truth of things; and obnoxious to Delusion. Our own Imaginations, taken for Sensations and Realities, in Sleep, and by Melancholized persons when awake. Atomick Atheists themselves, assert the Existence of such things as they have no Sense of; Atoms, Membranes, or Exuvius Images of Bodies, nay Incorporeal Space. If the Existence of Nothing, to be acknowledged, which falls not under Sense, then not the Existence of Soul and Mind. God the Great Mind, that Rules the whole Universe; whence our Imperfect Minds derived. The Existence of that God, whom no Eye can see, Demonstrated by Reason from his Effects. 637, 638

The Second Atheistick Pretence against the Idea of God, and his Existence; from Theists own acknowledging Him to be Incomprehensible; from whence they infer him to be a Non-Entity. Here perhaps it may be Granted, in a right Sense, that whatsoever is altogether Unconceivable, is either in It self, or at least to Us, Nothing. How that of Protagoras, That Every man is the measure of all things to himself, in his Sense false. Whatsoever any man's shallow understanding cannot clearly comprehend, not therefore to be presently expunged out of the Catalogue of Beings. Nevertheless according to Aristotle, the Soul and Mind in a manner All things. This a Crystalline Globe, or Notional World, that hath some Image in it of whatsoever is contained in the Real Globe of Being. 638

But this Absolutely False; That whatsoever cannot be fully Comprehended by us, is therefore utterly Unconceivable, and consequently Nothing. For we cannot fully Comprehend Our selves, nor have such an Adequate Conception of any Substance, as perfectly to Master and Conquer the same. That of the Scepticks so far True, That there is Something Incomprehensible in the Essence of Every thing; even of Body it self.

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self. Truth Bigger then our Minds. Proper to God Almighty, (who alone is wise) perfectly to Comprehend the Essences of all things. But it follows not from hence, that therefore we have no Idea nor Conception at all of any thing. We may have a Notion or Idea of a Perfect Being, though we cannot fully Comprehend the same by our Imperfect Minds; as we may See and Touch a Mountain, though we cannot Encompass it all round within our Arms. This therefore a False Theorem of the Atheists, That whatsoever cannot be fully Comprehended by Mens Imperfect Understandings, is an Absolute Non-Entity. Page 638, 639

Though God more Incomprehensible then other Things, because of his Transcendent Perfection; yet hath he also more of Conceptibility: as the Sun, though dazzling our Sight, yet hath more of Visibibility, also, then any other Object. The Dark Incomprehensibility of the Deity, like the Azure Obscurity of the Transparent Ether, not any thing Absolutely in it self, but only Relative to us. 639, 640

This Incomprehensibility of the Deity so far from being an Argument against its Existence, that certain, on the Contrary, were there Nothing Incomprehensible to our Imperfect Minds, there could be no God. Everything Apprehended by some Internal Congruity. The Scantiness and Imperfection of our Narrow Understandings, must needs make them Asymmetrical or Incommensurate, to what Absolutely Perfect. 640

Nature it self Intimates, That there is Something Vastly Bigger then our Mind and Thoughts, by those Passions Implanted in us, of Devout Veneration, Adoration, and Admiration, with Ecstasie and Pleasing Horrour. That of the Deity which cannot enter into the Narrow Vessels of our Minds, must be otherwise apprehended, by their being Plunged into it, or Swallowed up and Lost in it. We have a Notion or Conception of a Perfect Being, though we cannot fully Comprehend the same; because our selves being Imperfect, must needs be Incommensurate thereunto. Thus no Reason at all, in the Second Atheistick Pretence, against the Idea of God, and his Existence; from his Confessed Incomprehensibility. ibid.

The Third follows, That Infinity, supposed to be Essentiall to the Deity, is a thing Perfectly Unconceivable, and therefore an Impossibility. and Non-Entity. Some Passages of a Modest Writer to this purpose. The meaning of them. That there is Nothing of Philosophick Truth in the Idea or Attributes of God, nor any other Sense in the words, then onely to signify the Veneration and Astonishment of mens own Minds. That the word Infinite, signifies Nothing in the Thing it self so called, but

onely the Inability of our Understandings, and Admiration. And since God by Theists, is denied to be Finite, but cannot be Infinite, therefore an Unconceivable Nothing. Thus another Learned Well-wisher to Atheism, That we have no Idea of Infinite, and therefore not of God. Which in the Language of Atheists, all one as to say, that He is a Non-Entity. Page 640, 641

Answer. This Argument, That there can be nothing Infinite, and therefore no God; proper to the Modern and Neotrick Atheists onely; but Repugnant to the Sense of the Ancients. Anaximander's "Apeiron" Infinite Matter, though Melissus his "Aion" the True Deity. Formerly both Theists and Atheists agreed in this; That there must be Something or other Infinite, either an Infinite Mind, or Infinite Matter. The ancient Atheists also asserted, a Numericall Infinity of Worlds. Thus do Atheists Confute or Contradict Atheists. 641, 642

That the Modern Atheists do no less Contradict Plain Reason also, and their very Selves, then they do their Predecessours, when they would disprove a God from hence, Because there can be Nothing Infinite. For First, Certain, that there was something or other Infinite in Duration; or Eternal without Beginning: Because, If there had been once Nothing, there could never have been Anything. But hardly any Atheists can be so Stupid, as in good earnest to think there was once Nothing at all, but afterwards Senseless Matter Happened to Be. Notorious Impudence in them, who assert the Eternity of Matter, to make this an Argument against the Existence of a God; Because Infinite Duration without Beginning, an Impossibility. 642, 643

A Concession to the Atheists of these Two Things; That we neither have a Phantasm of any Infinite, because there was never any in Sense; and that Infinity is not fully Comprehensible by Finite Understandings neither. But since, Mathematically Certain, That there was something Infinite in Duration, Demonstrated from hence, against Atheists, That there is Something Really Existing, which we have neither any Phantasm of, nor yet can fully Comprehend in our Minds. ibid.

Further Granted, That as for Infinity of Number, Magnitude, and Time without beginning; as we have no Phantasm nor full Comprehension of them, so have we neither any Intelligible Idea, Notion or Conception: From whence it may be Concluded, That they are Non-Entities. Number Infinite in Aristotle, onely in a Negative Sense, because we can never come to an End thereof by Addition. For which very Reason also, there cannot possibly be any Number Positively Infinite, since One or More may always

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always be Added. No Magnitude so Great neither, but that a Greater may be Supposed. By Infinite Space, to be Understood, Nothing but a Possibility of more and more Body, further and further Infinitely, by Divine Power; or that the World could never be made so Great, as that God was not able to make it still Greater. This Potential Infinity, or Indefinity of Body, seems to be mistaken, for an Actual Infinity of Space. Lastly, no Infinity of Time Past, because then there must needs be Time Past, which never was Present. An Argument of a Modern Writer. Reason therefore Concludes, neither the World nor Time, to have been Infinite in Past Duration. Page 643, 644

Here will the Atheist think he has got a Great Advantage, for disproving the Existence of a God; They who thus take away the Eternity of the World, taking away also the Eternity of a God. As if God could not be Eternal otherwise, than by a Successive Flux of Infinite Time. But we say, that this affordeth a Demonstration of a God; Because since both the World and Time had a Beginning; there must of necessity be Something, whose Duration is not Successive, but Permanent, which was the Creator of them both. Wherefore the Atheists can here only make Grimaces, and Quibble upon Nunc-Stans; as if this Standing Eternity of the Deity, were nothing but a Pitifull Moment of Time Standing still; and as if all Duration must needs be the same with ours, &c. 644, 645

Conclud'd, That Infinite and Eternal, are not Words which signify Nothing in the thing it self, but only the Idle Progress of our Minds, or our own Ignorance, Stupid Astonishment, and Veneration: not meer Attributes of Honour and Complement, but Attributes belonging to the Deity, (and that alone) of the most Philosophick Truth. And though we have no Adequate Comprehension thereof, yet must we have some Notion of that, which we can Demonstrate to belong to Something. 645, 646

But the Thing which the Atheists Principally Quarrel with, is Infinite Power, or Omnipotence; which they pretend also to be utterly Unconceivable, and Impossible, and a Name of Nothing. Where indeed our Modern Atheists have the joint Suffrage of the Ancients also, who concern'd themselves in Nothing more, than Disproving Omnipotence, or Infinite Power. ib.

This Omnipotence, either Wisfully or Ignorantly Misrepresented by Atheists, as if it were a Power of doing things Contradictory. An Irony of a Modern Atheist; That God could turn a Tree into a Syllogism. The Absurd Doctrine of Cartesius; That God could have made Twice two, not to have been Four; or the

Three Angles of a Triangle, not to be Equal to two Right. This to make one Attribute of the Deity Devour and Destroy another; Infinite Will and Power, Infinite Understanding and Wisdom. To suppose God to Understand and be Wise, only by Will, Ready to give him no Understanding at all. God not so Omnipotent, as that he can destroy the Intelligible Natures of things; which were to Baffle and Befool his own Wisdom. Infinite Power, That which can do all that is Possible; that is, Conceivable, or Implies no Contradiction. The very Essence of Possibility, Conceivability. And thus all the Ancient Theists. Absurd for Atheists to say, that a Power of doing Nothing but what is Conceivable, is Unconceivable. ibid. 646

But because Atheists look upon Infinity as such a Mordant, we shall take off the Vizard from it; by declaring, That it is Really nothing else but Perfection. Infinite Understanding and Knowledge, Perfect Understanding, without any Defect, and the Knowledge of all things Knowable. Infinite Power, Perfect Power; or a Power of doing all things Possible. Infinite Duration, Perfection of Essence. Because Infinity, Perfection; therefore Nothing which includeth any thing of Imperfection in the Essence of it, can be truly and properly Infinite; as Number, Magnitude, and Time: all which can but Counterfeit Infinity. Nothing One way Infinite, which is not so Every way, or a Perfect Being. 647, 648

Now, That we have an Idea of Perfection, plain from that of Imperfection. Perfection First in Order of Nature, as the Rule and Measure. This not the want of Imperfection, but Imperfection the want of Perfection. A Scale or Ladder of Perfections in Nature, Perceived by means of that Idea, which we have of a Being Absolutely Perfect, the Measure of them. Without which, we could not take notice of Imperfection, in the most Perfect of all those things which we ever had Sense of. Boetius; That what soever is Imperfect in any kind, Implies something in that kind Perfect, from whence it was derived. And that the Nature of things took not Beginning, from any thing Incomplete and Imperfect; but descended downward, from what was Absolutely Perfect, by steps and degrees, Lower and Lower. 648

Wherefore since Infinity, the same with Perfect; we having a Notion of the Latter, must needs have of the Former. And though the Word Infinite be Negative, yet is the Sense Positive. Finite the Negation of Infinite, as which in order of Nature is before it; and not Infinite of Finite. However, in things Uncapable of True Infinity; Infinity being here a meer

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Imaginary thing and Non-Entity, can be only conceived by the Negation of Finite, as Nothing is, by the Negation of Something. An Infinite Being, Nothing but a Perfect Being, such as never Was Not, and could produce all things Possible, or Conceivable. Page 648, 649

The Fourth Atheistick Pretence against the Idea of God; That it is an Arbitrary Compilment of Contradictious Notions. Where First we deny not, but that as some Religionists Extend the Divine Power to things Contradictious, so may others compound Contradictious together in the Nature of the Deity. But it does not follow from thence, that Theology it self is therefore Contradictious, no more then that Philosophy is so, because some Philosophers also hold Contradictious things; Or that Nothing is Absolutely True, neither in Divinity, nor Philosophy, but all Seeming, and Phantastical; according to the Protagorean Doctrine. 649, 650

But though it be True, That whatsoever really Implies a Contradiction, is a Non-Entity; yet is this Rule Obnoxious to much Abuse, when whatsoever mens shallow Understandings cannot reach to, is therefore profently cried down by them, as an Impossibility or Nothing. As when the Atheists, and Materialists, explode Incorporeal Substance upon this Pretence; or make it only an Attribute of Honour, expressing the Veneration of Mens Minds, but signifying Nothing in Nature, nor having any Philosophick Truth. But the Atheists true meaning in this Objection, and what kind of Contradictions they are, which they impute to all Theology, may appear from a Passage of a Modern Writer; Namely, such as these when God is said to Perceive Sensible Things, and yet to have no Organs of Sense; as also to Understand, and yet to have no Brains. The Un-disguised meaning of the Writer, That Religion is not Philosophy, but Law, and all meer Arbitrary Constitution; nor God a Subject of Philosophy, as all Real Things are; he being no True Inhabitant of the World or Heaven, but only of mens Brains and Phancies; and his Attributes signifying neither True nor False, nor any thing in Nature, but only mens Reverence and Devotion, towards what they Fear. And so may any thing be said of God, no matter what, so it be agreeable to Civil Law. But when men mistake Attributes of Honour, for Attributes of Philosophick Truth; that is, when they will suppose such a thing as a God Ready to Exist; then is all Absurd Nonsense and Contradiction. God's Understanding without Brains, no Contradiction. 650, 651

Certain, That no Simple Idea, as of a Triangle, or a Square, can be Contradictious to it

self; much less can the Idea of a Perfect Being, the most Simple of all. This indeed Pregnant of many Attributes, which if Contradictious, would render the whole a Non-Entity; but all the Genuine Attributes of the Deity, as Demonstrable of a Perfect Being, as the Properties of a Triangle, or a Square, and therefore can neither be Contradictious to it, nor one another.

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Nay, the Genuine Attributes of the Deity, not only not Contradictious, but also all Necessarily Connected together. *ibid.*

In Truth, All the Attributes of the Deity, but so many Partial and Inadequate Conceptions of One and the Same Perfect Being, taken into our Minds, as it were, by Piecemeal. *ibid.*

The Idea of God, neither Fictitious, nor Facitious. Nothing Arbitrary in it; but a most Natural and Simple Idea, to which not the Least can be Added, nor any thing Detrailed from it. Nevertheless, may there be different Apprehensions concerning God; every one that hath a Notion of a Perfect Being, not Understanding all that Belongeth to it; no more then of a Triangle, or of a Sphere. *ibid.* 653

Concluded therefore, That the Attributes of God, No Confounded Non-sense of Religiously Astonished Minds, budding up together all Imaginable Attributes of Honour, Courtship, and Compliment; but the Attributes of Necessary Philosophick Truth: and such as do not only speak the Devotion of mens Hearts, but also declare the Real Nature of the thing. Here the Wit of a Modern Atheistick Writer, is placed. (Though no doubt, but some, either out of Superstition, or Ignorance, may Attribute such things to the Deity, as are Incongruous to its Nature.) Thus the Fourth Atheistick Pretence, against the Idea of God, Confuted. 653,

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In the next place, The Atheists think themselves concerned, to give an Account of this Unquestionable Phenomenon; the General Persuasion of the Existence of a God, in the Minds of men, and their Propensity to Religion; whence this should come, if there were no Real Object for it in Nature. And this they would do by Imputing it, partly to the Confounded Nonsense of Astonished Minds, and partly to the Imposition of Politicians. Or else to these Three Things; To Mens Fear; and to their Ignorance of Causes; and to the Fiction of Law-Makers and Civil Sovereigns. 654

The First of these Atheistick Origins of Religion; That Mankind by reason of their Natural Imbecillity, are in continual Solitude and Fear concerning Future Events, and their Good and Evil Fortune. And this Passion of Fear raises

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raises up in them for an Object to it self, a most Affrightfull Phantasm; of An Invisible Understanding Being, Omnipotent, &c. They afterwards Standing in awe of this their own Imagination, and Tremblingly Worshipping the Creature of their own Fear and Phancy.

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The Second Atheistick Origin of Theism and Religion; That Men having a Naturall Curiosity, to Enquire into the Causes of things, whereforever they can discover no Visible and Naturall Causes, are prone to Feign Causes Invisible and Supernatural. As Anaxagoras said, never to have betaken himself to a God, but only when he was at a loss for Necessary Materiall Causes. Wherefore no wonder if the Generality of Mankind, being Ignorant of the Causes of all or most Things, have betaken themselves to a God, as to a Refuge and Sanctuary for their Ignorance. 654, 655

These two Accounts of the Phenomenon of Religion; from mens Fear and Solitude and from their Ignorance of Causes and Curiosity; Joyned together by a Modern Writer. As if the Deity were but a Mormo or Bugbear, raised up by mens Fear, in the Darkness of their Ignorance of Causes. The Opinion of other Ghosts and Spirits also, deduced from the same Originall. Mens taking things Casuall for Prognosticks, and being so addicted to Omens, Portents, Prophecies, &c. From a Phantastick and Timorous Supposition, That the things of the World are not disposed of by Nature, but by some Understanding Person. 655

But lest these Two Accounts of the Phenomenon of Religion, should prove Insufficient, the Atheists superadde a Third, Imputing it also to the Fiction and Imposture of Civill Sovereigns; who perceiving an advantage to be made from hence, for the better keeping men in Subjection, have thereupon Dextrously laid hold of mens Fear and Ignorance; and Cherished those Seeds of Religion in them, from the Infirmities of their Nature: Confirming their Belief of Ghosts and Spirits, Miracles, Prodigies, and Oracles, by Tales, publicly Allowed and Recommended. And that Religion might be every way Obsequious to their Designs; have perswaded the People, that Themselves were but the Interpreters of the Gods, from whom they Received their Laws. Religion an Engin of State; to keep men busily Employed; Entertain their Minds; render them Tame and Gentle, apt for Subjection and Society. 655, 656

All this not the Invention of Modern Atheists. But an Old Atheistick Cabbal; That the Gods made by Fear. Lucretius That the Causes of Religion, Terror of Mind and Darkness; and that the Empire of the Gods owes all its

Being to mens Ignorance of Causes, as also, that the Opinion of Ghosts proceeded from mens not knowing how to distinguish their Dreams, & other Frightfull Phancies, from Sensations. 656, 657

An Old Atheistick Surmise also; That Religion a Political Invention. Thus Cicero: The Atheists in Plato, That the Gods are not by Nature, but by Art and Laws only. Critias, one of the Thirty Tyrants of Athens, his Poem to this purpose. 657, 658

That the Folly and Falseness of these Three Atheistick Pretences, for the Origin of Religion, will be fully Manifested. First, As to that of Fear and Phancy. Such an Excess of Fear, as makes anyone constantly Believe the Existence of that, for which no manner of Ground, neither in Sense nor Reason, highly tending also to his own Disquiet, Nothing less than Distractiō. Wherefore, the generality of mankind here affirmed by Atheists, to be Frighted out of their Wits, and Distempered in their brains; only a few of themselves, who have escaped this Panick Terror, remaining Sober or in their Right Senses. The Sobriety of Atheists, nothing but Dull Stupidity, and Dead Incredulity; they Believing easily what they can See or Feel. 658

True, That there is a Religious Fear, Consequent upon the Belief of a God; as also that the Sense of a Deity, is often awakened in mens Minds, by their Fears and Dangers. But Religion no Creature of Fear. None lesse Solicitous about their Good and Evil Fortune, than the Pious and Vertuous, who place not their Chief Happiness in things Aliene, but only in the Right Use of their own Will. Wherein the Good of Atheists, wholly in things Obnoxious to Fortune. The Timorous Complexion of Atheists; from building all their Politicks and Justice upon the Foundation of Fear. 658, 659

The Atheists Grand Error here; That the Deity, according to the general Sense of Mankind, Nothing but a Terriculum, a Formidable, Hurtfull and Undesirable thing. Wherein men every where agree, in that Divine Attribute of Goodness and Benignity. ibid.

ἄσχετος ὁ ἀσπίστηρ, in the worst Sense, taken by none but a few ill-natured Men; painting out the Deity according to their own Likeness. This condemned by Aristotle in the Poets, (he calling them therefore Liars) by Plutarch in Herodorus, as spoken Universally; Plutarch himself restraining the Sense thereof to his Evil Principle. Plato's ascribing the World to the Divine Goodness; who therefore made all things most like Himself. The true meaning of this Proverb; That the Deity affects to be Humble and Abate the Pride of men. Lucretius his Hidden Force, that hath as it were a Spite to all Overwhelming Greatnesses; could be no other than the Deity. Those

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amongst Christians, who make the worst Representation of God, yet Praise him Kind and Gracious to themselves. Page 659, 660

True, that Religion often expressed by the Fear of God. Fear, Prima Mensura Deltatis, the first Impression that Religion makes upon men in this Lapsed State. But this not a Fear of God, as Mischievous and Hurtfull, nor yet as a meer Arbitrary Being, but as Just, and an Impartial Punisher of Wickedness. Lucretius his acknowledging, mens Fear of God to be conjoynd with a Conscience of Duty. A Naturall Discrimination of Good and Evil, with a Sense of an Impartial Justice, presiding over the World, and both Rewarding and Punishing. The Fear of God, as either a Hurtfull, or Arbitrary and Tyrannicall Being, (which must needs be joyned with something of Hatred) not Religion, but Superstition. Fear, Faith, and Love; Three Steps and Degrees of Religion, to the Son of Sirach. Faith better Defined in Scripture, then by any Scholasticks. God such a Being, as if he were not, Nothing more to be Wished for. 660, 661

The Reason why Atheists thus mistake the Notion of God, as a Thing only to be Feared, and consequently Hated; from their own Ill Nature and Vice. The latter disposing them so much to think, that there is no Difference of Good and Evil by Nature, but only by Law; which Law Contrary to Nature, as Restraining to Liberty. Hence their denying all Naturall Charity, and Acknowledging no Benevolence, or Good Will, but what arises from Imbecillity, Indigency, and Fear. Their Friendship at best no other, then Mercatura Utilitatum. Wherefore if there were an Omnipotent Deity, this (according to the Atheistick Hypothesis) could not have so much, as that Spurious Love or Benevolence to any thing, because standing in Need of Nothing, and Devoid of Fear. Thus Costa in Cicero. All this asserted also, by a late Pretender to Politicks; He adding thereunto, that God hath no other Right of Commanding, then his Irresistible Power: nor men any Obligation to obey him, but only from their Imbecillity and Fear, or because they cannot Resist him. Thus do Atheists Transform the Deity into a Monstrous Shape; an Omnipotent Being that hath neither Benevolence nor Justice in him. This indeed a Murrno or Bugbear. 661, 662

But as this a false Representation of Theism; so the Atheistick Scene of things, most Uncomfortable, Hopeless, and Dismall; upon several Accounts. True, that no Spightfull Designs

in Senseless Atoms; in which Regard, Plutarch Preferred, even this Atheistick Hypothesis, before that of an Omnipotent Mischievous Being. However, no Faith, nor Hope neither, in Senseless Atoms. Epicurus his Confession, that it was better to believe the Fable of the Gods, then that Materiall Necessity of all things, offered by the other Atheistick Physiologists, before himself. But he not at all mending the Matter, by his supposed Free Will. The Panick Fear of the Epicureans, of the Frame of Heaven's Cracking, and this Compilement of Atoms being dissolv'd into a Chaos. Atheists running from Fear, plunge themselves into Fear. Atheism, rather then Theism, from the Imposture of Fear, Distrust, and Disbelief of Good. But Vice afterwards prevailing in them, makes them Desire, there should be No God. Page 663, 664

Thus the Atheists, who derive the Origin of Religion from Fear, First put an Astonishing Vizard upon the Deity, and then conclude it to be but a Murrno or Bugbear, the Creature of Fear and Phancy. More likely of the Two, that the Opinion of a God, sprung from Hope of Good, then Fear of Evil; but neither of these True, it owing its Being to the Imposture of no Passion, but supported by the Strongest and clearest Reason. Nevertheless a Naturall Prolepsis, or Anticipation of a God also, in mens Minds, Preventing Reason. This called by Plato and Aristotle, a Vaticination. 664, 665

The Second Atheistick Pretence, to save the Phenomenon of Religion, from the Ignorance of Causes, and mens innate Curiosity, (Upon which Accounts the Deity said by them, to be nothing but an Asylum of Ignorance, or the Sanctuary of Fools,) next to be Confuted. 665

That the Atheists, both Modern and Ancient, here commonly Complicate these Two together, Fear, and Ignorance of Causes; making Theism the Spawn of both: as the Fear of Children in the Dark, raises Bugbears and Spectres. Epicurus his Reason, why he took such great pains in the Study of Physiology; that by finding out the Naturall Causes of things, he might free men from the Terror of a God, that would otherwise Assault their Minds. ibid.

The Atheists show Dabbling in Physiology, and finding out Materiall Causes for some of these Phenomena, which the unskilfull Vulgar save only from a Deity; therefore Confident, that Religion had no other Originall, then this Ignorance of Causes: as also, that Nature, or Matter,

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Matter, does all things alone without a God. But we shall make it manifest, That Philosophy and the True Knowledge of Causes Lead to a Deity; and that Atheism; from Ignorance of Causes, and want of Philosophy. Page 665, 666

For First, No Atheist, who derives all from Senseless Matter, can possibly assign any Cause of Himself, his own Soul or Mind: it being Impossible, that Life and Sense should be Naturally produced, from what Dead and Senseless; or from Magnitudes, Figures, Sites, and Motions. An Atheistical Objection; nothing to the purpose; That Laughing and Crying things are made out of Not-Laughing and Crying Principles: because these result from the Mechanism of the Body. The Hylozoists never able neither, to produce Animal Sense, and Consciousness, out of what Senseless and Inconscious. The Atheists, supposing their own Life and Understanding, and all the Wisdom that is in the World, to have sprung, merely from Senseless Matter, and Fortuitous Motion; Grossly Ignorant of Causes. The Philosophy of Our Selves, and True Knowledge of the Cause of our own Soul and Mind, brings to God. Page 666, 667

Again, Atheists Ignorant of the Cause of Motion, by which they suppose all things done: this Phenomenon being no way Salvable, according to their Principles. First, undeniably certain, That Motion not Essential to all Body or Matter as such, because then there could have been no Mundane System, no Sun, Moon, Earth, &c. All things being continually Torn in Pieces, and Nothing Cohering. Certain also, That Dead and Senseless Matter, such as that of Anaximander, Democritus, and Epicurus, cannot Move it self Spontaneously, by Will or Appetite. The Hylozoists further considered elsewhere. Democritus could assign no other Cause of Motion, than this, That one Body moved another from Eternity Infinitely; without any First Cause or Mover. Thus also a Modern Writer. To Assert an Infinite Progress in the Causes of Motion, according to Aristotle, to assign no Cause thereof at all. Epicurus, though an Exploder of Qualities, forced here to fly to an Occult Quality, of Gravity. Which, as Absurd in Infinite Space, and without any Centre of Rest; so indeed nothing but to make his own Ignorance, and He knows not Why, to be a Cause. The Motion of Body, from the Activity of something Incorporeal. Though Motion taken for Translation, be a Mode of Matter; yet as it is taken for the Vis Movens, a Mode, or Energy, of Something that is Incorporeal, and Self Active. The Motion of the whole Corporal Universe, Originally from the Deity. Thus the Ignorance of the Cause of

Motion, another Ground of Atheism. Page 667 669

Thirdly, The Atheists also Ignorant of the Cause of that Grand Phenomenon, the *κόσμος* ὡς ὅντος, the Regular and Artificial Frame of the Mundane System, and of the Bodies of Animals; together with the Harmony of all. They who boast they can give Causes of all things, without a God, able to give no Cause of this, but only, that it Happened by Chance so to be. This, either to make the Absence of a Cause, a Cause; (Chance being but the Absence of an Intending Cause) or their Own very Ignorance of the Cause, and They know not Why, to be a Cause; or to make One Contrary, the Cause of Another; (Confusion of Order and Harmony, Chance of Art and Skill,) or Lastly, to deny it to have any Cause at all, since they deny an Intending Cause. 669

But here the Atheists make several Pretences, for this their Ignorance. First, That the World is not so Well Made, but that it might have been much Better; and many Flaws to be found therein: whereas a God, or Perfect Being, would have Bungled in Nothing, but have made all things after the Best manner. But this a Twelfth Atheistical Argumentation, and the Confutation thereof to be expell'd afterward. Reasons why some Modern Theists give Atheists so much advantage here, as to acknowledge Things be Ill Made; whilst the Ancient Pagan Theists stood their Ground, and generously maintained, that Mind being the Maker of all things, and not Blind Fortune or Chance, nor Arbitrary Will, and Irrational Humane Omnipotent; the *τέλειον*, That which is Absolutely the Best, in order to the Good of the Whole, (so far as the Necessity of things would admit) the Measure and Rule of Nature, and Providence. 669, 670

Again, the Atomick and Epicurean Atheists Pretend, That though many things serve for Uses, yet it does not therefore follow, that they were made Intentionally for those Uses; because things that Happen by Chance, may have Uses Consequent. Thus Lucretius, and the old Atheistical Philosophers before Aristotle, of the Parts of the Bodies of Animals, and all other things. The Answer, That when things consist of many Parts, all Artificially Proportioned together, with much Curiosity, as for example the Eye; no man who considers the Anatomy thereof, and its whole Structure, can reasonably conclude, that it Happened so to be made; and the Use of Seeing Followed; but that it was made Intentionally for the Use of Seeing. But to maintain, that not only Eyes Happened to be so made, and the Use of Seeing Followed, but also Ears, and a Mouth, and Feet, and Hands,

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and all the other parts Organical and Similar, (without any of which, the Whole would be Inept or Useless) all their several Uses, Un-Intended, following; Gross Insensibility, and Stupidity. Galen of the Use of Parts. Page 671, 672

Democritus his *Dogates*; Condemned also by Cartesius His Book of Meteors, (first written with design to Salve all those Phenomena without a God,) but Unsuccessfully. Nevertheless we acknowledge, That God and Nature doe allthings in the most Frugal and Compendious way; and that the Mechanick Powers are taken in, so far as they will serviceably comply with the Intellectual Platform. But Nature not Mechanical and Fortuitous only, but also Vital and Artificial; the Ascheus of the whole World. *Ibid.*

Again, Atheists further Pretend, That though it may well seem strange, that Matter Fortuitously Moved, should, as the very First, fall into such a Regularity and Harmony, as is now in the World; yet not as all strange, that Atoms, moving from all Eternity, and making all manner of Combinations and Contextures, and trying all Experiments, should after innumerable other Inept, and Discongruous Forms, at length fall into such a System as This. They say therefore, That the Earth, at first, brought forth divers monstrous and Irregular Shapes of Animals; some wanting Feet, some Hands, some without a Mouth, &c. to which the Ancients added Centaurs, Scylla's, and Chimera's; mimicly Boviform, and Homiiform Animals. Though Epicurus, ashamed to own these, would seem to exclude them, but without Reason. But because we have now no such Irregular Shapes Produced out of the Earth, they say that the Reason is, because none could Continue and Propagate their kind by Generation, but only such as Happened to be fitly made. Thus Epicurus, and the Atheists before Aristotle. They also add hereunto, their Infinite Worlds; amongst which they Pretend, not one of a Thousand, or of Ten thousand, hath so much Regularity in it as this of ours. Lastly, they Prejage likewise, that this World of ours shall not always continue such, but after a while fall into Confusion and Disorder again; and then may we have Centaurs, Scylla's, and Chimera's as before. 672, 674

Nevertheless, because this Universal and Constant Regularity of things, for so many Ages together, is so Puzzling, they would persuade us, that the Senseless Atoms, Playing and Tying up and down, from Eternity, without any Care or Thought; were at length Taught, by the Necessity of things, and driven to a kind of Trade or Habit of Artificialness and Methodicalness. 674. 675

To all which Atheistick Pretences Replied.

First, That this an Idle Dream, or Impudent Forgery. That there was once an Inept Mundane System; and in this World of ours alimanner of Irregular Shapes of Animals: not only because no Tradition of any such thing; but also because no Reason possibly to be given, why such should not be Produced out of the Earth still, though they could not Continue long. That also Another Atheistick Dream, That in this World of ours, all will quickly fall into Confusion and Nonsense again. And as their Infinite Worlds, an Impossibility, so their Assertion of the Irregularity of the supposed other Worlds, well enough Answered, by a Contrary Assertion; That were every Planet a Habitable Earth, and every Fixed Star, a Sun, having all more or fewer such Habitable Planets moving round about them, and none of them Desert or Un-inhabited; there would not be found so much as one Ridiculous or Inept System amongst them all; the Divine Act being Infinite. Page 675

Again, That the Fortuitous Motions of Senseless Atoms, should in length of Time grow Artificial, and contrariwise a Habit or Trade of Acting as Regularly, as if directed by perfect Art and Wisdom; This Atheistick Fanaticism. 675, 676

No more Possible, That Dead and Senseless Matter, Fortuitously Moved, should at length be Taught, and Necessitated by it self, to produce this Artificial System of the World; then that a dozen or more Persons, unskilled in Musick, and striking the Strings as it Happened, should at length be Taught, and Necessitated to fall into exquisite Harmony; Or that the Letters in the Writings of Plato and Aristotle, though having so much Philosophick Sense, should have been all Scribbled at random. More Philosophy in the Great Volume of the World, than in all Aristotle's and Plato's Works; and more of Harmony, then in any Artificial Composition of Vocall Musick. That the Divine Art and Wisdom, hath printed such a Signature of it self upon the Matter of the Whole World, as Fortune and Chance could never Counterfeit. 676, 677

But in the next place, the Atheists will for all this undertake to Demonstrate, That things could not Possibly be made by any Intending Cause, for Ends and Uses; as Eyes for Seeing, Ears for Hearing, from hence, Because things were all in Order of Time, as well as Nature, before their Uses. This Argument seriously pronounced by Lucretius in this manner; If Eyes were made for the Use of Seeing, then, of necessity, must Seeing have been before Eyes; But there was no Seeing before Eyes; Therefore could not Eyes be made for the sake of Seeing. 677, 678

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Evident, that the Logick of these Atheists, differs from that of all other Mortals; according to which, the End for which any thing is designedly made, is only in Intention First, but in Execution Last. True, that Men are Commonly excited, from Experience of things, and Sense of their Wants, to Excogitate Means and Remedies: but is doth not therefore follow, that the Maker of the World could not have a Preventive Knowledge of whatsoever would be Usefull for Animals, and so make them Bodies Intentionally for those Uses. That Argument ought to be thus framed: Whatsoever is made Intentionally for any End, as the Eye for that of Seeing; that End must needs be in the Knowledge and Intention of the Maker, before the Actual Existence of that which is made for it; But there could be no Knowledge of Seeing before there were Eyes; Therefore Eyes could not be made Intentionally for the sake of Seeing.

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Thus the True Scope of the Premised Atheistical Argument, however disguised by them in the first Propounding. The Ground thereof, Because they take it for granted, That all Knowledge is derived from Sense, or from the Things Known, Pre-Exsisting without the Knower. And here does Lucretius Triumph. The Controversy therefore at last resolved into this; Whether all Knowledge be in its own Nature, Junior to Things; for if so, it must be Granted, that the World could not be Made by any Antecedent Knowledge. But this afterwards fully Confuted; and Proved, That Knowledge is not, in its own Nature, Ectypall, but Archetypall; and that Knowledge was Older then the World, and the Maker thereof.

679

But Atheists will Except against the Proving of a God, from the Regular and Artificiall frame of things; That it is unreasonable to think, there should be no Cause in Nature, for the Common Phenomena thereof; but a God thus Introduced to save them. Which also, to suppose the world Bungled and Brought up. That Nature is the Cause of Natural things, Which Nature doth not Intend, nor Act for Ends. Wherefore the Opinion of Finall Causality for things in Nature, but an Idolum Specus. Therefore rightly banished, by Democritus, out of Physiology.

679, 680

The Answer: Two Extreams here to be avoided, One of the Atomick Atheists, who derive all things from the Fortuitous Motion of Senseless Matter; Another of Bigotical Religionists, who will have God to doe all things Himself Immediately, without any Nature. The Middle betwixt both, That there is not only a Mechanicall and Fortuitous, but also an Arti-

ficiall Nature, Subservient to the Deity, as the Manuary Officer, and Drudging Executioner thereof. True, that some Philosophers have absurdly attributed their own Properties or Animal Idiopathies to Inanimate Bodies. Nevertheless, this no Idol of the Cave or Den, to suppose the System of the World to have been framed by an Understanding Being, according to whose Direction, Nature, though not it self Intending, Acteth. Balbus his Description of this Artificiall Nature in Cicero. That there could be no Mind in us, were there none in the Universe. That of Aristotle True, That there is more of Art in some things of Nature, then in any thing Made by Men. Now the Causes of Artificiall things, as a House or Clock, cannot be declared, without Intention for Ends. This Excellently pursued by Aristotle. No more can the Things of Nature be rightly Understood, or the Causes of them fully Assigned, merely from Matter and Motion, without Intention or Mind. They who banish Finall or Mentall Causality from Philosophy, look upon the Things of Nature, with no other Eyes then Oxen and Horses. Some pitifull Attempts of the Ancient Atheists, to solve the Phenomena of Animals, without Mentall Causality. Democritus and Epicurus so cautious, as never to pretend, to give an Account of the Formation of the Fœtus. Aristotle's Judgements here to be Preferred before that of Democritus.

Page 680, 682

But nothing more Strange, then that these Atheists should be justified in their Ignorance, by Professed Theists and Christians, who Atomizing likewise, in their Physiology, contend that this whole Mundane System, resulted onely from the Necessary and Unguided Motion of Matter, either Turned Round in a Vortex, or Jumbled in a Chaos, without the Direction of any Mind. These Mechanick Theists more Immodest then the Atomick Atheists themselves; they supposing these their Atoms, though Fortuitously moved, yet never to have produced any Inept System, or Incongruous Forms; but from the very first, all along, to have Ranged themselves so Orderly, as that they could not have done it better, had they been directed by a Perfect Mind. They quite take away that Argument for a God, from the Phenomena, and that Artificiall Frame of things, leaving onely some Metaphysicall Arguments; which though never so good, yet by reason of their Subtlety, cannot doe so much Execution. The Atheists Gratified to see the Cause of Theism thus betrayed, by its professed Friends; and the Grand Argument for the same, totally Slurred by them.

683, 684

At this, Great Insensibility of Mind, to look upon the Things of Nature with no other Eyes then

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then Brute Animals do; so are there Sundry Phenomena, partly Above the Mechanick Powers, and partly Contrary to the same, which therefore can never be Salv'd, without Mentall and Finall Causality. As in Animals, the Motion of the Diaphragma in Respiration, the Sytolé and Diastolé of the Heart (Being a Muscular Constriction and Relaxation, To which might be added others in the Macrocosm: as the Interfection of the Planes of the Equator and Ecliptick; or the Earth's Diurnall Motion upon an Axis not Parallel with that of its Annual. Cartellius his Confession, that according to Mechanick Principles, these should continually come nearer and nearer together, which since they have not done, Finall or Mentall Causality here to be acknowledged; and because it was Best it should be so. But the Greatest Phenomenon of this kind, the Formation and Organization of Animals; which these Mechanists never able to give any Account of. Of that Posthumous Piece of Cartellius, De la Formation Du Fœtus. Page 684, 685

Pretended, That to assign Finall Causes, is to presume our selves to be as Wise as God Almighty, or to be Privy to his Counsells. But the Question, not Whether we can always reach to the Ends of God Almighty, or know what is Absolutely Best in every Case, and accordingly Conclude things therefore to be so; but Whether anything in the World be made for Ends, otherwise then would have resulted from the Fortuitous Motion of Matter. No Presumption, nor Intrusion into the Secrets of God Almighty, to say, that Eyes were made by him Intentionally for the sake of Seeing. Anaxagoras his Absurd Aphorism, That Man was therefore the most Solert of all Animals, because he is Chanced to have Hands. Far more Reasonable to think, (as Aristotle concludeth) That because Man was the wisest of all Animals, therefore he had Hands given him. More proper to give Pipes, to one that hath Musickall skill, then upon him that hath Pipes, to bestow Musickall skill. 685

In the Last place, The Mechanick Theists Pretend, and that with some more plausibility, That it is below the Dignity of God Almighty, to perform all those Mean and Triviall Offices of Nature, Himself Immediately. This Answered again; That though the Divine Wisdom, is self Contrived the System of the whole, for Ends; yet is there an Artificial Nature under him, as his Inferiour Minister and Executioner. Proclus his Description hereof. This Nature to Proclus, a God or Goddes; but only as the Bodies of the Animated Stars were called Gods, because the Statues of the Gods. 685,

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That we cannot otherwise Conclude, concerning

these Mechanick Theists, who derive all things in the Mundane System, from the Necessary Motions of Senseless Matter, without the Direction of any Mind or God; but that they are Imperfect Theists, or have a certain Tang of the Atheistick Enthusiasm, (the Spirit of Infidelity) hanging about them. Page 687

But these Mechanick Theists Countersbalanc'd by another sort of Atheists, not Fortuitous nor Mechanick; namely the Hylozoists, who acknowledge the works of Nature to be the works of Understanding, and deride Democritus his Rough and Hooky Atoms, devoid of Life; they attributing Life to all Matter as such, and concluding the Vulgar Notion of a God, to be but an Inadequate Conception of Matter, its Energetick Nature being taken alone by it self as a Compleat Substance. These Hylozoists, never able to satisfy that Phenomenon, of the One Agreeing and Conspiring Harmony throughout the whole Universe: every Atom of Matter, according to them, being a Distinct Perceptient; and these Unable to confer Notions with One another. 687

Nor can the other Cosmo-Plastick Atheists (to whom the whole World, but one Huge Plant or Vegetable, Endued with a Spermatick, Artificiall Nature, Orderly disposing the whole, without Sense or Understanding,) do any thing towards the Salving of This, or any other Phenomena: it being Impossible, That there should be any such Regular Nature, otherwise then as Derived from, and Depending on, a Perfect Mind. ibid.

Besides these Three Phenomena, of Cogitation, Motion, and the Artificial Frame of things, with the Conspiring Harmony of the Whole, (no way Salvable by Atheists) Here further Added, That those who asserted the Novity of the World, could not possibly give an Account neither, of the First Beginning of Men, and other Animals, nor how Generated out of Putrefaction. Aristotle sometimes doubtsfull and staggering concerning the World's Eternity. Men and all other Animals not produced at first by Chance, either as Worms out of Putrefaction, or out of Eggs, or Wombs, growing out of the Earth; Because no Reason to be given, why Chance should not as well produce the same out of the Earth still. Epicurus his vain Pretence, that the Earth, as a Child-bearing Woman, was now grown Effete and Barren. Moreover, Men and Animals, whether first Generated out of Putrefaction, or excluded out of Wombs or Egge-shells, supported by these Atheists themselves, to have been produced in a Tender, Infant-like State, so that they could neither supply themselves with nourishment, nor defend themselves from harms. A Dream of Epicurus, That

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*That the Earth sent forth Streams of Milk after those her New-born Infants and Nurlings; Confuted by Critolaus in Philo. Another Pre-
carious Supposition or Fignent of Epicurus; That then no immoderate Heats nor Colds, nor any blustering Winds. Anaximander's way of Sal-
ving this Difficulty; That Men were first gene-
rated and nourished in the bellies of Fishes, till
able to shift for themselves; and then disgorged
upon dry Land. Atheists swallow any thing, ra-
ther than a God.* Page 688, 689

*Wherefore here being Dignus Vindice No-
dus, a Deus in personâ, Reasonably introduced,
in the Meffick Cabbala, to solve the same. It
appearing, from all Circumstances put together,
that this whole Phenomenon surpasses, not only
the Mechanick, but also the Platnick Pow-
ers; there being much of Discretion therein.
However, not denied, but that the Ministry of
Spirits (Created before Man, and other Ter-
restrial Animals) might be here made use of.
As in Plato, after the Creation of Immortal
Souls, by the Supreme God, the Framing of
Mortal Bodies is committed to Junior Gods.*

689, 690

*Furthermore, Attributes no more able to Salve
that ordinary Phenomenon, of the Conserva-
tion of Species, by the Difference of Sexes, and
a due Proportion of Number, kept up between
Males and Females. Here a Providence also,
Superior, as well to the Platnick, as Mechanick
Nature.* ibid.

*Lastly, Other Phenomena, as Real, though
not Physical; which Atheists cannot possibly
Salve, and therefore do commonly Deny; as of
Natural Justice or Honesty, and Obligation;
the Foundation of Politics, and the Mathema-
ticks of Religion. And of Liberty of Will;
not only That of Fortuitous Self-determination,
where an equal Eligibility of Objects; but also
That which makes men deserve Commendation
and Blame. These not commonly distinguished,
as they Ought. Epicurus has endeavour'd to Salve
Liberty of Will, from Atoms Declining Uncer-
tainly from the Perpendicular, meer Madness
and Frenzy.* 690, 691

*And now have we already Preventively Con-
futed the Third Atheistick Pretence, to Salve
the Phenomenon of Theism, from the Fiction
and Imposture of Politicians; we having pro-
ved, That Philosophy, and the true Knowledge
of Causes, inferre the Existence of a God. Never-
theless this to be here further Answered.* 691

*That States-men and Politicians could not
have made such use of Religion, as sometimes
they have done, had it been a meer Cheat and
Fignent of their own. Civil Sovereigns in all
the distant places of the World, could not have
so universally conspired, in this one Piece of*

*State-craft or Cozenage; nor yet have been
able, to possess the Minds of men every-where
with such a constant Awe and Dread of an In-
visible N-thing. The World would long since
have discovered this Cheat, and suspected a
Plot upon their Liberty, in the Fiction of a
God; at least Governours themselves would
have understood it; many of which notwith-
standing as much awed with the Fear of this In-
visible Nothing, as any Osiers. Other Cheats
and Juggles, when once Detected no longer Pra-
dised. But Religion now as much in Credit as
ever, though so long since Decried by Atheists,
for a Political Cheat. That Christianity, a
Religion Founded in no Humane Policy, pre-
vailed over the Craft and Power of all Civil So-
vereigns and Conquered the Persecuting World,
by suffering Deaths and Martyrdoms. This Pre-
sijgnified by the Prophetick Spirit.* Page 691,

692

*Had the Idea of God, been an Arbitrary
Fignent, not conceivable, how men should have
universally agreed in the same, and the Attri-
butes belonging thereunto: (This Argument used
by Sextus;) Nor that Civil Sovereigns them-
selves should so universally have jumped in it,*

692, 693

*Furthermore; Not Conceivable, how that
Thought or Idea of a God should have been For-
med by any, had it been the Idea of Nothing. The
Superficialness of Atheists, in Pretending, to be
Politicians, by telling men of Such a thing, put
the Idea into their Minds. No Notions, or Idea's,
put into mens minds by Words, but only the
Phantasms of the Sounds. Though all Learning
be not Remembrance; yet is all Humane Tea-
ching, but Maieutical or Obsteriticious; not the
Filling of the Soul as a Vessel, by Pouring into
it from without; but the Kindling of it from
within. Words signifie nothing to him that can-
not raise up within himself the Notions, or
Idea's, correspondent to them. However, the Dif-
ficulty still remains; How States-men themselves,
or the first Inventer of this Cheat, could have
framed any Notion at all of a Non-Entity.*

693, 694

*Here the Atheists Pretend, That there is a
Feigning Power in the Soul, whereby it can make
Idea's and Conceptions of Non-Entities; as of
a Golden Mountain, or a Centaur; and that
by this, an Idea of God might be framed, though
there be no such thing. Answer; That all the
Feigning Power of the Soul, consisteth only in
Compounding Idea's of things, that Really exist
Apart, but not in that Conjunction. The Mind
cannot make any New Conceptive Cogitation,
which was not Before; as the Painter or Limner
cannot Feign Colours. Moreover the whole of these
Fictitious Idea's, though it have no Actual, yet*

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being is a Possible Entity. The Deity is Self, though it could Create a World out of Nothing, yet can it not Create more Cogitation or Conception, than Is, or was always contained in its own Mind from Eternity; nor frame a Positive Idea of that, which hath no Possible Entity. Page 694, 695

The Idea of God, no Compilment or Aggregation of things, that Exist Severally, apart in the World; because then it would be a meer Arbitrary thing, and what Every one Pleas'd, the contrary whereunto hath been before manifested. 695

Again; Some Attributes of the Deity, nowhere else to be found in the whole World; and therefore must be Absolute Non-Entities, were there no God. Here the Painter must Feign Colours, and Create New Cogitation, out of Nothing. ibid.

Lastly, Upon Supposition, That there is no God, it is Impossible not only, that there should be any for the Future, but also, that there should ever have been any; whereas all Fictitious Idea's must have a Possible Entity, since otherwise they would be Unconceivable, and No Idea's. ibid.

Wherefore some Atheists will further Pretend; That besides this Power of Compounding things together, the Soul hath another Ampliating, or Amplifying Power; by both which together, though there be no God Existing, nor yet Possible; the Idea of him might be Fictitiously Made: those Attributes which are nowhere else to be found, arising by way of Amplification or Augmentation of Something found in Men. 695, 696

Answers First, That according to the Principles of these Atheists, that all our Conceptions are nothing but Passions from Objects without; there cannot Possibly be any such Amplifying Power in the Soul, whereby it could make More than Is. Thus Protagoras in Plato; No man can Conceive any thing, but what he suffers. Here also, (as Sextus Intimateseth,) the Atheists guilty of that Fallacy, call'd a Circle or Dialectus. For having First undiscernedly made the Idea of Imperfection, from Perfection; they then goe about again, to make the Idea of Perfection, out of Imperfection. That men have a Notion of Perfection, by which, as a Rule, they Judge things to be Imperfect; Evident from that Direction given by all Theologers, To Conceive of God, in way of Remotion or Abstraction of all Imperfection. Lastly, Finite Things added together, can never make up Infinite; as more and more Time backward, can never reach to Eternity without Beginning. God differs from Imperfect things, not in Degree, but Kind. As for Infinite Space, said to consist of Parts Finite; we are certain of no more

than this, that the Finite World might have been made Bigger and Bigger Infinitely; for which very Cause, it could never be Actually Infinite. Gassendus his Objection, That the Idea of an Infinite God, might as well be Feigned, as that of Infinite Worlds. But Infinite Worlds, are but Words or Notions ill Put together, or Combined; Infinity being a Real Thing in Nature, but Misapplied, is being Proper only to the Deity. Page 696, 697

The Conclusion; That since the Soul can neither Make the Idea of Infinite, by Amplification of Finite; nor Feign or Create any New Cogitation, which was not before; nor make a Positive Idea, of a Non-Entity; certain, that the Idea of God, no Fictitious Thing. 697

Further Made Evident, That Religion not the Figment of Civil Sovereigns. Obligation in Conscience, the Foundation of all Civil Right and Authority. Covenants without this, Nothing but Words and Breath. Obligation, not from Laws neither; but before them; or otherwise they could not Oblige. Lastly, This derived, not from Utility neither. Were Obligation to Civil Obedience Made by mens Private Utility, then could it be Dissolved by the Same. Wherefore if Religion, a Fiction or Imposture; Civil Sovereignty must needs be so too. 697, 698

Had Religion been a Fiction of Politicians, they would then have made it every way Pliable, and Flexible; since otherwise it would not Serve their Turn, nor consist with their Infinite Right. 698

But Religion in its own Nature, a Stiff, Inflexible thing, as also Justice, is being not Factitious, or Made by Will. There may therefore be a Contradiction, betwixt the Laws of God, and of Men; and in this case does Religion conclude, That God ought to be Obeyed, rather than Men. For this Cause, Atheistick Politicians of Latter times, declare against Religion as Inconsistent with Civil Sovereignty, It destroying Infinite Right, Introducing Private Judgment, or Conscience, and a Fear Greater than that of the Leviathan; to wit, of him who can Inflict Eternal Punishments. Senseless Matter the Atheists Natural God; the Leviathan or Civil Sovereign, his Artificial One. Religion thus disowned and disclaimed by Politicians, as Inconsistent with Civil Power, could not be the Creature of Political Art. Thus all the Three Atheistick Pretences, to Salve the Phenomenon of Religion; from Fear, Ignorance of Causes, and Fiction of Politicians; fully Confuted. 698, 700

But because, besides these Ordinary Phenomena, before mentioned, there are certain other Extraordinary ones, that cannot be Salv'd by Atheists,

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Atheists, which therefore they will impute, Partly to Mens Fear and Ignorance, and Partly to the Fiction and Imposture of Civil Governments, (viz. Apparitions, Miracks, and Prophecies;) the Reality of these, here also to be briefly vindicated. Page 700

First, as for Apparitions; Though much of Fabulosity in these Relations, yet unquestionably something of Truth. Atheists imputing these things to mens mistaking their Dreams and Phancies for Sensations, Contradict their own Fundamental Principle, That Sense is the only Criterion of Truth; as also Derogate more from Humane Testimony, then they ought. ibid.

That some Atheists sensible hereof, have acknowledged the Reality of Apparitions, concluding them nevertheless to be the Meer Creatures of Imagination; as if a Strong Phancy could produce Real Substances, or Objects of Sense. The Fanaticism of Atheists, who will rather Believe the greatest Impossibilities, then endanger the Being of a God. Invisible Ghosts Permanent, easily introduce One Supreme Ghost of the whole World. 700, 701

Democritus yet further Convinced; That there were Invisible Beings Superiour to Men, Independent upon Imagination, and Permanent; (called by him Idols) but having nothing Immortal in them; and therefore that a God could be no more proved from the Existence of them, then of Men. Granted by him, that there were, not only Terrestrial, but also Aerial and Ethereal Animals; and that all those Vast Regions of the Universe above, were not Desert and Uninhabited. Here something of the Fathers, asserting Angels to have Bodies; but more afterwards. 701, 702

To this Phenomenon of Apparitions, may be added those Two others, of Witches and Demoniacks; both of these proving, That Spirits are not Phaneles, nor Inhabitants of mens Brains only, but of the World; as also, That there are some Impure Spirits, a Confirmation of the Truth of Christianity. The Confident Exploders of Witchcraft, suspicious for Atheism. As for Demoniacks or Ennergumeni, certain from Josephus, That the Jews did not take these Demons or Devils, for Bodily Discafes; but Real Substances, possessing the Bodies of Men. Nor probable, that they supposed, as the Gnosticks afterward, all Diseases to be the Infestation of Evil Spirits; nor yet, (as some think) all Demoniacks to be Mad-men. But when there were any Unusual and Extraordinary Symptoms, in any Bodily Distemper, but especially that of Madness, they supposing this to be Supernatural, imputed it to the Infestation of some Devil. Thus also the Greeks, 702, 704

That Demoniacks and Ennergumeni, are a Real Phenomenon; and that there are such also in these Times of ours, Asserted by Fernelius and Sennertus. Such Maniacal Persons, as not only discover Secrets, but also speak Languages, which they had never learnt, unquestionably Demoniacks or Ennergumeni. That there have been such in the Times since our Saviour, proved out of Pcellus, as also from Fernelius. This for the Vindication of Christianity, against those who suspect the Scripture-Demoniacks for Figments. Page 704, 706

The Second Extraordinary Phenomenon Proposed; That of Miracles, and Effects Supernatural. That there have been such things amongst the Pagans, and since the Times of Christianity too; Evident from their Records. But more Instances of these in Scripture. 706

Two Sorts of Miracles. First, Such as, though they cannot be done by Ordinary Causes, yet may be effected by the Natural Power of Invisible Spirits, Angels, or Demons. As Illiterate Demoniacks, speaking Greek. Such amongst the Pagans that Miracle of the Whetstone, cut in two with a Razor. Secondly, Such as transcend the Natural Power of all Second Causes, and Created Beings. 706, 707

That late Politico-Theological Treatise, denying both these Sorts of Miracles; Inconsiderable, and not deserving here a Confutation. 707

Supposed in Deut. That Miracles of the former sort, might be done by False Prophets, in Confirmation of Idolatry. Wherefore Miracles alone, not sufficient to confirm every Doctrine. ibid.

Accordingly in the New Testament do we read, of *TITAN* *PAULUS* Lying Miracles; that is, Miracles done in Confirmation of a Lie, and by the Power of Satan, &c. God permitting it, in way of Probation of some, and Punishment of others. Miracles done for the promoting of Creature-Worship or Idolatry, in stead of justifying the same, themselves Condemned by it. 708

Had the Miracles of our Saviour been all of the former Kind only, yet ought the Jews, according to Moses Law, to have acknowledged him for a True Prophet, he coming in the Name of the Lord, and not Exhorting to Idolatry. Supposed in Deut. That God would not Permit False Prophets to do Miracles, save only in the Case of Idolatry; or when the Doctrine is discoverable to be False by the Light of Nature; because that would be an Inevitable Temptation. Our Saviour, That Eximious Prophet foretold, by whom God would again reveal his Will to the World; and no more out of Flaming Fire. Nevertheless some Miracles of our Saviour

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Christ's such also, as could be done only by the Power of God Almighty. Page 708, 709

All Miracles evince Spirits; to disbelieve which is, to disbelieve Sense, or Unreasonably to Derogate from Humane Testimony. Had the Gentiles entertained the Faith of Christ, without Miracles, This it self would have been a Great Miracle. 709

The Last Extraordinary Phenomenon, Divination or Prophecy. This also evinces Spirits, (called Gods by the Pagans:) and thus that of theirs True; If Divination, then Gods. 710

Two Sorts of Predictions likewise, as of Miracles. First, such as might proceed from the Natural Presaging Power of Created Spirits. Such Predictions acknowledged by Democritus, upon account of his Idols. Not so much Contingency in Humane Actions, by reason of Mens Liberty of Will, as some suppose. 710, 711

Another Sort of Predictions of Future Events, Imputable only to the Supernatural Prescience of God Almighty. Epicurus his Presence, That Divination took away Liberty of Will; either as Supposing, or Making a Necessity. Some Theists also denying the Prescience of God Almighty, upon the same Account. Certain, That no Created Being can foreknow Future Events, otherwise than in their Causes. Wherefore Predictions of such Events, as had no Necessary Antecedent Causes, Evince a God. 711, 712

That there is Foreknowledge of Future Events, Unfathomable to Men; formerly the general Persuasion of Mankind. Oracles and Predictions amongst the Pagans, which Evince Spirits; as that of Actius Navius. Most of the Pagan Oracles, from the Natural Presaging Power of Demons. Nevertheless some Instances of Predictions of a higher kind amongst them, as that of Vectius Valens, and the Sibyls. Thus Balaam, Divinely assisted to Predict our Saviour. 712, 713

Scriptures Triumphant over Pagan Oracles. Predictions concerning our Saviour Christ, and the Conversion of the Gentiles. Amongst which thus remarkable one, of the Seventy Weeks. 713, 714

Other Predictions concerning the Fates of Kingdoms, and of the Church. Daniel's Fourth Ten-Horned Beast, the Roman Empire. This Prophecy of Daniel's, carried on further in the Apocalyp. Both of them Prophetick Calendars of Times, to the End of the World. Ibid.

That this Phenomenon of Scripture-Prophecies, cannot Possibly be Imputed by Atheists, as some others, to Fear, or Ignorance of Causes, or to the Fiction of Politicians. They not only

Evince a Deity, but also the Truth of Christianity. To this Purpose, of more Use to us, who now live, than the Miracles themselves Recorded in Scripture. Page 714, 715

These Five Extraordinary Phenomena, all of them evince, Spirits to be no Fancies, but Substantiall Inhabitants of the World; from whence a God may be Inferred. Some of them, Immediately prove a Deity. Ibid.

Here have we not only fully Confuted all the Atheistick Pretences from the Idea of God, but also by the way, already Proposed several Substantiall Arguments for a Deity. The Existence whereof will now be further proved from its very Idea. Ibid.

True, That some of the Ancient Theists themselves, Declare God Not to be Demonstrable. Thus Alexander Aphrodis. Clemens Alexand. But their meaning therein no more than this, That God cannot be Demonstrated à Priori, from any Antecedent Necessary Cause. Not follow from hence, That therefore no Certainty, or Knowledge of the Existence of a God; but only Conjectural Probability, Faith, and Opinion. We may have a Certain Knowledge of things, the den whereof cannot be Demonstrated à Priori; as, That there was Something or other Eternal, without Beginning. Whensoever a thing is Necessarily Inferred, from what is altogether Undeniable, this may be called a Demonstration. Many Geometrical Demonstrations such, or of the In only. 715, 716

A Sceptical Position of Cartesius; That there can be no Certainty of any thing, no not of Geometrical Theorems, nor Common Notions; before we be Certain of the Existence of a God, Essentially Good, who therefore cannot Deceive. From whence it would follow, That neither Atheists, nor such Theists, as assert an Arbitrary Deity, can ever be certain of anything; as That, Two and Two are Four. 716, 717

However some appearance of Piety in this Assertion; yet it is a Foundation of Eternal Scepticism, both as to all other things, and the Existence of a God. That Cartesius here went Round in a Circle, proving the Existence of a God, from our Faculties; and then the Truth of our Faculties, from the Existence of a God; and consequently Proved nothing. If it be possible, that our Faculties might be False, then must we confess it possible, that there may be no God; and consequently remain for ever Sceptical about it. Ibid.

Wherefore a Necessity of Exploding and Confuting this New Sceptical Hypothesis, of the Possibility of our Faculties being so made, as to Deceive us, in all our Clearest Perceptions. Omnipotence it self cannot make any thing to be Indifferently True or False. Truth not Fictitious. At

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As to the Universal Theorems of Abstract Science, the Measure of Truth, nor Foreign or Extraneous thing, but only our own Clear and Distinct Perception. Here whatsoever is Clearly Perceived, Is. The very Essence of Truth, Perceptibility. Granted by all, That there can be no False Knowledge or Understanding. The Perception of the Understanding, never False, but only Obscure. Not Nature that Errests in us, but We Our selves, in Assenting to things not Clearly Perceived. Conclusion; That Omnipotence cannot Create any Understanding Faculties, so as to have as Clear and Distinct Conceptions of all Falshoods and Non-Entities, as of Truths: because whatsoever is Clearly and Distinctly Perceived, hath therefore an Entity; and Omnipotence is self (to speak with Reverence) cannot make Nothing, to be Something, or Something Nothing. This no more, then That it cannot doe Things Contradictious. Conception the Measure of Powee. Page 717, 719

True, That Sense as such, is but Phantastical and Relative: and were there no other Perception, all Truth would be Private, Relative, and Seemings mere Absolute. This probably the Reason, why some have suspected the same of Knowledge also. But Mind and Understanding reaches beyond Phancy and Appearance, to the Absoluteness of Things. It hath the Criterion of Truth within it self. 719, 720

Objected; That this an Aerogance, for Creatures to Pretend to an Absolute Certainty of any thing. Answer; That God alone is Ignorant of Nothing, and Infallible in All things; but no Derogation from the Deity, to suppose, that he should make Created Minds such, as to have a Certainty of Something; as the Whole to be Greater then the Part, and the like; since otherwise they would be but a mere Mockery. Congruous to think, that God hath made Men so, as that they may Possibly attain to some Certainty of his own Existence. Origen, That Knowledge is the only thing that hath Certainty in it. 720, 721

Having now some Firm Ground or Footing to stand upon; a Certainty of Common Notions, without which nothing could be proved by Reason; we shall endeavour by means hereof, to Demonstrate the Existence of a God from his Idea. ibid.

Cartesius his Undertaking to doe this with Mathematical Evidence; as this Idea includeth in it Necessary Existence. This Argument hitherto not so Successful, it being by many concluded to be a Sophism. That we shall impartially set down all that we can, both For it, and Against it; leaving others to make a Judgment. 721

First, Against the Cartesian Demonstration of

a God. That because, we can frame an Idea of a Necessarily Existent Being, it does not at all follow, that It Is; since we can frame Ideas of things, that Never Were, nor Will be. Nothing to be gathered from hence, but only that it is Not Impossible. Again, from this Idea, Including Necessary Existence, nothing else Inferrible, but That, what hath no Necessary Existence, is not Perfect; and, That if there be a Perfect Being, its Existence always was, and will be Necessary: but not Absolutely, That it doth Exist. A Fallacy, when from the Necessity of Existence affirmed only Hypothetically, the Conclusion is made Absolutely. Though a Perfect Being, Must Exist Necessarily; yet not therefore follow, that it Must and Doth Exist. The Latter a thing Indemonstrable. Page 721, 723

For the Cartesian Demonstration of a God. As from the Notion of a thing Impossible, we conclude, That it never Was nor Will be; and of that which hath a Contingent Schesis to Existence, That it Might be, or Might not be; so from that which hath Necessary Existence in its Nature, That it Actually Is. The force of the Argumentation, not merely Hypothetical, If there be a Perfect Being, then is its Existence Necessary; because this supposes, that a Necessary Existent Being, is Contingent to be, or not to be: which a Contradiction. The Absurdity of this will better appear, if instead of Necessary Existence, we put in Actually. No Theists can otherwise prove, that a God, though supposed to Exist, might not Happen by Chance to Be. Nevertheless God, or a Perfect Being, not here Demonstrated à Priori, when from its own Idea. The Reader left to make a Judgment. 723, 724

A Progymnasma, or Preliminary Attempt, towards the proving of a God from his Idea, at including Necessary Existence. First, From our having an Idea of a Perfect Being, Implying no manner of Contradiction in it, it follows, that such a thing is Possible. And from that Necessary Existence Included in this Idea, added to the Possibility thereof, it further follows, that it Actually Is. A Necessary Existent Being, if Possible, Is; because upon the supposition of its Non-Existence, it would be Impossible for it, ever to have been. Not so in Contingent things. A Perfect Being, is either Impossible to have Been, or else it Is. Were God Possible, and yet Not, He would not be a Necessary, but Contingent Being, However no Stress laid upon this. 724, 725

Another Plainer Argument, for the Existence of a God, from his Idea. Whatsoever we can frame an Idea of in our Minds, implying no Contradiction, this either Actually Is, or else (b 3) If

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if it Be Not, is Possible to Be. But if God Be Not, he is not Possible to Be. Therefore He Is. *The Major before Proved, That we cannot have an Idea of any thing, which hath neither Actual nor Possible Existence.* Page 725

A Further Ratiocination from the Idea of God, as including Necessary Existence, by certain Steps. First, Certain, that something or other did Exist of It self from Eternity, without Beginning. Again, Whatsoever did Exist of It self from Eternity, did so Exist Naturally and Necessarily, and therefore there is a Necessary Existent Being. Thirdly, Nothing could Exist of It self from Eternity Naturally and Necessarily, but what contained Necessary Self-Existence in its Nature. Lastly, A Perfect Being, and nothing else, containeth Necessary Existence in its Nature. Therefore It Is. An Appendix to this Argument; That no Temporary Successive Being, could be from Eternity without Beginning. This Proved before. 725, 726

Again, The Controversie betwixt Atheists and Theists, First Clearly Stated from the Idea of God, and then Satisfactorily Decided. Premised; That as every thing was not Made, so neither was every thing Unmade. Atheists agree in both. The State of the Controversie betwixt Theists and Atheists; Whether that which being is self Unmade, was the Cause of all other things Made, were the Most Perfect, or the Most Imperfect Being. A certain kind of Atheistick Theism, or Theogonism, which acknowledging a God, or Soul of the World, presiding over the Whole, supposed him notwithstanding, to have Emerged out of Night and Chaos; that is, to have been Generated out of Senseless Matter. 726, 728

The Controversie thus Stated, easily Decided. Certain, That Lesser Perfection may be derived from Greater, or from that which is Absolutely Perfect; but Impossible, That Greater Perfection, and Higher Degrees of Entity, should rise out of Lesser and Lower. Things did not Ascend, but Descend. That Life and Sense may Naturally rise from the meer Modification of Dead and Senseless Matter; as also Reason and Understanding from Sense; is the Philosophy of the Kingdom of Darkness. The Hylozoists so Sensible of this, that there must be some Substantial Unmade Life and Understanding; that Athelizing, they thought it Necessary to Attribute Life and Understanding to all Matter, as such. This Argument, a Demonstration of the Impossibility of Atheism. 728, 729

The Controversie again more Particularly Stated, from the Idea of God, as including Mind and Understanding in it. Viz. Whether

all Mind were Made or Generated out of Senseless Matter; or Whether there were an Eternal Unmade Mind, the Maker of all. This the Doctrine of Theists, That Mind the Oldest of all things; of Atheists, That it is a Rostinate thing, Younger then the World, and an Unbratle Image of Real Beings. Page 729

The Controversie thus Stated, again Decided. Though it does not follow, That if once there had been no Corporeal World or Matter, there could never have been any; yet it is certain, That if once there had been no Life nor Mind, there could never have been any Life or Mind. Our Imperfect Minds, not Of Themselves from Eternity, and therefore Derived from a Perfect Unmade Mind. 729, 730

That Atheists think, their chief strength to lie here, in their Disproving a God, from the Nature of Understanding and Knowledge. According to them, Things made Knowledge, and not Knowledge Things. All Mind and Understanding, the Creature of Senseless, and a Phantastick Image of them; and therefore no Mind their Creatour. Thus does a Modern Writer conclude, That Knowledge and Understanding is not to be Attributed to God, because it implieth Dependence upon Things without; which is all one as if he should have said, That Senseless Matter is the most Perfect of all things, and the Highest Numen. 730

A Compendious Confutation of the Premised Atheistick Principles. Knowledge not the Activity of Senseless upon the Knower, and his Passions. Sensible things themselves, not Known by the Passion, or Phancy of Sense. Knowledge not from the Force of the Thing Known, but of the Knower. Besides Phantasms of Singular Bodies, Intelligible Ideas Universal. A late Atheistick Paradox, That Universals, nothing but Names. Axiomatical Truths in Abstract Sciences no Passion from Bodies by Sense, nor yet gathered by Induction from Many Singulars; we at once Perceiving it Impossible, that they should be otherwise. An Ingenious Observation of Aristotle's; That could it be Perceived by Sense, the Three Angles of a Triangle to be Equal to Two Right; yet would not this be Science, or Knowledge, Properly so called; which is of Universals First, and from thence descends to Singulars. 730, 732

Again, We have Conceptions of things Incorporeal, as also of such Corporeals as never did Exist, and whose Accuracy Sense could not reach to: as a Perfect straight Line, and Plain Superficies, an Exact Triangle, Circle, or Sphere. That we have a Power of framing Ideas of things that never were nor will be, but only Possible. 732

Inferred from hence, That Humane Science

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in self, not the mere Image and Creature of Singular Sensibles, but Proleptical to them, and in order of Nature Before them. But since there must be Nunc, before Nunc, Intelligibles, before Intellection; the only true Account of Knowledge and its Original, is from a Perfect Omnipotent Being, Comprehending itself, and the Extent of its own Power, or the Possibilities of all things, their Relations and Immutable Truths. And of this one Perfect Mind, all Imperfect Minds Partake. Page 732,

733

Knowledge therefore in the Nature of it, supposeth the Existence of a Perfect Omnipotent Being, as its Nunc, or Intelligible. This Comprehending is self, the First Original Knowledge, a Mind before the World, and all Sensibles, not Ellypsal, but Archetypal, and the Framer of all. Wherefore not Atheism, but Theism, Demonstrable from Knowledge and Understanding.

733, 734

*This further Confirmed from hence; Because there are External Verities, such as were never Made, nor had any Beginning. That the Diagonal of a Square, Incommensurable to the Sides, an Eternal Truth to Aristotle. Justin Martyr's *quinta Diagona*, or Eternal Morals, Geometrical Truths, not Made by any man's Thinking, but before all Men; as also before the World and Matter it self.*

734

Now if there be External Verities the Simple Reasons and Intelligible Essences of Things, must needs be Eternal likewise. These called by Plato, Things that Always Are, but were never Made, Ingenerable and Incorruptible. However Aristotle quarrels with Plato's Idea's, yet does he also agree with him in this, That the Forms or Species of things, were Eternal, and Never Made; and that there is No Generation of them; and that there are other things besides Sensibles, the Immutable Objects of Science. Certain, That there could be no Immutable Science, were there no other Objects of the Mind, but Sensibles. The Objects of Geometrical Science, no Material Triangles, Squares, &c. These, by Aristotle, said to be No where. The Intelligible Natures of things to Philo, the most Necessary Essences. 735, 736

Now if there be Eternal Truths, and Intelligibles, whose Existence also is Necessary; since these can be no where but in a Mind; there must be an Eternal, Necessarily Existing Mind, Comprehending all these Idea's and Truths at once, or Being them. Which no other, then the Mind of a Perfect Omnipotent Being, Comprehending it self, and all Possibilities of things, the Extent of its own Power.

736, 737

Wherefore there can be but One only Original Mind; which all other Minds Partake

of. Hence Idea's, or Notions, exactly alike in several men; and Truths Indivisibly the Same: Because their Minds all Stamped with the same Original Seal. Themistius; That One man could not Teach Another, were there not the same Notion both in the Learner and Teacher. Nor could men confer together as they do, were there not One Mind, that All Partake of. That Anti-Monarchical Opinion, of Many Understanding Beings Eternal, and Independent; confuted. And now have we not only asserted the Idea of God, and Confuted all the Atheistick Pretences against it; but also from this Idea, Demonstrated his Existence.

Page 737, 738

S E C T. II.

A Confutation of the Second Atheistick Argument, Against Omnipotence and Divine Creation; That Nothing can by any Power whatsoever, be Made out of Nothing. In Answer to which, Three things to be Insisted on. First, That *De Nihilo Nihil*, Nothing out of Nothing, is in some Sense an Axiome of Unquestionable Truth, but then makes Nothing against Theism, or Divine Creation. Secondly, That Nothing out of Nothing, in the Sense of the Atheistick Objectors, viz. That Nothing which once was Nunc, could by any Power whatsoever, be brought into Being, is Absolutely False; and that if it were True, it would make no more against Theism, than it doth against Atheism. Lastly, That from this very Axiome, Nothing from Nothing, in the True Sense thereof, the Absolute Impossibility of Atheism is Demonstrable. 738

De Nihilo Nihil, Nothing from Nothing, in some Sense, is a Common Notion of Unquestionable Truth. For First, Certain, That Nothing which once was Not, could ever Of It Self come into Being; or, That Nothing can take beginning of Existence from It self; or, That Nothing can be Made or Produced, without an Efficient Cause. From whence Demonstrated, That there was never Nothing; or, That every thing was not Made, but Something did Exist of It Self from Eternity, Unmade, or Undeived from any thing else. 738, 739

Again, Certain also, That Nothing could be Efficiently Produced by what hath not at least Equal Perfection, and a Sufficient Active or Productive Power. That of an Effect, which Transcends the Perfection of its supposed Cause, must come from Nothing, or be Made without a Cause. Nor can any thing be Produced by another, though having Equal Perfection, unless it have also a Sufficient Active or Productive

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ductive Power. Hence Certain, That were there once no Motion at all in the world, and no other Substance besides Body, which had no Self-Moving Power, there could never Possibly be any Motion or Mutation to all Eternity, for want of a Sufficient Cause, or Productive Power. No Imperfect Being, hath a Productive Power of any New Substance, which was not before, but only of New Accidents and Modifications; that is, No Creature can Create. Which Two forementioned Senſes reſpect the Efficient Cause.

Page 739
Thirdly, Nothing can be Materially Produced out of Nothing *Præ-Exiſting* or *Inexiſting*. And therefore in all Natural Generations (where the Supernatural Power of the Deity interpoſes not) No New Reall Entity or Substance Produced, which was not Before, but only New Modifications of what Subſtancially *Præ-Exiſted*.

739, 740
Nothing out of Nothing, ſo much Inſiſted on by the old Phyſiologers before Aristotle, in this Senſe; commonly miſunderſtood by Modern Writers, as if they deſigned thereby, to take away all Divine Creation out of Nothing *Præ-Exiſting*. Granted, This to have been the Senſe of the Stoicks and of Plutarch; He affirming, the World to have been no otherwiſe Made by God, then a Houſe is by a Carpenter, or a Garment by a Tailour. Plutarch and the Stoicks therefore, Imperfect Theiſts, but nevertheless Zealous Religioniſts. But the Ancient Italic Philoſophers here Alled only as Phyſiologers, and not as Theologers, or Metaphyſicians; they not direſſing themſelves, againſt a Divine Creation out of Nothing *Præ-Exiſting*; but only conſending, That neither in Natural Generations, any new Reall Entity was Created, nor in Corruptions, Annihilated; but only the Modifications of what before Exiſted, Changed: or, That No New Reall Entity could be Made out of Matter.

740, 741
That this was the True meaning of thoſe Ancient Phyſiologers, Evident from the Uſe which they made of this Principle, Nothing out of Nothing; Which Twofold. Fiſt, Upon this Foundation, they Endeavoured to eſtabliſh a Peculiar Kind of Phyſiology, and ſome Atomology or other, either Similar or Diſſimilar; Homœomery or Anomœomery. Anaxagoras from hence concluded, becauſe Nothing could be Made out of Nothing *Præ-Exiſting* and *Inexiſting*, that therefore there were in every Body, Similar Atoms, of all Kinds; out of which, by Concretions, and Secretions, all Natural Generations Made; ſo that Bone was Made out of Bony Atoms *Præ-Exiſting* and *Inexiſting*; Fleſh out of Fleſhy, and the like. This the Anaxagorean Homœomery, or Similar Atomolo-

gy, built upon this Principle, Nothing out of Nothing.

Page 741, 742
But the Ancient Italicks, both before and after Anaxagoras, (whom Leucippus, Democritus, and Epicurus here followed) with greater ſagacity concluded, from the ſame Principle, Nothing out of Nothing; That thoſe Qualities and Forms of Bodies, Naturally Generated and Corrupted, were therefore no Reall Entities, diſtinct from the Substance of Matter, but only Different Modifications thereof, Cauſing Different Phanacies in us; and this an Anomœomery, or Diſſimilar Atomology, the Atoms thereof being Devoid of Qualities. Thoſe Simple Elements or Letters (in Nature's Alphabet) out of which, variously Combined, theſe Philoſophers Spelled out, or Compounded all the Syllables and Words (or Complexions) of Corporall Things, Nothing but Figure, Site, Motion, Reſt, and Magnitude of Parts. Were Qualities and Forms, Reall Entities diſtinct from theſe, and not *Præ-Exiſting*, (as Anaxagoras dreamed) they muſt then have come from Nothing, in Natural Generations; which Impoſſible.

742, 743
Another Improvement of this Principle, Nothing out of Nothing, made by the Italic Philoſophers; That the Souls of Animals, eſpecially Humane, ſince they could not Poſſibly reſult from the meer Modifications of Matter, Figure, Site, Motion, &c. were not Produced in Generations, nor Annihilated in Deaths and Corruptions; but being Subſtancial things, did *Præ* and *Poſt Exiſt*. This ſet down as the Controverſy betwixt Atheiſts and Theiſts, in Lucretius; Whether Souls were Generated, or Inſinuated into Bodies. Generations and Corruptions of Animals, to theſe Pythagoreans, but Anagrammatical Tranſpoſitions. That thoſe Philoſophers who aſſerted the *Præ-Exiſtence* and Ingenerability of Souls, did not therefore Suppoſe them to have been Self-Exiſtent and Uncreated, but derived them all from the Deity. Thus Proclus, though maintaining the Eternity of Souls, with the World. The Ingenerability of Souls in Plato's Timæus, no more then this, that they were not Generated out of Matter; and for this Cauſe alſo, were they called Principles, in the ſame Senſe, as Matter was ſo accounted. Souls therefore to Plato, Created by God, though not in the Generation of Animals, but Before.

743, 745
Saint Auſtine himſelf, Sometime Staggering and Sceptical, in the Point of *Præ-Exiſtence*. That we have a Philoſophick Certainty of no more then this, That Souls were Created by God, out of Nothing *Præ-Exiſting*, ſome time or other; either in Generations, or Before them. That unleſs Brutes be meer Machines, the Reaſon the ſame alſo, concerning Brutish Souls; That theſe not Generated out of Matter, but Created,

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Created, sometime or other, by the Deity; as well as the Matter of their Bodies was. Page 745

That all these Three Formentioned Particulars, wherein it is True, that Nothing can Possibly come from Nothing, are reducible to this One Generall Proposition, That Nothing can be Caused by Nothing; which will no way clash with the Divine Omnipotence or Creative Power, as shall be shew'd afterwards; but Confirm the same. But those same words, Nothing out of Nothing, may carry another Sense; when that *is* in *sermo*, Out of Nothing, is not taken Causally, but only to signify the Terminus A Quo, the Term From which, or an Antecedent Non-Existence: and then the meaning thereof will be, That Nothing which before was Not, could afterwards, by any Power whatsoever, be brought into Being. And this the Sense of the Democritick and Epicurean Objectors; viz. That no Reall Entity can be Made, or Brought out of Non-Existence into Being; and therefore the Creative Power of Theists, an Impossibility. *ibid.*

Our Second Undertaking, in way of Answer hereunto; To shew That Nothing out of Nothing, in this Sense, is False; as also That, were it True, yet it would make no more against Theism, then it doth against Atheism; and therefore ought not to be used by Atheists, as an Argument against a God. If this Universally True, That Nothing at all which once was Not, could ever be brought into Being, then could there be no Making, nor Causing at all, no Motion nor Action, Mutation or Generation. But our selves have a Power of Producing New Cogitation in our Minds, and New Motion in our Bodies. We therefore Atheists forced to restrain this Proposition, to Substantialls only. And here some Deceived with the Equivocation, in this *is* in *sermo*, Out of Nothing; which may be taken either Causally, or else to signify the Term From Which, that is, From an Antecedent Non-Existence; they confounding both these together; whereof the First only True, the Latter False. Again, Others Staggered with the Plausibility of this Proposition; Partly, because no Artificial thing (as a House or Garment) can be made by Men, but out of Pre-Existing Matter; and Partly, because Ancient Physiologers maintained the same also, concerning Natural Generations, That no New Reall Entity or Substance, could be therein Produced; and Lastly, because it is certain, that no Imperfect Created Being, can Create any New Substance: They being therefore apt to measure all Power whatsoever, by these Scantlings. But as easy, for a Perfect Being to Create a World, Matter and all, Out of Nothing. (in this Sense, that is, out of an Antecedent Non-

Existence,) as for us to Create a Thought, or to Move a Finger, or for the Sun to send out Rays. For an Imperfect Substance which once was Not, to be brought into Being by God, this not Impossible, in any of the Forementioned Senses. He having not only Infinitely Greater Perfection, but also Sufficient Productive or Emanative Power. True, That Infinite Power cannot doe things in their own Nature Impossible; but Nothing thus Impossible, but what Contradictious; and though a Contradiction for any thing, at the same time, to Be and Not Be; yet none at all, for an Imperfect Being, (which is in its Nature Contingent to Existence) after it had Not been, to Be. Wherefore since the making of a Substance to Be, which was not Before, is no way Contradictious, nor consequently, in its own Nature Impossible; it must needs be an Object of Perfect Power. Page 746, 748

Furthermore, If no Reall Entity or Substance, could possibly be brought on of Non-Existence into Being; then must the Reason hereof be, Because no Substance can Derive its Whole Being from another Substance. But from hence, it would follow, That whatsoever is Substantiall, did not only Exist from Eternity, but also Of It Self, Independently upon any thing else. Wherein, First, The Pre-Existency of Temporary Beings, not agreeable to Reason; and then, To suppose Imperfect Substances, to have Existed Of Themselves and Necessarily, is to suppose Something to come from Nothing, in the Impossible Sense; they having no Necessary Self-Existence in their Nature. As they who affirm, all Substance to be Body, and no Body to be able to Move it Self, though supposing Motion to have been from Eternity; yet make this Motion to Come from Nothing, or be Caused by Nothing. What in its Nature Contingently Possible, to Be, or Not Be, could not Exist Of It Self; but must Derive its Being from Something else, which Necessarily Existeth. Plato's Distinction therefore, betwixt Two kinds of Substances, must needs be admitted, That which always Is, and was never Made; and, That which is Made, or had a Beginning. 748, 749

Lastly, If this True, that No Substance Makeable or Productible; it would not only follow from thence, (as the Epicurean Atheist supposes) that Matter, but also that all Souls, (at least Humane) did Exist Of Themselves, from Eternity, Independently upon any thing else; it being Impossible that Mind or Soul, should be a Modification of Senseless Matter, or Result from Figures, Sizes, Motions, and Magnitudes. Humane Souls Substantiall, and therefore, according to this Doctrine, must have been Never Made; whereas Atheists slyly deny both their Pre, and Post-Existence. Those Pagan Theists,

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who held the Eternity of Humane Minds, supposed them notwithstanding, to have Depended upon the Deity, as their Cause. Before Proved; That there can be but One Understanding Being Self-Existent. If Humane Souls Depend upon the Deity as their Cause, then Doubtless Matter also. Page 749, 750

A Common, but Great Mistake; That no Pagan Theist ever acknowledged any Creative Power out of Nothing; or else, That God was the Cause of any Substance. Plato's Definition of Effective Power, in General, and his Affirmation, That the Divine Efficiency is that, whereby things are Made, after they had Not been. Certain, That he did not understand this, of the Production of Souls out of Matter, he supposing them to be Before Matter, and therefore Made by God out of Nothing Pre-Existing. All Philosophers, who held the Immortality and Incorporeity of the Soul, asserted it to have been Caused by God, either in Time, or from Eternity. Plutarch's Singularity here. Unquestionable, That the Platonists supposed, One Substance to receive its whole Being from Another; in that they derive their Second Hypothesis or Substance, though Eternal, from the First; and their Third from Both; and all Inferiour Ranks of Beings from all Three. Plotinus, Porphyrius, Iamblichus, Hierocles, Proclus, and Others, derived Matter from the Deity. Thus the Chaldee Oracles; and the old Egyptian, or Hermaick Theology also, according to Iamblichus. Those Platonists who supposed the World and Souls Eternal, conceived them to have received their Being, as much from the Deity, as if Made in Time. 750, 752

Having now Disproved this Proposition, Nothing out of Nothing, in the Atheistick Sense, viz. That no Substance was Caused, or Derived its Being from Another; but whatsoever is Substantial, did Exist Of It self from Eternity, Independently; we are in the next place, to make it appear also, That were it True, it would no more oppose Theism, then it doth Atheism. Falshoods (though not Truths) may Disagree. Plutarch, the Stoicks, and Others, who made God the Creatour of no Substance, though not Genuine, yet Zealous Theists. But the Antient Atheists, both in Plato and Aristotle, Generated and Corrupted All things; that is, Produced All things out of Nothing, or Non-Existence, and Reduced them into Nothing again; the bare Substance of Matter only Excepted. The same done by the Democritick and Epicurean Atheists themselves, the Masters of this Objection; though according to the Principles of their own Atomick Physiology, it is Impossible, that Life and Understanding, Soul and Mind, should be meer Modifications of

Matter. As Theists give a Creative Power of All, out of Nothing, to the Deity; so do Atheists, to Passive and Dead Matter. Wherefore this can be no Argument against Theism; is Equally opposing Atheism. Page 752, 756

An Anacephalosis; wherein Observable, That Cicero makes De Nihilo fieri, and Sine Causa, To be made out of Nothing, and to be made without a Cause, One and the Self-same thing; as also that he doth not Confine this to the Material Cause only. Our Third and Last Undertaking; To Prove that Atheists Produce Real Entities out of Nothing, in the First Impossible Sense; that is, Without a Cause. 755, 757

A Brief Synopsis of Atheism; That Matter being the only Substance, is therefore the only Un-made Thing; and That whatsoever else is in the World, besides the Bare Substance thereof, was Made out of Matter, or Produced from that alone. 757

The First Argument; When Atheists affirm, Matter to be the only Substance, and all things to be Made out of that, they Suppose all to be Made without an Efficient Cause; which is to bring them from Nothing, in an Impossible Sense. Though Something may be Made, without a Material Cause Pre-Existing; yet cannot anything Possibly be Made, without an Efficient Cause. Wherefore if there be any thing Made, which was Not before, there must of Necessity be besides Matter, some other Substance, as the Active, Efficient Cause thereof. The Atheistick Hypothesis supposes, Things to be Made, without any Active or Effective Principle. Whereas the Epicurean Atheists, Attribute the Efficiency of all to Local Motion; and yet deny Matter or Body (their only Substance) a Self-moving Power. They hereby, make all the Motion that is in the World to have been Without a Cause, or to Come from Nothing; all Action, without an Agent; all Efficiency, without an Efficient. 758

Again; Should we grant these Atheists, Motion without a Cause; yet could not Dead and Senseless Matter, together with Motion, ever beget Life, Sense, and Understanding; because this would be Something out of Nothing, in way of Causality: Local Motion, only Changing the Modifications of Matter, as Figure, Place, Site, and Disposition of Parts. Hence also, those Spurious Theists Confuted, who Conclude God to have done no more in the Making of the World, then a Carpenter doth in the Building of a House, (upon this Pretence, That Nothing can be made out of Nothing;) and yet suppose him, to Make Souls out of Dead and Senseless Matter, which is to bring them from Nothing, in way of Causality. 758, 759

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Declared before, That the Ancient Italicks and Pythagoricks, Proved in this manner; That Souls could not possibly be Generated out of Matter; because Nothing can come from Nothing, in way of Causality. The Subterfuge of the Atheillick Ionicks, out of Aristotle; That Matter being the only Substance; and Life, Sense, and Understanding, Nothing but the Passions, Affections, and Dispositions thereof; the Production of them out of Matter, no Production of any new Reall Entity.

Page 759

Answer; Atheists taking it for granted, That there is no other Substance besides Body or Matter, therefore fallly conclude, Life, Sense, and Understanding, to be Accidents or Modes of Matter; they being indeed, the Modes or Attributes of Substance Incorporeal and Self-Active. A Mode, That which cannot be Conceiv'd, without the Thing whereof it is a Mode, but Life and Cogitation may be Conceiv'd, without Corporal Extension; and indeed cannot be Conceiv'd with it.

759, 760

The chief Occasion of this Errour, from Qualities and Forms; as, Because the Quality of Heat, and Form of Fire, may be Generated out of Matter; therefore Life, Cogitation, and Understanding also. But the Atomick Atheists themselves, Explode Qualities, as things Really distinct from the Figure, Site, and Motion of Parts, for this very reason, Because Nothing can be made out of Nothing Causally. The Vulgar Opinion of such Real Qualities in Bodies, only from mens mistaking their own Phancies, Apparitions, Passions, Affections, and Seemings, for things Really Existing without them. That in these Qualities, which is distinct from the Figure, Site, and Motion of Parts, not the Accidents and Modifications of Matter; but of Our own Souls. The Atomick Atheists infinitely Absurd; when exploding Qualities, because Nothing can come out of Nothing, themselves bring Life, Sense, and Understanding, out of Nothing, in way of Causality. That Opinion, That Cogitation is Nothing but Local Motion, and Men themselves meer Machines, Prodigious Sottishness, or Intolerable Impudence.

760, 762

Very Observable here, That Epicurus himself, having a Mind to assert Contingent Liberty, confess'd, that he could not do this, unless there were some such thing in the Principles; because Nothing can be made out of Nothing, or Caused by Nothing; and therefore does he Ridiculously feign a Third Motion of Atoms, to solve that Phenomenon of Free-Will. Wherefore he must needs be guilty of an Impossible Production, of Something out of Nothing, when he brings Soul and Mind, out of Dead and

Senseless Atoms. Were there no Substantial and Eternal Life and Understanding in the Universe, there could none have been ever Produced; because it must have come from Nothing, or been Made without a Cause. That Dark Philosophy which Educ'd, not only Real Qualities and Substantial Forms, but also Souls themselves, at least Sentitive, out of the Power of the Matter, Educ'd them Out of Nothing, or Makes them without a Cause; and so prepares a direct way to Atheism. Page 762,

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They who suppose Matter, otherwise than by Motion, and by a kind of Miraculous Efficiency, to Produce Souls, and Minds, attribute that Creative Power to this Senseless and Unactive Matter, which themselves deny, to a Perfect Being, as an Absolute Impossibility. Thus have we Demonstrated, the Impossibility and Nonsense of all Atheism, from this very Principle; That Nothing can be made from Nothing, or without a Sufficient Cause. 763,

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Wherefore, If no Middle betwixt these Two; but all things must either Spring from a God, or Matter; Then is this also a Demonstration of the Truth of Theism, by Deduction to Impossible: Either there is a God, or else all things are derived from Dead and Senseless Matter; But this Latter is Impossible; Therefore a God. Nevertheless, that the Existence of a God, may be further Directly Proved also from the same Principle, rightly understood, Nothing out of Nothing Causally, or Nothing Caused by Nothing, neither Efficiently, nor Materially, 764

By these Steps; First, That there was never Nothing, but Something or other did Exist Of It Self from Eternity. Un-made, and Independently upon any thing else, Mathematically Certain; from this Principle, Nothing from Nothing. Had there been once Nothing, there could never have been Anything. Again, Whatsoever did Exist Of It Self from Eternity, must have so Existed Necessarily, and not by any Free Will and Choice. Certain therefore, That there is Something Actually in Being, whose Existence Is, and always Was Necessary. Now that which Exists Necessarily, Of It Self, must have Necessity of Existence in its Nature; which Nothing but a Perfect Being hath. Therefore there Is a Perfect Being; and Nothing Else besides this, did Exist Of It Self from Eternity, but All other things whatsoever (whether Souls or Matter) were Made by it. To suppose any thing to Exist Of It Self Necessarily, that hath no Necessary Existence in its Nature, is to suppose that Necessary Existence to have Come from Nothing. 764, 765

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Three Reasons, why some Theists have been so Staggering and Sceptical about the Necessary Self-Existence of Matter. First, From an Idiotical Conceit, That because Artificial Things cannot be made by men, but Out of Pre-Existent Matter, therefore Nothing by God, or a Perfect Being, can be otherwise Made. Secondly, Because some of them have supposed that immaterial, an Incorporeal Hyle, or First Matter Un-made; an Opinion Older than Aristotle. Whereas this Really Nothing, but a Metaphysical Notion of the Potentiality or Possibility of Things, respectively to the Deity. Lastly, Because some of them have conceived, Body and Space to be Really the same thing; and Space to be Positively Infinite, Eternal, and Necessarily Existent. But if Space be not the Extension of the Deity it Self, as some suppose; but of Body, only considered Abstractly, from This or That, and therefore Immoveably; then no sufficient Ground, for the Positive Infinity, or the Indefiniteness thereof, as Cartesius Imagined: we being certain of no more than this, That be the World and its Space, or Extension, never so Great, yet it might be still Greater and Greater Innately; for which very Cause, it could never be Positively Infinite. This Possibility of more Body and Space, further and further Indefinitely, or Without End, as also its Eternity, mistaken, for Actual Space and Distance Positively Infinite and Eternal. Nor is there perhaps any such great Absurdity, in the Finiteness of Actual Space and Distance, (according to this Hypothesis,) as some conceive.

Moreover, the Existence of a God may be further proved, from this Common Notion, Nothing from Nothing Causally; not only because were there no God, that Idea which we have of a Perfect Being, must have Come from Nothing, and be the Conception of Nothing; but also all the other Intelligible Idea's of our Minds, must have Come from Nothing likewise, they being not Derived from Sense. All Minds, and their Intelligible Idea's, by way of Participation, from One Perfect Omnipotent Being, Comprehending it Self.

However, Certain from this Principle, Nothing from Nothing, or Nothing Caused by Nothing; That Souls and Minds could never have Emerged out of Dead and Senseless Matter: or from Figures, Sites, and Motions; and therefore must either have all Existed Of Themselves, Necessarily from Eternity; or else be Created by the Deity, out of Nothing Pre-Existing. Concluded, That the Existence of a God is altogether certain, in That our

Humane Souls did not all Exist from Eternity, Of themselves, Necessarily. This is the Second Atheistick Argumentation against Omnipotence or Divine Creation, from that False Principle, Nothing out of Nothing, in the Atheistick Sense, (which is, That Nothing could be brought out of Non-Existence into Being, or No Substance derive its Whole Being from another Substance; but all was Self-Existent from Eternity) abundantly Confuted. It having been Demonstrated, That unless there be a God, or a Perfect Omnipotent Being; and Creatour, Something must have Come from Nothing in the Impossible Sense; that is, have been Caused by Nothing, or Made without a Cause.

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SECT. III.

THE Six following Atheistick Argumentations, driving at these Two things, (The Disproving, First of an Incorporeal, and then of a Corporal Deity) next taken all together. In way of Answer to which, Three Things, First, To Confute the Atheistick Argumentations against an Incorporeal Deity, being the Third and Fourth. Secondly, To Show, That from the very Principles of the Atheistick Corporealism, in their Fifth and Sixth Arguments, Incorporeal Substance is Demonstrable. And Lastly, That therefore the Two following Atheistick Arguments, (built upon the Contrary Supposition) are also Insignificant.

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Before we come to the Atheistick Arguments, against an Incorporeal Deity, Premised; That though all Corporealists be not Atheists, yet Atheists universally, meer Corporealists. Thus Plato in his Sophist, writing of those who maintained, That Nature Generated all things without the Direction of any Mind; affirmeth, That They held, Body and Substance to be One and the Self-same thing. From whence it follows, That Incorporeal Substance, is Incorporeal Body, or Contradictious Nonsense; and That whatsoever is not Body, is Nothing. He likewise addeth, That they who asserted the Soul to be a Body, but had not the Confidence, to make Prudence, and other Vertues Bodies, (or Bodily,) quite overthrow the Cause of Atheism. Aristotle also representeth the Atheistick Hypothesis thus, That there is but One Nature, Matter; and this Corporal, (or endued with Magnitude) the only Substance; and all other things, the Passions and Affections thereof.

767, 769

In Disproving Incorporeal Substance, some Difference amongst the Atheists themselves, First,

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First, Those who held a Vacuum; (as Epicurus and Democritus, &c.) though taking it for granted, That what is Un-extended or Devoid of Magnitude, is Nothing; yet acknowledged a Double Extended Nature; the First Impenetrable and Tangible; Body; the Second Penetrable and Intangible, Space or Vacuum; To them the Only Incorporeal. Their Argument thus; Since Nothing Incorporeal besides Space, (which can neither Doe nor Suffer any thing) therefore no Incorporeal Deity. The Answer. If Space be a Real Nature, and yet not Bodily; then must it needs be either an Affection of Incorporeal Substance; or else an Accident without a Substance. Gassendus his Officersness here, to help the Atheists; That Space is neither Accident, nor Substance, but a Middle Nature, or Essence betwixt Both. But, whatsoever Is, must either Substist by It Self, or else be an Attribute, Affection, or Mode of Something that Substisteth by It Self. Space, either the Extension of Body, or of Incorporeal Substance, or of Nothing; but Nothing cannot be Extended; wherefore Space, supposed, not to be the Extension of Body, must be the Extension of an Incorporeal Substance Infinite, or the Deity; as some Theists Assert.

Page 769, 770

Epicurus his Pretended Gods, Such as could neither Touch, nor be Touched, and had not Corpus, but Quasi Corpusonely; and therefore Incorporeals distinct from Space. But Granted, that He Collided or Juggled in this.

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Other Atheists who denied a Vacuum, and allowed not Space to be a Nature, but a meer Imaginary thing, the Phantasm of a Body, or else Extension considered Abstractly, Argued thus. Whatsoever is Extended, is Body, or Bodily; But whatsoever Is, is Extended; Therefore whatsoever Is, is Body.

770, 771

This Argument against Incorporeal Substance, Answered Two manner of ways: Some Asserters of Incorporeal Substance denying the Minor, Whatsoever Is, is Extended; others the Major of it, Whatsoever is Extended, is Body. First, The Generality of Ancient Incorporealists really maintained, That there was Something Un-Extended, Indistant, Devoid of Quantity, and of Magnitude, Without Parts, and Indivisible. Plato, That the Soul is before Longitude, Latitude, and Profundity. He also Denies, That whatsoever is in no Place, is Nothing. Aristotle's First Immoveable Mover also, Devoid of Magnitude. So likewise is Mind, or That which Understands, to him. He also denies Place, and Local Motion to the Soul, otherwise then by Accident with the Body.

771, 773

Philo's Double Substance, Distant and In-

distant. God also to him, both Every-where, (because his Powers Extend to all things) and yet No-where, as in a Place; Place being Created by him, together with Bodies. Plotinus much concerned in this Doctrine. Two Books of his upon this Subject, That One and the same Numerical thing, (viz. the Deity) may be All, or the Whole Every-where. God to him, Before all things that are in a Place, therefore Wholly Present to whatsoever Present. This would be prove also from Natural Instincts. He Asserteth likewise, That the Humane Soul is Numerically the Same, both in the Hand, and in the Foot. Simplicius his Argument for Un-Extended Substance; That Whatsoever is Self-Moving, must be Indivisible and Indistant. His Affirmation, That Souls, Locally Immoveable, Move the Body by Cogitation.

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None more full and express in this, then Porphyrius. His Assertion, That were there such an Incorporeal Space, (as Democritus and Epicurus supposed) Mind, or God, could not be Co-Extended with it; but only Body. The whole Deity, Indivisibly and Indistantly Present, to every Part of Divisible and Distant things.

775, 776

Thus Origen in his Against Celsus. Saints Outline, That the Humane Soul hath no Dimensions, of Length, Breadth, and Thickness, and is in It Self Illocabilis. Ectius reckons this amongst the Common Notions, known only to wise men, That Incorporeals are in No Place.

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This therefore no Novel or Recent Opinion, That the Deity is not Part of it Here, and Part of it There, nor Mensurable by Yards and Poles; but the Whole Undivided, Present to every Part of the World. But because many Objections against this; we shall further Shew, how these Ancient Incorporealists endeavoured to Quis themselves of them. The First Objection; That to suppose the Deity, and other Incorporeal Substances, Un-Extended, is to make them Absolute Parvities, and so Contemptible things. Plotinus his Answer; That what is Incorporeal, not so Indivisible as a Little thing; either a Physical Minimum, or Mathematical Point; for thus God could not Congruent with the whole World, nor the Soul with the whole Body. Again, God not so Indivisible, as the Least, he being the Greatest of all, not in Magnitude, but Power. He so Indivisible, as also Infinite. This an Error proceeding from Sense and Imagination; That what Un-Extended, therefore Little. Incorporeal Substance, the Whole of which is Present to every Part of Body, therefore Greater then Body. Porphyrius to the same purpose, That God is nearer to

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be look'd upon as the Leaf, nor as the Greatell, in a way of Magnitude. Page 776, 778

The Second Objection; That what neither Great nor Little, and possesse no Place, is Non-Entry. This according to Plato, Plotinus, and Porphyrius, is a Mistake, proceeding from mens adhering to Sense and Imagination. They Grant, That an Un-Extended Being, is *ἀσώματος*, Un-Imaginable. Porphyrius, That Mind and Phancy are not the same, as some maintain. That which can either Doc, or Suffer, not Nothing, though it swell not out into Distance. Two Kinds of Substances to Plotinus; Bulky Tumours, and Un-bulky Active Powers. Which later, said by Simplicius, to have nevertheless a certain Depth or Profundity in them. Something *ἀσώματος* Un-imaginable, even in Body it self. We cannot Possibly Imagine the Sun of such a Bigness, as Reason Evinces it to be. Urged also by Plotinus, That an Un-stretcht-Out Duration, or Timeless Eternity, as difficult to be Conceived, as an Un-Extended Substance; and yet must this needs be Attributed to the Deity. 778, 781

That God and Humane Souls, no otherwise Incorporeal, then as *οὐρανόσχημα*, Thin or Subtile Body, False. Because the Difference of Grossness and Subtily in Bodies, according to True Philosophy, only from Motion. That the most Subtile Body, may possibly be made as Gross as Lead or Iron; and the grossest, as Subtile as Ether. No Specifick Difference of Matter. 781

The Third Argument, against Un-Extended Substance; That to be All in the Whole, and All in every Part, a Contradiction, and Impossibility. This Granted by Plotinus to be True of Bodies, or that which is Extended, That it cannot be *πανταχόθεν* but Impossible, that what hath no Parts, should be a Part here, and a Part there. Wherefore the word *ἅπαντα* (in that, Whole in the Whole, and Whole in every Part) to be taken only in a Negative Sense, for *ἀμετάσχηματον*, Undivided. The Whole Undivided Deity Every-where; and not a Part of it Here only, and a Part There. 782, 783

The Last Objection is against the Illocality and Immobility of Finite Created Spirits, and Humane Souls only. That this not only Absurd, but also Contrary to that Generally Received Tradition amongst Theists, of Souls Moving Locally after Death, into another Place, called Hades. Two Answers of Plotinus to this. First, That by Hades, may be meant only the Invisible; or the Soul's Abiding without the Body. Secondly, That if by Hades, be Meant a Worser place, the Soul may be said to be there, where its Idol is. But when this same Philosopher, supposeth the Soul (in Good men)

to be separable also from this Idol, he departeth from the Genuine Cabbala of his own School. That Souls always united to some Body or other. This asserted here by Porphyrius; That the Soul is never quite naked of all Body; and therefore may be said to be there, whereforever its Body is. Page 784, 785

Some Excerptions out of Philoponus, wherein the Doctrine of the Ancients, concerning the Soul's Spirituous or Airy Body, (after Death) is Largely declared. 785, 787

Intimated here by Philoponus, That, according to some of these Ancients, the Soul hath such a Spirituous Body here in this Life, as its Interior Indument, which then adheres to it, when its Outer Garment is strips off by Death. An Opinion of some, That the Soul may in this Spirituous Body, leave its Grosser Body for some time, without Death. True, That our Soul doth not immediately Act upon Bones and Flesh; but certain Thin and Subtile Spirits, the Instruments of Sense and Motion. Of which Porphyrius thus; The Blood is the Food of the Spirit, and the Spirit the Vehicle of the Soul. 787, 788

The same Philoponus further Addeth, That according to the Ancients, besides both the Terrestrial, and this Spirituous or Airy Body, there is yet a Third kind of Body, peculiar to such as are Souls, as are more thoroughly purged after Death; called by them a Luciform, and Heavenly, and Ethereal, and Starre-like Body. Of this Proclus also, upon the Timæus, (who affirmeth it to be Un-organized,) as likewise Hierocles. This called the Thin Vehicle of the Soul, in the Chaldee Oracles, according to Pselus and Pktho. By Hierocles, a Spiritual Body, in a Sense agreeable to that of the Scripture; by Synesius, the Divine Body. This Distinction of Two Interior Vehicles, or Tunnicks of the Soul, besides the Terrestrial Body, (called by Plato the Ostraceous) no Invention of Latter Platonists since Christianity; is being plainly insinuated upon by Virgil, though commonly not Understood. 788, 790

That many of these Platonists and Pythagoreans, supposeth the Soul, in its First Creation, when Made pure by God, to be clothed with this Luciform and Heavenly Body; which also did always Inseparably adhere to it, in its After-Descents, into the Aerial and Terrestrial; though Fouled and Obscured. Thus Pktho. And the same Intimated by Galen; when he calls this, the First Vehicle of the Soul. Hence was it, that besides the Moral and Intellectual Purgation of the Soul, they recommended also, a Mytical or Telesick way of Purifying the Ethereal Vehicle, by Diet and Cathartics. This much Insisted on by Hierocles. What Pliny's,

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Dying By Wisdom, or the Philosophick Death. Page 790, 792

But this not the Opinion of all, That the Same Numerical Aethereal Body, always adhereth to the Soul; but only that it every where either Finds, or Makes a Body, suitable to itself. Thus Porphyrius. Plato also seems to have been of that Perswasion. 792, 793

This Affirmed by Hierocles, to have been the Genuine Cabbala of the Ancient Pythagoreans, which Plato afterwards followed. Hierocles his Definition of a Man, A Rational Soul together with a Cognate Immortal Body; he declaring, This enlivened Terrestrial Body, to be but the Idol or Image of the True man, or an Accession to him. This therefore the Answer of the Ancient Incorporealists, to that Objection against the Illocality and Immobility of Created Incorporeals; That these being all Naturally United to Some Body or other, may be thus said to be in a Place, and Locally Moved. And, That it does not follow, that because Created Incorporeals are Un-extended, they might therefore inform the whole Corporeal Universe. 793, 794

That it would be no Impertinent Digression here, To Compare the forementioned Pythagorick Cabbala, with the Doctrine of Christianity, and to consider their Agreement or Disagreement. First therefore, A Clear Agreement of these most Religious Philosophers with Christianity in this, That the Highest Happiness, and Perfection of Humane Nature, consisteth not, in a Separate State of Souls, Un-united to any Body; as some High-flown Persons have Conceited. Thus Plotinus; who sometimes runs as much into the other Extream, in supposing Humane Souls to Animate, not only the Bodies of Brutes, but also of Plants. Thus also Maimonides amongst the Jews; and therefore suspected for denying the Resurrection. His Iggereeth Teman, written purposely to purge himself of this Suspicion. The Allegorizers of the Resurrection, and of the Life to come. 794, 795

Again, Christianity Correspondeth with the Philosophick Cabbala, concerning Humane Souls in this, That their Happiness consisteth not, in Conjunction with such Gross Terrestrial Bodies, as these now men have: Scripture, as well as Philosophy, complaining of them, as a Heavy Load, and Burthen to the Soul; which therefore not to be taken up again, at the Resurrection. Such a Resurrection as this, called by Plotinus, a Resurrection to Another Sleep. The Difference betwixt the Resurrection-Body, and the Present Body, in Scripture. The Resurrection-Body of the Just, (as that of the Philosophick Cabbala) Immortal and Eter-

nal; Glorious and Lucid; Star-like and Spiritual; Heavenly and Angelical. Not this Gross Fleishly Body, Guilted and Varnished over in the outside only, but Changed throughout. This the Resurrection of Life, in Scripture, Emphatically called The Resurrection. Our Souls, Strangers and Pilgrims in these Terrestrial Bodies: Their proper Home and Country, the Heavenly Body. That the Grossist Body that is, according to Philosophy, may merely by Motion be brought into the Purity and Tranquility of the Finest Aether. Page 795, 799

But whether Humane Souls after Death, always United to some Body, or else quite Naked from all Body, till the Resurrection; not so Explicitly determined in Christianity. Souls after Death, Live unto God. According to Origen, This a Privilege Proper to the Deity, to Live and Act alone, without Vital Union with any Body. If Natural to the Soul, to Enliven a Body; then not probable, that it should be kept so long in an Unnatural State of Separation. 799, 800

Again; Probable from Scripture, That wicked Souls after Death, have Punishment of Sense or Pain, besides Remorse of Conscience: which not easily Conceivable How they should have, without Bodies. Thus Tertullian. He adding, That Men have the same Shape, or Effigies, after this Life, which they had here. Though indeed he drive the business too far, so as to make the Soul it self to be a Body, Figurate and Coloured. 800, 801

But Irenaeus plainly supposed, the Soul after Death (being Incorporeal) to be Adapted to a Body, such as has the same Character and Figure, with its Body here in this Life. 801, 802

Origen also of this Perswasion, That Souls after Death, have certain Subtile Bodies, retaining the same Characterizing Form, which their Terrestrial Bodies had. His Opinion, That Apparitions of the Dead are from the Souls themselves, surviving, in that which is called a Luciform Body. As also that Saint Thomas did not doubt, but that the Body of a Soul departed, might appear, every way like the Former: only be disbelieved our Saviour's appearing in the same Solid Body, which he had before Death. 802, 803

Our Saviour telling his Disciples, That a Spirit had no Flesh and Bones, that is, no Solid Body, as himself then had; seems to imply, them to have Thinner Bodies, which they may Visibly Appear in. Thus in Apollonius, is Touch made the Sign, to distinguish a Ghost Appearing, from a Living Man. Our Saviour's Body after his Resurrection, according to Origen,

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Origen, in a Middle State, betwixt This Gross or Solid Body of ours, and That of a Ghost.

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A Place of Scripture, which as interpreted by the Fathers, would Naturally Imply, the Soul of our Saviour after Death, not to have been quite Naked of all Body, but to have had a Corporeal Spirit. Moses and Elias, Visibly appearing to our Saviour, had therefore True Bodies.

804, 805

That the Regenerate here in this Life, have a certain Earnest of their Future Inheritance, (which is, their Spiritual or Heavenly Body) Gathered from Scripture by Irenæus, and Novatian. Which Prelubrations of the Spiritual Body, cannot so well consist with a Perfect Separation from all Body, after Death, till the Day of Judgement.

805, 806

This Opinion of Irenæus, Origen, and others, supposed by them, not at all to Close with the Christian Article of the Resurrection. Nothing in this Point determined by us.

806

The Last thing in the Pythagorick Cabbala, That Demons or Angels, and indeed all Created Understanding Beings, consist, as well as Men, of Soul and Body, Incorporeal and Corporeal, United together. Thus Hierocles, Universality of all the Rational Nature; and that no Incorporeal Sublance, besides the Supreme Deity, is Compleat, without the Conjunction of a Body. God the Only Incorporeal in this Sense; and not a Mundane, but Supra-Mundane Soul.

806, 808

Origen's full Agreement with this Old Pythagorick Cabbala, That Rational Creatures are neither Body, nor yet without Body; but Incorporeal Substances, having a Corporeal Indument.

808, 809

Origen misrepresented by Huetius, as asserting Angels not to Have Bodies, but to Be Bodies: whereas he plainly acknowledged the Humane Soul to be Incorporeal, and Angels also to have Souls. He proveth Incorporeal Creatures, from the Scriptures; which though themselves not Bodies, yet always Use Bodies. Whereas the Deity is neither Body, nor yet clothed with a Body, in the Proper Sense thereof.

809, 810

Some of the Fathers, so far from supposing Angels altogether Incorporeal, that they ran into the other Extream, and concluded them altogether Corporeal; that is, to be All Body, and Nothing else. The Middle betwixt both these, the Origenick and Pythagorick Hypothesis, That they consist of Incorporeal and Corporeal Substance, Soul and Body joyned together. The Generality of the Ancient Fathers, for neither of these Extreams. That they did not suppose Angels to be perfectly Un-

bodied Spirits; Evident from their affirming Devils, as the Greek Philosophers did Demons, to be Delighted with the Nidours of Sacrifices; as having their Vapourous Bodies, or Airy Vehicles, refreshed thereby. Thus Porphyrius, and before him Celsus. Amongst the Christians, (besides Origen) Justin, Athenagoras, Tatianus, &c. S. Basil, concerning the Bodies of Demons or Devils, being Nourished with Vapours; not by Organs, but throughout their whole Substance.

Page 810, 812

Several of the Fathers plainly asserting, both Devils and Angels to consist of Soul and Body; Incorporeal and Corporeal Substance, joyned together. Saint Austine, Claudianus, Mamertus, Fulgentius, Joannes Theſſalonicensis; and Pſellus, who Philosophizeth much concerning this.

812, 814

That some of the Ancients, when they called Angels Incorporeal, understood Nothing else thereby, but only that they had not Gross, but Subtile Bodies.

814, 815

The Fathers, though herein Happening to Agree with the Philosophick Cabbala, yet seemed to have been led thereunto by Scripture. As from that of our Saviour, They who shall obtain the Resurrection of the Dead, shall be *living*, Equal to the Angels; that is, according to Saint Austine, shall have Angelical Bodies. From that of Saint Jude, That Angels Sinning, lost their Own Proper Dwelling-House; that is, their Heavenly Body. (called *dwelling* by Saint Paul) which made them Fit Inhabitants of the Heavenly Regions; and thereupon Cast down into the Lower Tartarus; interpreted by Saint Austine, to be this Caliginous Air or Atmosphere of the Earth. Again, From that Fire said to have been Prepared for the Devils: which being not to be taken Metaphorically, therefore (as Pſellus concludeth) Implies them to be Bodied; because an Incorporeal Substance alone, and not Vitally United to any Body, cannot be Tormented with Fire.

815, 817

Now if all Created Incorporeals, Superiours to Men, be Souls vitally United to Bodies, and never quite Separate from all Body; then Probable, that Humane Souls, after Death, not quite Naked from all Body, as if they could Live and All compleatly without it; a Priviledge Superiour to that of Angels, and proper to the Deity. Nor is it at all Conceivable, How Imperfect Beings could have Sense and Imagination without Bodies. Origen Contra Celsum, Our Soul in its own Nature Incorporeal, always Standeth in need of a Body, suitable to the place wherein it is. And accordingly, Sometimes Putteth Off what it had before; and Sometimes again Putteth On something New. Where the following words being vitiated; Origen's Genuine Sense

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Sense restored. Evident that Origen distinguishes, the Τὸ Σῶμα in S. Paul, (Translated, Tabernacle,) from the Earthly House; he understanding by the former, a Thin Spirituous Body, which is a Middle betwixt the Earthly and the Heavenly, and which the Soul remaineth still clothed with, after Death. This Opinion of Origen's, That the Soul after Death, not quite Separate from all Body, never reckoned up in the Catalogue of his Errours. Origen not Taxed by Methodius, for asserting Souls to Have Bodies, but for not asserting them to Be Bodies; there being no truly Incorporeall Substance, according to Methodius, but the Deity. This One of the Extremes mentioned. And the Origenick Hypothesis, to be preferred before that of Methodius. Page 817, 820

Already Observed, That Origen not Singular, in this Opinion concerning Humane Souls; Irenæus, Philoponus, Joannes Theſſalonicenis, Pſellus, and others, asserting the same. S. Austin in his De Gen. ad Lit. Granteth, That Souls after Death cannot be carried to any Corporall Places, nor Locally Moved, without a Body. Himself seems to think, the Punishment of Souls, before the Resurrection, to be Phantastickall. But gives Liberty of thinking otherwise. In his Book De Civ. D. He Concedes, that Origenick Opinion not Improbable, That some Souls after Death, and before the Resurrection, may Suffer from a certain Fire, for the consuming and burning up of their Drofs; which could not be without Bodies. 820, 822

Hübner sheweth, How the Ancient Asserters of Unextended Incorporealls, Answered all the Objections made against them; but especially that of the Illocality and Immobility of Created Incorporealls; namely, That by these Bodies, which they are always Vitally United to, they are Localized, and made Capable of Motion; according to that of Origen, The Soul stands in need of a Body for Local Motions. Next to be considered, their Reasons for this Assertion, of Unextended and Indistant Substance, so repugnant to Imagination. 822

That whatsoever Arguments do Evince other Substance besides Body, the same against the Atheists Demonstrate, that there is Something Unextended; themselves taking it for granted, that whatsoever is Extended, is Body. Nevertheless, other Arguments propounded by these Ancients, to prove directly, Unextended Substance. Plotinus his First; To prove the Humane Soul and Mind such. Either every Part of an Extended Soul is Soul; and of Mind, Mind; or Not. If the Latter, That no Part of a Soul, or Mind, is by it Self Soul, or Mind; then cannot the Whole, made up of all those Parts, be

such. But if every supposed Part of a Soul, be Soul, and of a Mind, Mind; then would all but One be Superfluous; or Every One be the Whole; which cannot be in Extended things. Page 822, 824

Again, Plotinus endeavours to Prove, from the Energies of the Soul, that it is Unextended; Because it is One and the Same Indivisible thing, that Perceiveth the whole Sensible Object. This further pursued; If the Soul be Extended, then must it either be One Physicall Point, or More. Impossible That it should be but One Physicall Point. If therefore More, then must every one of those Points, either Perceive a Point of the Object, and no more, or else the Whole. If the Former, then can nothing Perceive the Whole, nor compare one Part of it with another: If the Latter, then would every man have innumerable Perceptions of the whole Object at once. A Fourth Supposition, That the whole Extended Soul, Perceives both the Whole Object, and all the Parts thereof; (no Part of this Soul having any Perception by it Self) Not to be Made; Because, the Whole of an Extended Substance, nothing but All the Parts; and so if no Part have any Perception, the Whole can have none. Moreover, To say, the Whole Soul Perceiveth all, and no Part of it any thing, is indeed to acknowledge it Unextended, and to have no Distant Parts. 824, 826

Again, This Philosopher would prove the same thing, from the Sympathy or Homopathy, which is in Animals; it being One and the Same thing, that perceives Pain in the Head, and in the Foot; and Comprehends the whole Bulk of the Body. 826

Lastly, He disputes further, from the Rational Energies. A Magnitude could not Understand, what hath no Magnitude, and what is Indivisible: whereas we have a Notion, not onely of Latitude Indivisible as to Thickness, and of Longitude as to Breadth, but also of a Mathematicall Point, every way Indivisible. We have Notions of things also, that have neither Magnitude nor Site, &c. Again, all the Abstract Essences of things Indivisible. We conceive Extended things themselves, Unextendedly; the Thought of a Mile, or a Thousand Miles Distance, taking up no more room in the Soul, then the Thought of an Inch, or of a Mathematicall Point. Moreover, were that which perceiveth in us, a Magnitude, it could not be Equall to every Sensible, and alike Perceive things Greater and Lesser, then it self. 827, 828

Besides which, they might Argue thus; That we, as we can Conceive Extension without Cogitation, and again Cogitation without Extension, (from whence their Distinction and Separability

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ty is Inferred:) *It can not be Conceive Cogitation with Extension; nor the Length, Breadth, and Thickness of a Thought; nor the Half, or a Third, or Twentieth Part thereof; nor that it is Figurate, Round, or Angular. Thoughts therefore must be Non-Entities, if whatsoever is Unextended be Nothing; as also Metaphysicall Truths, they having neither Dimensions, nor Figure. So Volitions and Passions, Knowledge and Wisdom is self, Justice and Temperance. If the things belonging to Soul and Mind, be Unextended, then must themselves be self. Again, If Mind and Soul have Distant Parts, then could none of them be One, but Many Substances. If Life Divided, then a Half of it would not be Life. Lastly, no reason could be given, why they might not be as well Really, as Intellectually Divisible. Nor could a Theist deny, but that Divine Power might cleave a Thought, together with the Soul wherein it is, into many Pieces.* Page 828,

829

The Sense of the Ancient Incorporeallists therefore this; That in Nature, Two kinds of Substances. The First of them Passive Bulk, or Distant and Extended Substance; Which is all, One thing without Another; and therefore as Many Substances, as Parts, into which it can be divided. Essentially Antitypous; one Magnitude Joynted to another, always Standing with, out it, and making the Whole so much Bigger, Body all Outside, having nothing Within, no Internall Energy, nor any Action besides Locall Motion; which it is also Passive to.

829

Were there no other Substance besides this, there could be no Motion. Action, Life, Cogitation, Intellection, Volition; but All would be a Dead Lump; nor could any one thing Penetrate another. Wherefore Another Substance, whose Character were Inactive, the Active Nature; Life, Self-Activity, Cogitation: which no Mode or Accident of Extension; is having more of Entity in it. Nor are these Two, Extension and Life, Inadequate Conceptions, of One and the Same Substance. A Thinker a Monad; or One Single Substance. Not conceivable, how the Several Parts of an Extended Substance, should Joyntly Concur to Produce One and the Same Thought. 829, 830

The Energies of these Two Substances, very different. The one Nothing but Locall Motion, or Translation from Place to Place; a meer Outside Thing: The other Cogitation, an Internall Energy; or in the Inside of that which Thinks. Which Inside of the Thinking Nature, hath no Length, Breadth, or Profundity, no Out-swalling Tumour; because then it would be Outside again. Were a Cogitative

Being Extended, yet must it have besides this Extended Outside, an Unextended Inside. But One and the Same Substance cannot be Extended, and Unextended. Wherefore in this Opinion of Extended Incorporealls, a Complication of Two Substances, and a Confusion of them together into One. True nevertheless, That all Finite Incorporeall Substance, is always Naturally united with some Extended Body, as its Outside. Page 831

All Summed up Together.

832

Hitherto the Sense of the Ancient Asserters of Unextended Incorporealls, represented to the best Advantage. Nothing Asserted by us; but that these, and other Arguments, do Demonstrate against the Atheists, some Other Substance besides Body; but whether or no, they Prove this to be Indistant and Unextended; left to others to make a Judgment. The Atheists who deny this, must acknowledge every Thought, to be not only Mentally, but also Physically Divisible and Separable; together with the Soul; as also deny Internall Energy; and consequently make Cogitation, Nothing but Locall Motion: and Lastly, Hold That no Substance can Co-Exist with Another Substance, more Inwardly, then by Juxta-Position. 832, 833

This the First Answer to the Forementioned Atheistick Argument against Incorporeall Substance; made by the Ancients, By denying the Minor; That though whatsoever is Extended be Body, yet Every thing is not Extended. But the Argument otherwise Answered, by some Learned Asserters of Incorporeall Substance, By denying the Major; That though every thing be Extended, or what Unextended Nothing; yet what-ever is Extended, is not Body; they asserting another Extension Incorporeall, which is both Penetrable, and not made up of Parts: Physically Separable from one another; to which belongeth Life, Self-Activity, and Cogitation. Probable, That some would Compound both the Forementioned Hypotheses together; by supposing the Deity to be altogether Unextended, and Indivisible all every-where; but Souls, or Created Incorporealls, to have an Unextended Inside, Diffused, as it were, into an Extended Outside. Our selves were only to Oppose Atheists; and Dogmatize no further, then to Assert, what all Incorporeallists agree in, That besides Body, there is Another Substance, which consisteth not of Parts Really Separable from one another; which is Penetrable of Body, and Self-Active, and hath an Internall Energy, distinct from Locall Motion. All which is Demonstratively Certain. This the Full Answer to the First Atheistick Argument, Against Incorporeall Substance; That either there is something Unextended, or at least Extended otherwise,

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wife then Body, so as to be Penetrable thereof, and Indiscernibly One with it self, and Self-Active. Page 833, 834

The Second Atheistick Assault against Incorporeall Substance; By Pretending the Original of this Mistake, to have sprung from the Scholastick Essences, Distinct from the things themselves; and the Abuse of Abstract Names and Notions, they being made to be Substances Existing by themselves. For, though the Opinion of Ghosts and Spirits, (whereof God is the Chief) sprung first from Fear; yet that these should be Incorporeall, could never have entered into the Minds of men, had they not been Enchanted with these Abstract Names and Separate Essences. 834

The First General Reply to this. That it is all but Romantick Fiction. That the Opinion of the Deity, sprung not from Fear, and That all Invisible Ghosts are not Phancies, already sufficiently Proved; as also The Existence of a God Demonstrated by Reason. That Apparitions are Recall Phenomena, and Reasonable to think, That there may as well be Invisible Aerial, and Etheriall; as there are Visible Terrestrial Animals. Satisfies to conclude, That there is no Understanding Nature, Superior to Man. 834, 835

The Second Particular Reply, That the Opinion of Spirits Incorporeall, sprung not from the Scholastick Essences, whether considered Concretely as Universals only, or Abstractly. No man supposing, these to be Things Really and Substantially Existing without the Mind; either an Universal Man and Universal Horse, or else Humanity and Equinity; and that these walk up and down in Airy Bodies; they being only Noemata, or the Intelligible Essences of Things, as Objects of the Mind. These Essences of Things, said to be Eternal, as their Verities. The meaning of these Eternal Essences; not, That they are so many Eternal Substances Incorporeall; but, That Knowledge is Eternal, and, That there is an Eternal Unmade Mind, that comprehends them; which all other Minds Partake of. 835, 836

Again, That another Atheistick Dream, That the Abstract Names and Notions of the Meer Accidents of Bodies, were Made Substances Incorporeall; Souls, Minds, and Ghosts. Conscious Life, no Accident of Bodies, as Atheists Suppose; but the Essential Attribute of Another Substance, which Incorporeall; as Magnitude, or Extension, is the Essential Attribute of Body. 836

The following Atheistick Arguments to be dispatched with more Brevity. That the Four Next, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth, proceed only upon this Supposition, That there is

no Other Substance in the World, besides Body or Matter; and therefore signify Nothing, to the Afferters of an Incorporeall Deity. Stoicks, and the like, only concerned to Answer them. Nevertheless, From the Impossibility of these Atheistick Corporealisms, contained in the Fifth, and Sixth, a Necessity of Incorporeall Substance will be Evinc'd. Page 836

Here two Atheistick Corporealisms, Founded upon these Suppositions, That all is Body or Matter; and, That Matter as such, is devoid of Life and Understanding. The First in the way of Qualities and Forms, Generable and Corruptible, called the Hylopathian. This the most Ancient Atheistick Form, as we learn from Aristotle; viz. That Bulky Extension, the only Substantiall and Unmade thing, and all other things, but the Passions, Qualities, and Accidents thereof; Makeable out of it, and Destroyable into it. The Consequence from whence; That there is no Substantiall Unmade Life and Understanding: And, That no Mind could be a God, or Creator; it being all Accidentall, Facitious, and Creature. 836, 837

This Hylopathian Atheism, called also by us, Anaximandrian. Though we are not Ignorant, That Simplicius conceives, Anaximander to have held an Homocromery, or Similar Atomology, of Eternal Unmade Qualities, as Anaxagoras afterwards; only, that he acknowledged no Unmade Life or Mind, but Generated it all, from the Fortuitous Commixture of these Qualified Atoms. (Which no Improbable Opinion, though not Certain.) Because however, Anaximander supposed Life and Understanding, to be at least Secondary Qualities, and Accidents of Body, Generable and Corruptible. And not Fit, to multiply Forms of Atheism. 837

The Second Atheistick Corporealism, in the way of Unqualified Atoms, producing all things, even Life, and Understanding; from Figures, Sites, Motions, and Magnitudes of Parts. From whence it will also follow, That Mind is no Primordial Thing, but Secondary, Compounded, and Derivative; Creature, and no Creator. This called Democritick; not because Democritus was the First Inventor of the Dissimilar Atomology; but because he was the First Atheizer of it, or the First, who made Dissimilar Atoms, the Principles of All things whatsoever, even of Life and Understanding. ibid.

Not to be Denied, But that from these Two things Granted, That All is Body, and, That the First Principles of Body are devoid of Life and Understanding; it would follow unavoidably, That there is no God. Therefore the Stoicks, who were Corporeal Theists, denied the Latter;

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they supposing an Understanding Fire, Eternal and Unmade, the Maker of the whole Mundane System. Truly Observed by Origen, That this Corporeal God of the Stoicks, was but by Accident Incorruptible, and Happy; and only because Wanting a Destroyer. This no Genuine Theism. Page 837, 838

But an Absolute Impossibility, in both these Atheistick Corporealisms; not only, because they suppose no Active Principle; but also, because they bring Life and Understanding, that is, Something, out of Nothing; or Make them without a Cause. Where the Atomick Atheists, of the Two, must be Condemned; because so grossly Contradicting themselves. From that True Principle, That Matter as such, is devoid of Life and Understanding; an Absolute Necessity of another Substance Incorporeal, which is Essentially Vital and Intellectual. That All Life, cannot possibly be Factitious and Accidental, Generable and Corruptible; but there must be Substantial Life; and also some Eternal. 838, 839

The Truth of this Understood and Acknowledged by the Hylozoists; That there must of Necessity be, both Substantial and Unmade Life and Understanding: who therefore Attribute the same to all Matter as such; but without Animality; which, according to them, is all Factitious and Accidental. Wherefore, this Hylozoick Atheism also, brings Conscious Life and Animality out of Nothing; or Makes them without a Cause. The Argument of the Epicurean Atheists, against Stratonism or Hylozoism, Unanswerable: That upon this Supposition, there must be, in every Man and Animal, a Heap of Innumerable Percipients, as many as there are Atoms of Matter; and so no One Thinker. The Pretence of the Hylozoists, That all the Particles of Matter, in every Animal, do Confederates; Ridiculous, and Impossible. 839, 840

That the Fifth and Sixth Atheistick Arguments, fully Confuted; and from that True Supposition in them, That Matter, as such, is Devoid of Life and Understanding, Incorporeal Substance plainly Demonstrated: Which was our Second Undertaking. 840

The Third and Last; That there being Undeniably, Substance Incorporeal, the Two Following Atheistick Arguments, (built upon the Supposition of the Contrary) altogether Insignificant. The Seventh not properly directed against Theism, but against a Religious kind of Atheism or Theogonism; which supposed a God or Soul of the World, Generated out of Senseless Matter; and the Offspring of Night and Chaos. A Sobcr and True Sense, of the World's Animation; That there is a Li-

ving, Sentient and Understanding Nature, Presiding over the whole World. But the Sense of Pagan Theists, That the Whole Corporeal World Animated, is a God, Exploded by us. This Argument therefore being not against Theism, but Theogonism; the Confutation thereof might be here well Omitted, without any Detriment to our Cause. But because the denying of a Living Understanding Nature, presiding over the World, is Atheistick; the Ground of this Assertion briefly Declared; That Life and Understanding are Accidents of Bodies, resulting only from such a Contexture of Atoms, as produce Flesh, Blood, and Brains, in Bodies Organized; and, That there is no Reason to be found any-where, but only in Humane Form: which also Confuted. A Brutish Passage, of a Modern Writer, That it is Unconceivable by Men, How God can Understand without Brains. Page 840, 841

The Next, (which is the Eighth Atheistick Argumentation) That there can be no Living Being Immortal, nor Perfectly Happy, built upon that False Supposition also, That all Life and Understanding results from a Contexture of Dead and Senseless Atoms, and therefore is Dissolvable and Annihilable. But that there is Life Essential, and Substantial, which Naturally Immortal; as also a Necessity, of an Eternal Life, and Mind Unmade, and Unannihilable; which Perfectly Happy. 841, 842

S E C T. IV.

THE Epicurean Atheists further Endeavour, to Disprove a God, from the Phenomena of Motion, and Cogitation; in the Three Following Argumentations, the Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh. From Motion, thus; That from this Principle, Nothing can move It Self, but Whatsoever is Moved, is moved by Another, it will follow, That there can be no First Cause, and Unmoved Mover; but One thing Moved Another, from Eternity Infinitely; Because Nothing could Move Another, which was not It Self First Moved by Something else. 842, 843

Answer: The meaning of this Axion; Not, That Nothing can Act from It Self, as the Atheist Supposes; be taking it for granted, that every Thing is Body, and that all Action is Local Motion; but, That no Body Acting, could ever Locally Move It Self. A False Supposition of the Atheists, and some Cartesians; That were there but once Motion in the Matter, this would of it Self continue to all Eternity. True, that of Aristotle; That to make an Infinite Pro-

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Progress in the Causes of Motion, and no First Mover; is all one as to say. That there is No Cause at all thereof; or, That all the Motion in the World, is a Passion without an Agent, or Comes from Nothing. Clearly Impossible, That there should be any Motion at all, were there Nothing Self-Moving or Self-Active. Page 843

Wherefore from this Principle, That no Body can Move It Self, it follows Undeniably; That there is Some other Substance in the World besides Body; that hath an Active Power of Moving Body. 843, 844

Another Corollary from the same Principle; That there is another Species of Action, distinct from Local Motion, and which is not Heterokinely, but Autokinely. That the Action by which Local Motion is first Caused, could not be it self Local Motion. All Local Motion Caused Originally by Cogitation. Thus the Ninth Atheistick Argument from Motion Confuted; and from hence, That no Body can Move it Self, Demonstrated, That there is Something Incorporeal, the First Cause of Local Motion, by Cogitation. ibid.

But the Atheists further Pretend to Prove, That Cogitation it self is Heterokinely, the Passion of the Thinker, and the Action of some other External Agent upon him; Because, Nothing taketh Beginning from It Self; and, No Cogitation can rise of It Self, without a Cause. That therefore, Thinking Beings themselves are Machines, and Cogitation Local Motion. And, No Understanding Being, a First Cause, nor Perfectly Happy; because Dependent upon something else. 844, 845

Answer. True, That no Substance taketh Beginning from it Self; as also, That no Action causeth it Self. But False, That No Action taketh Beginning from the Immediate Agent; or, That Nothing can Act otherwise, then as Acted upon by Something else. Atheists here Affirm only, what they should Prove, and so beg the Question. If Nothing Self-Active, then all the Motion and Action in the Universe, must Come from Nothing, or be Made without a Cause. 845

True also, That our Humane Cogitations are frequently occasioned from Externall Objects, and that the Concatenations of Thoughts and Phantasms, often depend upon Mechanick Causes. But False, That all Cogitations are Obtruded upon us from without; and, That no Transition in our Thoughts, which was not Before in Sense. The Humane Soul a Principle of Actions, and therefore also of Cogitations. This a Bubbling Fountain of Thoughts. But that there is such a Perfect Mind, as at once Comprehends all Truth, and was Before Sensibles. 845, 846

This a Prodigious Paradox, and Fallacy of Atheists; That Cogitation, Local Motion; and Thinking Beings, Machines. Here a Correction of what we wrote before, P. 761, and a Change of our Opinion, upon further Consideration; That not only a Modern Writer, but also the Ancient Atheistick Atomists, did conclude, Cogitation to be Really nothing else but Local Motion. Nevertheless, these men troubled with the Phancy of Cogitation; which because they cannot make Local Motion, they would persuade us to be no Reality, or Nothing. Atheists aware, That if there be any Action besides Local Motion, there must then be some other Substance acknowledged besides Body. They who make Cogitation Local Motion, and Men, Machines, no more to be disputed with, then Senseless Machines. Page 846, 847

To Affirm, That no Understanding Being can be Happy, nor a God, because Dependent upon Something without it; all one as to Affirm, That Senseless Matter is the Most Perfect of all things; and, That Knowledge, as such, speaking Imperfection, is but a Whiffing and Phantastick thing. But of this more afterwards. Thus the Tenth Atheistick Argument Confuted. 847

Another Atheistick Argument, From the Nature of Knowledge and Understanding. That the World could not be made by an Understanding Being, because there was no Knowledge before Things, which are the Objects of it; and the only Things are Sensibles, which Knowledge a Passion from. Therefore all Mind, as such, a Creature, and none a Creator. ibid.

This already fully Answered, Page 729, and so forwards. Where Proved, That Singular Bodies are not the Only Things, and Objects of the Mind, but that it containeth its Intelligibles within it Self. And, That Knowledge, is Archetypall to the World, and the Maker of All. So the Existence of a God, Demonstrable, from the Nature of Knowledge and Understanding. 847, 848

That the Atheists can no more Save the Phenomenon of Cogitation, then that of Local Motion; Evident from their Many Hallucinations concerning it; whereof a Catalogue subjoyned. First, That all Life and Understanding, a meer Accidentall thing, Generable and Corruptible, and no Life nor Mind Substantiall or Essentiall. This before Confuted. 848

Again, That Life and Mind, no Simple and Primitive Natures, but Compoundd Syllables of things; and therefore none Immortal nor Incorruptible. Answer; That Life and

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Understanding are Active Powers, and could never result from meer Passive Bulk; nor can any Composition of Dead and Senseless Matter, possibly beget Life and Understanding. Though no Necessity, That there should be any Eternal Unmade Red or Green, because these might be Made out of things not Red nor Green; nor That there should be Eternal Motion, because Motion might be produced from a Self-Active Principle; nor That there should be any Eternal Unmade Matter, because were there none, it might notwithstanding be Created, by a Perfect Incorporeal Being: yet an Absolute Necessity of Eternal Unmade Life and Mind; because had there been once none, there could never have been any. Page 848, 849

Another Atheistick Hallucination, That there is Nothing of Self-Activity in Cogitation; nor any thing could Act otherwise, then as it is Made to Act by Something else. This to bring all Action from Nothing, or to suppose it without a Cause. 849, 850

Another Madness of theirs already mentioned, That Cogitation, Locall Motion; and Thinking Beings, Machines. This Equall Sottishness or Impudence, as to affirm, Number to be Figure, &c. 850

Another Paradox of the Epicurean and Democritick Atheists, That Mentall Cogitation, as well as Sensation, the meer Passions of the Thinker, and the Actions of Bodies Exilling without him: Some of them supposing Thoughts, to be Caused by certain Finer Images, then Sensations; Others, that they are the Remainers of the Motions of Sense, formerly made. Answer: That Sensation is self, is not a meer Corporeal Passion, but the Perception of a Passion, in a way of Phancy; much less Mental Cogitations such; and least of all Volitions. 850, 851

But Consistently hereunto, these Atheists Determine, all Knowledge and Understanding, to be Really the same thing with Sense. From whence follow Two Absurdities. First, That there can be no such thing as Error, because all Passion is True Passion, and all Sense, True Sense; that is, True Seeming and Appearance. This Absurdity owned by Protagoras. Epicurus Endeavoured to avoid this, but in vain, and contradictionary to his own Principles. 851, 852

A Second Absurdity consequent thereupon; That there is no Absolute Truth nor Falschhood, but all Knowledge Private and Relative, and nothing but Opinion. This freely owned likewise by Protagoras. Sometimes also by Democritus. Who therefore but a Blunderer neither, in the Atomick Philosophy; which plainly Supposes a Higher Faculty of Reason and Un-

derstanding, that judges of Sense, and discovers the Phantallory thereof; it reaching to Absolute Truth. Page 852, 853

Another Atheistick Error; That Singular Bodies are the only Objects of Mentall Conception, as well as of Sensation. This imputed by Aristotle, to Democritus and Protagoras. But sufficiently before Confuted. 853, 854

The better to maintain this Paradox, Added by a Modern Atheistick Writer, at his own Invention; That Universals are Nothing else but Names, by which Many Singular Bodies are called; Axioms or Propositions, the Addition and Substraction of Names; and Syllogistick Reasoning, the reckoning the Consequencies of them: and that therefore besides the Passions of Sense, we know Nothing at all of anything, but only the Names by which it is Called. Whence it would follow, That Geometrical Truths, not the same in Greck and in Latine, &c. 854

That the Atheists, according to these premised Principles, endeavour to Depreciate Knowledge and Understanding, as that which speaks no Higher Perfection, then is in Senseless Matter. That the Atheists in Plato, make it but a Ludicrous, Umbratile and Evanian thing; the meer Image of Bodies, the only Realities. Their Design in this, to take away the Scale, or Ladder of Entities. 855, 856

All the Grounds of this again briefly Confuted; and Particularly, that Opinion so much favouring Atheism, That there is Nothing in the Understanding, which was not Before in Sense; out of Boetius. Just and Unjust, Greater Realities in Nature, then Hard and Soft, &c. Unquestionably, a Scale or Ladder of Entities; and therefore Certain, that the Order of Things must be in way of Descent, from Higher Perfection to Lower, and not Ascend, from Lower to Higher. The Steps of this Ladder not Infinite: the Foot thereof, Inanimate Matter; the Head, a Perfect Omnipotent Being, Comprehending in It self all Possibilities of Things. Mind by Nature Lord over all; and Sovereign King of Heaven and Earth. 856, 859

The Reason why we so much Insist upon this; Because Atheists Pretend, not only to Salve the Phenomenon of Cogitation without a God; but also from thence to Demonstrate the Impossibility of his Existence. Though Modern Writers not so much aware hereof, yet is the Controversy betwixt Theists and Atheists, thus Stated by Plato; Whether Soul and Mind Juniors to Senseless Matter, and the Offspring thereof; or else Substantiall Things, and in Order of Nature Before it. Accordingly Plato confuteth Atheism no otherwise, then by proving Soul not to be Junior to Inanimate Matter and

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and Generated out of the same. Evident, That Plato by Soul here understood, not only the Mundane Soul, but also that Whole Rank of Beings, called Soul; and, That no Life was Generated out of Matter. Page 859, 860

These professed Christians, who Generate Rationall Souls out of Senseless Matter, plain Betrayers of the Cause of Theism. 860, 861

Nor is the Case much different, as to others; who, though they professedly Generate only Sentitive Souls, yet making the Rationall, but meer Blanks, which have Nothing in them, but what was Scribbled upon them by Sense; and so Knowledge, in its own Nature, Junior to Sense and Sentibles; Highly Gratify the Atheists hereby. 861

If any Life and Cogitation may be Generated out of Dead and Senseless Matter, then can no good Reason be given, why All should not be. Life not partly Accidental, partly Substantiall: but either All Conscious Life, Accidental, Generable and Corruptible; or else None at all. Ibid.

The Doctrine of Reall Qualities Generable and Corruptible, favourable to Atheism also. And though the Atheistick Atomists Explode all the other Qualities, because, Nothing can come from Nothing; yet, contradicting themselves again, do they make Life and Understanding, Reall Qualities, Generated out of Matter, or Caused by Nothing. 861, 862

There being a Scale or Ladder of Entities in Nature, to Produce a Higher Rank of Beings, out of a Lower; as Life and Cogitation, out of Matter, and Magnitude; is to Invert the Order of this Scale, from Downwards, to Upwards; and so to lay a Foundation for Atheism. Wherefore great Reason, to maintain this Post, against the Atheists; That no Souls can be Generated out of Matter. 862, 863

The Grand Objection against the Substantiality of Sentitive Souls, from that Consequence of their Permanent Subsistence after Death. Cartesius so Sensible thereof; that he would rather make Brutes to be Senseless Machines, then allow them Substantiall Souls; which he granted they must have, if Thinking Beings. What clearly Demonstrable by Reason, not to be abandoned, because attended with some Difficulties, or seemingly Offensive Consequences. 863

The Pythagorick Hypothesis; That Souls are Created by God, not in the Generation of Animals, but in the Cosmogonia. These therefore, first Clothed with Thin and Subtile Bodies, Aeriall or Etheriall Ochremata, wherein they Subsist, both before their Ingress into Terrestriall Bodies, and after their Egress out of

them. Thus Boetius and Proclus. Ammonius his Irrationall Demons Mortall; Brutish Souls, in Aeriall Bodies. Since the First Creation, no New Substantiall thing Made, or Destroyed, and therefore no Life. This looked upon by Macrobius as a Great Truth. Page 863, 865

That the Pythagoreans would Endeavour to gain some Continuance for this Hypothesis, from the Scripture. 865, 867.

But if these Aeriall Vehicles of Brutish Souls be exploded for a Whimsy, and none but Terrestriall Bodies allowed to them; though after Death they will not Vanish into Nothing, yet must they needs remain in a State of Insensibility, and Inactivity, ill-re-united to other Terrestriall Bodies. Wherefore these in one Sense Mortall, though in another Immortall. Silkworms dying, and reviving in the Form of Butterflies, made an Emblem of the Resurrection, by Christian Theologes. 867, 868

But no Absolute Necessity, That the Souls of Brutes, though Substantiall, should have a Permanent Subsistence after Death, either in a State of Activity, or Inactivity; because, whatsoever Created by God, may Possibly by him be Annihilated. The Substantiality only of the Rationall Soul, Demonstrable by Reason; so that it will not of it Self vanish into Nothing; but not that it is Absolutely Impossible, for it to be Annihilated; The assurance of this Depending upon a Faith in the Divine Goodness. Porphyrius his Assertion, That Brutish Souls are Resolved into the Life of the Universe. The whole Answer to this Objection, against the Substantiality of Brutish Souls; That they may notwithstanding, Possibly be Annihilated in the Deaths of Animals, as well as they were Created in their Generations; but if they do Subsist (without Aeriall Vehicles,) they must remain in a State of Inactivity and Insensibility. 868, 869

That this the Doctrine of the Ancient Pagan Theologes. That no Life, or Soul, Generated out of Dead and Senseless Matter; but all Produced by the Deity, as well as Matter; Proved out of Virgil; though sundry other Testimonies also, might be added therunto. 869, 870

The Hylozoick Atheists themselves, so Sensible hereof, That there must be some Substantiall and Unmade Life, (from whence the Lives and Minds of all Animals are Derived) That they attribute the same to Matter; and conclude, That though the Modified Lives of Animals, and Men, be Accidentall, Generated and Corrupted, yet the Fundamental Life of them, is Substantiall, and Incorruptible. These also asserted, a Knowledge before Sense, and Undeived from Senseless. 870, 871

This Hylozoick Atheism again Confuted
Absurd

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Absurd to suppose, Knowledge and Understanding, without Consciouſness; as also, That the Substantiall and Fundamental Life, of Men and other Animals, should never Perish, and yet their Souls, and Personalities, Vanish into Nothing. That no Organization can produce Consciouſness. These Atheists not able possibly to give an Account, whence the Intelligible Objects and Ideas, of this their Knowledge of Matter, should spring. This Hylozoick Atheism, Nothing but the Crumbling of the Deity into Matter. Page 871

Concluded, That the Phenomenon of Mind and Understanding, can no way possibly be Salv'd by Atheists, without a God; but affordeth a Solid Demonstration of his Existence. 871, 872

SECT. V.

THERE now Remaining onely, the Atheistick Objections against Providence, their Queries, and Arguments from Interests; Their First Objection, From the Frame of the World, as Faulty. Or, Because Things are Ill Made, that therefore not made by a God. This directed against the Sense of the Ancient Theologues; That God being a Perfect Mind, therefore made the World after the Best manner. Some Modern Theologues Deviating from this, as if the Perfection of the Deity consisted not at all in Goodness, but in Power and Arbitrary Will onely. The Controversy betwixt these and Atheists; but Whether Matter Fortuitously Moved, or a Fortuitous Will Omnipotent, be the Original of all things. No Ground of Faith in a meer Arbitrarious Deity. To have a Will Undetermined to Good, no Liberty, nor Sovereignty, but Impotency. God to Celsus, the Head or President of the Righteous Nature. This not onely the Sense of Origen, but of the Ancient Christians in General. Plotinus; The Will of God Essentially, That which Ought to be. God an Impartial Balance, Weighing out Heaven and Earth. The Deity, not Servicely Bound to doe the Best; but this the Perfection of its Nature. No Atheist able to prove, The World to be Ill Made. 872, 874

Not to be Concluded, That whatsoever we cannot find out the Reason or Use of, is therefore Ineptly Made. For example, The Intestinum Cæcum, though seemingly an Odd Appendix, and which the Generality of Anatomists give little Account of; yet that, with the Valve at its Entrance, both together, an Artificiall Contrivance of Nature, to hinder the Regurgitation of the Fæces. 874, 875

The First Atheistick Instance of the Faultiness

of things; In the Disposition of the Equator and Ecliptick, Intersecting each other in such an Angle, whereby the Terrestrial Globe rendered not so Habitable as it might have been. This Objection Founded upon a False Supposition, That the Torrid Zone Uninhabitable. But this the Best Disposition; which brings Contrary to Mechanick Causes, therefore its Continuance, together with the Constant Parallelism of the Earth's Axis, a manifest Eviction of Providence; and that the T^h Blemish, The Belt, is a Cause in Nature. Page 875

In the next place; The Atheists would prove against some Theists, That all things not Made for the Sake of Man. This at First but the Doctrine of Straight-laced Stoicks onely; recommended afterward by mens Self-Love. Whereas Plato's Doctrine, That the Whole not made for any Part; but the Parts for the Whole. Nevertheless, Things in the Lower World, made Principally (though not Onely) for Man. Atheists no Judges of the Well or Ill-Making of Worlds, they having no Standing Measure of Good. That Nature a Step-Mother to Man; but a forward Speech of some discontented Persons, seeking to Revenge themselves, by railing upon Nature, that is, Providence. 875, 876

Evils in General, from the Necessity of Imperfect Beings, and Impossibility of things. 876

Men Afflicted more from their own Phancies, then Reality of things. Pain (which a Real Evil of Sense) often Link'd with Pleasure, according to the Socratick Fable. This not a Real Evil of the Whole Man, but of the Outside one is Serviceable, to free men from the Greater Evils of the Mind. Death, according to the Atheistick Hypothesis, an Absolute Extinction of all Life; but according to Genuine Theism, onely a Withdrawing into the Tiring-House, and putting off the Terrestrial Cloathing. The Dead Live to God. Christian Faith gives assurance of a Heavenly Body hereafter. The Christian Resurrection, not the Hope of Worms. This the Confutation of the Twelfth Atheistick Argument. 876, 877

The Thirteenth; but Second Objection against Providence, as to Humane Affairs; Because all things Fall alike to all; and sometimes Vicious and Irreligious Persons, most Prosperous. 877, 878

Granted, That this Consideration hath too much Staggered weak Minds in all Ages. Some concluding from thence, That there is no God, but that blind Chance Steers all. Others, That though there be a God, yet he Knows nothing done here below. Others, That though he do know, yet he Neglecteth Humane Affairs. 878

Unrea-

The Contents.

Unreasonable to require, That God should Miraculously Interpose at every turn; or to think, That every Wicked person should presently be Thunder-struck. That which Steers the whole World, no Fond and Passionate, but an Impartial Nature. Yet, That there want not Instances of an Extraordinary Providence. Good Reasons for the Slowness of Divine Vengeance. The Notoriously Wicked, commonly met with at the long Run. Page 878, 879

The Sometimes Impunity of Wicked Persons, so far from Staggering Good men, as to Providence; that it confirms them in their Belief, of Future Immortality, and Judgement after Death. The Evolution of Humane affairs, a kind of Dramatick Poem, and God Almighty the Skillful Dramatist; who always Conneth that of Ours, which went before, with what of His follows after, into Coherent Sense. A Geometrical Distribution of Rewards and Punishments. 879, 880

That there ought to be a Doubtful and Cloudy State of things, for the Exercise of Faith, and the more difficult Part of Vertue. Had there been no Monsters to Subdue, there could have been no Hercules. Here, we to Live by Faith, and not by Sight. 880

But that to make a full Defence of Providence, would require a large Volume. The Reader therefore referred to others for a Supplement. Onely some Few Considerations to be here propounded, not so much for the Confutation of Atheists, as Satisfaction of Theists, sometimes apt to call in Question the Divine Goodness, though the very Foundation of our Christian Faith. ibid.

First; That in Judging of the Works of God, we ought not to consider the Parts of the World alone by themselves, but in order to the Whole. Were Nothing made but the Best, there could have been no Harmony, for want of Variety. Plotinus, That a Limner does not make all Eye, nor place Bright Colours every-where; nor a Dramatist introduce onely Kings and Heroes, upon the Stage. 880, 882

Secondly; That we ought not to Confine God's Creation to the Narrowness of Vulgar Opinion, which Extends the Universe, but little beyond the Clouds; and Walls it in, with a Sphere of Fixed Stars. The World Un capable of Infinity of Magnitude, as well as of Time. Nevertheless, as the Sun is much Bigger then we can Imagine it, so much more may the World be. The New Celestiall Phenomena, widen the Corporal Universe, and make those Phantased, Flaming Walls thereof, to fly away before us. Not reasonable to think, That all this Immense Vastness, should be Desert and Uninhabited. 882, 883

Thirdly; That we cannot make a Right Judgement, of the Ways of Providence, without looking both Forwards, upon what is Future; and Backwards, upon what is Past; as well as upon the Present. That the Platonists and Pythagoreans, saved many Phenomena, from the inexpressible, Things done in a Præ-Existent State. Our Common Christianity supposeth but a kind of Imputative Præ-Existence; to Save the Pravity of Mankind, and the Evils of this State. The different Fates and Conditions of Men here in this Life, to be resolved into a Just, though Occult Providence. Page 883

The Third Objection against Providence; or Fourteenth Atheistick Argument; That it is Impossible, for any One Being, to Animadvert and Order all things; and if it were Possible, that it would be Distracting, and Inconsistent with Happiness. Moreover, That an Irresistibly Powerfull and Happy Being, would not concern it self in the welfare of others; Benevolence arising onely from Imbecillity. 883, 884

The Reply, That because our Selves have but a Finite Animadversion, and Narrow Sphere of Activity; to measure the Deity accordingly, is but an Idol of the Cave or Den. Certain, that were there Nothing, but what we could fully Comprehend, there could be no God. Had the Sun Life, Equally Coextended with its Rays, it would perceive every thing touched by them. Creatures but the Rays of the Deity. Men able to manage affairs, in many distant places, without Distraction. And innumerable Notions, lie together in our Minds, without Crowding one another, or any Disturbance to us. 884

But for the easing the Minds of weak Mortals, already Suggested; That there is no Necessity, God should Himself Immediately do all things; he having Ministres Under him, Executioners of his Providence: as, an Artificial, Plastick Nature, (for this reason partly before insinuated); Infinitis also in Animals, a Part of this Divine Fate, which is the Servant of Providence. Above which, ether Knowing and Understanding Ministers of the Deity, appointed to Preside over Humane Affairs. But all over-look'd by the watchfull Eye of God Almighty, who may Himself Extraordinarily Interpose. 884, 885

Wherefore no need to Confine Providence, to a Few Greater things onely, to free the Deity from Distraction. Small things (upon which Greater often depend) not Neglected by it. Nevertheless the Chief Employment of Divine Providence, in the Economy of Souls, by Plato Reduced to this Compendium; The Translating of them into Better or Worse States, according to their Demerits. Thus may the flow wits of Mortals,

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more easily conceive, Providence not to be Laborious and Dilatious to the Deity. Page 885

But that all Benevolence arises from Imbecillity, and that what is Perfectly Happy, would be troubled with no Business, but enjoy its own Ease; Idols of the Atheists Den. These other, The Narrow Contractedness of their Minds, by Vice and Immorality. 885, 886

The Atheistick Queries, next to be Answered. The First Query. If there were a God, who was Perfectly Happy in himself, Why would he go about to make a World? Answ. The Reason of God's making the World, was from his Overflowing and Communicative Goodness, That there might be other Beings Happy, besides Himself. This consistent with God's making the World, for his own Glory. The reason why Plotinus would explode that. True, that God did not make the World, merely to Ostentate his Skill and Power; but to Display his Goodness, which is Christy his Glory. The Atheists further Demand, What hurt would it have been for us, never to have been Made? Answ. No other than this, That we could never have Enjoyed Good, nor been Capable of Happiness. If no hurt not to have been Made, then none to be Annihilated; the Distance being in great, from Nothing to Something, as from Something to Nothing. 886

The Second Atheistick Query. If God's Goodness were the Cause of his making the World, Why then was it not made Sooner? This Question capable of a Double Sense. First, Why was not the World from Eternity? The Reply; Thn not from any Defect in the Divine Goodness, but because there is an Impossibility of the Thing it self, the Necessity and Incapacity of such an Imperfect Being Hindering it. Our selves Prone to Think, That Could the World have been from Eternity, it should have been so. *Thou Philoponus, in his Confutation of Proclus his Arguments, for the World's Eternity. And now no place left, for thy's Atheistick Cavils, against the Novelty of the Creation; as if God must therefore have S. ept from Eternity; or had Contracted a Satiey of his former Solitude. Another Sense of the Question; Why, though the World could not be from Eternity, yet was it not made Sooner? Answ. The World could not Possibly have so been made in Time, as that it should not have been once, but a Day Old; and also once, no more then five or six Thousand years Old. 886, 887

The Third Atheistick Query. How could God move the Matter of the whole World; especially if Incorporeal? Answ. That all things being derived from the Deity, and Essentially depending on him, they must needs be Commandable by him, and Obedient to him.

And since no Body can Move it self, that which first Moved the Matter, must be Incorporeal, and not move it by Machines and Engines, but by Cogitation or Will only. That Conceit, That an Incorporeal Deity, could not Move Matter, because it would Run through it; Absurd; This moving not Mechanically, but Vitally. That Cogitative Beings have a Naturall Power of Moving Matter, Evident from our own Souls, Moving our Bodies, not by Machines or Engines, but merely by Thought. More easy for the Deity, to move the Whole World, by Will and Cogitation; then for us our Bodies. Page 887, 888

The Last Head of Atheistick Argumentation, From Interest. First; That it is the Interest of Particular Persons, there should be no being Infinitely Powerfull, who hath no Law but his own Will. The First Reply; Wishing is no Proving. Nor will any man's Thinking, make Things otherwise then they are. 888

But Secondly, This With of Atheists, Founded upon a Mistaken Notion of God Almighty, That he is nothing but Arbitrary Will Omnipotent. God's Will, not meer Will; but Law and Equity; Ought it self Willing, Nor doe. Justice in God, clash with Goodness; but is a Branch, or Particular Modification thereof. The Interest of none, There should be no God, unless perhaps of such, as are Irclaimably Wicked, and wilfully abandon their own True Good. 888, 889

To be Without God; to be Without Hope. No Faith nor Hope in Senseless Matter. According to the Atheistick Hypothesis, no Possibility of Happiness, nor Security of Good. 889

God such a Being, as If he were not, Nothing more to be Withed for. To Believe a God, to Believe the Existence of all Good and Perfection; and that things are all Made and Governed as they Should be. Peccability, from the Necessity of Imperfect Free-Willed Beings. Infinite Hopes from a Being Infinitely Good, and Powerfull. Democritus and Epicurus, however cried up so much of late; but Insatuated Sophists, or Witty Fools, and Debauchers of Mankind. 889, 890

The Last Atheistick Argumentation. That Theism or Religion is Inconsistent with the Interest of Civil Sovereigns. Their First Pretence for this, That the Civil Sovereign Reigns only in Fear; and therefore there must be no Power, nor Fear, Greater, then that of the Leviathan. 890

In Answer to this, The Atheistick Ethicks and Politicks to be Unravelled. Their Foundation laid, in the Villanizing of Humane Nature. That there is no Natural Justice, Equity, nor Charity. No Publick nor Common Nature

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in Men, but all Private and Selfish. That every Man by Nature, hath a Right to every thing, even to other Mens Bodies and Lives. That an Appetite to Kill and Torment, by Nature, gives a Right. That Nature hath brought men into the World, without any Fetters or Shackles, of Duty and Obligation; the Hindrances of Liberty. Lastly, That Nature absolutely Dissociates and Segregates Men from one another, by reason of the Incongruency of Appetites, and Private Good. Every Man by Nature, in a State of War, against every Man.

Page 890, 891

But in the next place, They adde, That though this State of Nature, which is Belluine Liberty, and Lawless Freedom to every thing, be in it self the Best; yet by Accident, and by reason of mens Imbecillity, does it prove the Worst. Wherefore, when Men had been weary of Hewing and Slaughtering, they then betought themselves at length of Helping Nature by Art; By Submitting to a Lesser Evil, for the Avoiding of a Greater; Abating their Infinite Right, and Yielding to Terms of Equality with others, and Subjection to a Common Power.

891

Where, these Atheists First Slander Humane Nature, and then Debase Justice and Civil Authority, making it the Ignoble and Bastardly Erat of Fear; or a Lesser Evil Submitted to, out of Necessity, for the avoiding of a Greater. According to which Atheistick Hypothesis, No man is Willingly Just. This no New Invention of the Writer De Cive, but the old Atheistick Generation of Justice, and of a Body Politick, Civil Society, and Sovereignty; (before Plato's time:) it being fully described, in his Second Book of a Common-wealth. Where the Philosopher concludes, Justice, according to these, to be but a Middle thing, betwixt the Best, and the Worst; Loved, not as Good in it Self, but only by Reason of Mens Imbecillity; Or, That Justice is indeed, Another man's Good, and the Evil of him that is Just. The same Hypothesis also, concerning Justice, as a Factitious thing, that sprung onely from Fear and Imbecillity, and was chosen but as a Lesser Evil; Invented on by Epicurus.

891, 893

The vain Attempts of our Modern Atheistick Politicians, to Make Justice by Art, when there is None by Nature. First, by Renouncing and Transferring mens Rights, by Will and Words. For If Nothing Naturally Unlawfull, then can no man, by Will and Words, make any thing Unlawfull to himself. What Made by Will, may be Destroyed by Will. The Ridiculous Conceits of these Atheistick Politicians, That Injustice is nothing but Dari Repetio, and such an Absurdity in

Life, as it is in Disputation, when a man Denies a Proposition, he had before Granted; No Real Evil in the Man, but onely a Relative Incongruity in him as a Citizen. Again, These Justice-Makers and Authority-Makers, pretend to derive their Factitious Justice, from Pacts and Covenants. But Pacts and Covenants, without Naturall Justice, (as themselves confess) Nothing but Words and Breath; and therefore can have no Force to Oblige. Wherefore they make another Pretence also, from certain Counterfeit Laws of Nature, of their own Devising, that are Nothing but meer Juggling Equivocation; they being but the Laws of Fear, or their own Timorous and Cowardly Complexion. They Ridiculously Dance Round in a Circle, when they Derive the Obligation of Civil Laws from Covenants; of Covenants from Laws of Nature; and of Laws of Nature again, from Civil Laws. Their vain Attempts, by Art to Consociate, what Nature hath Dissociated, like tying Knots in the Wind or Water. Their Artificial Obligation, or Ligaments, by which the Members of their Leviathan are held together, more slender then Cobwebs.

Page 893, 895

These Artificial Justice-Makers and Obligation-Makers, Sensible of the Weakness of these Attempts, Artificially to Consociate, what Nature hath Dissociated; therefore fly at last from Art, to Force and Power; making their Sovereign, to Reign onely in Fear. Thus the True meaning of that Opinion, That all Obligation is derived from Law; that is, the Command of him who hath Power to Compell. If Obligation, to Obey Civil Laws, onely from Fear of Punishment, then is no man Obligated to hazard his Life for the Safety of his Prince; and whoever can promise themselves Impunity, may Justly Disobey. If Civil Sovereigns Reign onely in Fear, then is their Authority Nothing but Force, and Power would Justify Rebellion. Lastly, If Civil Right or Authority, Nothing but Force and Violence, then could it not last long: What Naturall, prevailing against what is Violent.

895

Wherefore since Civil Authority and Bodies Politick, can neither be meerly Artificiall, nor yet Violent things, there must be some Naturall Vinculum, to hold them together; such as will both Oblige Subjects to Obey the Commands of Sovereigns, and Sovereigns in Commanding, to seek the Good of their Subjects: Something of a Common, Publick and Conglutinating Nature; Which, no other then Naturall Justice. The Authority of God himself, Founded in Justice; of which Civil Authority, is a Participation. Sovereignty, no Creature of the People, and of Mens Wills; but hath

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a Stamp

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a Stamp of Divinity upon it. Had not God made a City; Men, neither by Art, or Political Enchantment, nor by meer Force, could have made any. The whole World, One City, of God and Rational Beings. The Civil Sovereign no Leviathan; that is, No Beast, but a God. He Reigns not in meer Brutish Force and Fear, but in Naturall Justice and Conscience, and the Authority of God himself. Nevertheless, need of Force and Fear too, to compel Some to their Duty; nor is the Sovereign's Sword here alone Sufficient, but he must Reign also in the Fear of God Almighty. Page 895. 896

The Second Atheistick Pretence, to Make Religion Inconsistent with Civil Sovereignty; Because it Limits and Confines that, which in its own Nature Is, and Ought to be Infinite. The Reply; That the Atheists Infinite Right and Authority of Civil Sovereigns, is nothing but Belluine Liberty; But true Right and Authority is Essentially Founded in Natural Justice; there being no Authority to Command, where there is not an Obligation to Obey; and Commands not Creating Obligation, but Presupposing it, without which they would signify Nothing. The first Original Obligation not from Will, but Nature. The Error of those Theists who derive all Obligation to Morall Things, from the Will and Positive Command of God, at Threatning Punishments, and Promising Rewards. From whence it would follow, that no man is Good and Just, but By Accident only, and for the Sake of Something else. Justice a different Species of Good, from that of Private Utility. Infinite Justice, as Absurd, as an Infinite Rule or Measure. If no Infinite Justice, then no Infinite Right and Authority. God's own Authority bounded by Justice: His Will ruled by Justice; and not Justice by his Will. Atheists, under a Pretence of giving Civil So-

vercigns Infinite Right, Really Drvest them
of all Right and Authority, leaving them no-
thing but Brutish Force. Proved here, That
the Summe Potestates, must of necessity be
divided.

The Last Atheistick Pretence, for the Inconsistency of Religion with Civil Power; Because Conscience is Private Judgement of Good and Evil. Answer. That not Religion, but Atheism, introduceth such Private Judgement, as is Absolutely Inconsistent with Civil Sovereignty, it acknowledgeth nothing in Nature, that tends to Publick and Common Good; but making Private Appetite the only Rule or Measure of Good; and Utility, of Justice. The Desperate Consequence from hence; That Private Utility may justify Rebellion and Parricide. The Atheists justly Assertion, That they who have once Rebelled, may justly Defend themselves afterward by Force. Though Private Persons must make a Judgement in Conscience for themselves, (the Atheists Publick Conscience, being Nonsense and Contradiction;) yet is the Rule of Conscience, not Private, but Publick, except only to Mistaken Fanaticks; who therefore Sometimes make a Pretence of Conscience and Religion, in order to Sedition and Rebellion. Religion and Conscience Oblige Subjects, in all Lawfull things, Actively to Obey the Sovereign Powers; in Unlawfull, Not to Resist. 808.800

*The Conclusion of the Whole Book; That all the
Atheistical Grounds being fully Confuted, and
the Impossibility of Atheism Demonstrated,
it is certain, That the Original and Head of
all things, is no Blind and Inconscious Nature,
but a Perfect Understanding, Being, Self-Ex-
istent; Who hath Made all that was fit to be
Made, and after the Best manner, and Exer-
cise a just Providence over all. To whom
be All Honour and Glory, &c.* ibid

The End of the Contents.

ERRATA

P Age 15. Line 2. read, XIV. Besides. p. 49. l. 9. to 16. read, (And thus—Body's) p. 61. l. 2. read, *with* 63. 9. *with* 66. 10. Unextended. 76. 25. dele. but. Lin. ult. read, To this purpose. 102. l. ult. dele, with 1. 3. l. 3. read, *could not rise from an Egg of the Night, nor be the Offspring of Chaos, but must be something* 116. Title, r. *Hylion* 168. 19. Irregularity 173. 19. 20. *Reason and Und—Line 37. a Perfect* 208. 9. *the* 212. 34. read, *Schoon* upon him. Errata that, 231. 27. *places* erase 251. 12. *and* 267. 26. *Longitude* 299. 36. *325* 300. 5. *Quarrel* 304. 30. Exception 331. 9. Manifested 339. Title, r. *Invisible* 344. 17. *Phantom* 350. 1. (false printed 411. l. 12. *will*) 354. (l. pr. 414.) L 27. *the* *the* *the* 355. 9. *the* 357. 37. *the* 358. 21. *the* 363. 17. dele *the* 364. 31. read, Third and Fourth Verses, 379. 31. *the* 385. 31. *the* 387. Title, read, Very Good. 404. Marg. l. ult. r. L. 10. 433. 30. *the* 457. 18. *the* 461. 10. *the* Lin. 30. *the* 482. 29. by him determined, 508. 14. *the* 516. 14. *the* 518. 4. *the* 519. 30. *the* 543. 29. *the* 549. 13. (as an Image in a Glass) 553. 37. *the* 566. 34. *the* 582. 2. *the* 589. 18. *the* 597. 6. Son, and Grandson, 620. 31. it is there. 624. Title, add, Trinity 632. 37. if need be, its another 684. 17. therefore not— 696. *the* at it was 717. 39. and also 742. 5. *the* 745. 23. that their Souls cannot 752. 23. 4. read, *the*, and other *the*, expressly denied it to have been *the*, *the*, *the*, or Self-Existent, and 753. 8. no not that 765. 24. *the*, together 777. 37. *the* 787. 16. *the* 794. 31. *the* 798. 11. *the* Lin. 33. dele, it 805. Marg. l. 14. *the* 813. 35. ought to be 841. l. *the*. *the*, and on *the* 849. 38. dele, yet 884. Marg. l. 9. *the* 884. 25. *the* one Reason.

F I N I S





